

House Bill 995

By: Representatives May of the 111<sup>th</sup>, Roberts of the 154<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 113<sup>th</sup>, Peake of the 137<sup>th</sup>, and others

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-168 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 minimum school year and other matters, so as to provide for the earliest start date of a school  
3 year; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 20-2-168 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the minimum  
7 school year and other matters, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (c) as  
8 follows:

9 "(c)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, public elementary and  
10 secondary schools of this state receiving state aid under this article may provide each  
11 eligible student with access to no less than 180 school days of education each fiscal year,  
12 or the equivalent thereof as determined in accordance with State Board of Education  
13 guidelines. The State Board of Education shall define a school year, which shall be no  
14 less than 180 days of instruction in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, or  
15 the equivalent thereof; shall define the length of the school day, based on a 180 day  
16 school year, and equivalent lengths; and shall provide that all public elementary and  
17 secondary schools, beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, may be closed for instruction  
18 on November 11 of each year to enable students, teachers, and administrators to  
19 participate in Veterans Day programs to honor veterans of the armed forces. The school  
20 year established by the local board of education for its elementary and secondary schools  
21 shall not begin prior to September 1 or Labor Day, whichever is earlier; provided,  
22 however, that this provision shall not apply to schools which have year-round operation  
23 in accordance with subsection (e) of this Code section."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.