

Subject COVID-19 education related closures

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## Overview

Relatively similar to the 2019 enacted snow days law, provides for compensation for hourly school employees, and allows entities that contract with schools to provide services to be reimbursed for paying their employees, in the event of COVID-19 related school closures. The bill also addresses three other education issues related to potential COVID-19 disruptions.

## Summary

Section	Description
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1	<b>School closures due to COVID-19; 2019-2020 school year.</b>
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**Subd. 1. Required school days and hours.** Provides that if a school district or charter school cancels school, including days where distance learning takes place, the school district or charter school must compensate hourly employees under paragraph 2.

**Subd. 2. COVID-19 cancellation; employees.** Provides that a school district or charter school must pay an employee for any hours they were scheduled to work but did not on a day where school was cancelled for a COVID-19 related reason.

**Subd. 3. COVID-19 cancellation; contract employer to pay eligible employees.** Provides that employers who contract with schools to provide services may choose to pay employees for hours they were scheduled to work but did not on a day where school was cancelled for a COVID-19 related reason. If the employer chooses to pay those employees, the school district must reimburse the employer. A similar provision was included in the 2019 snow days' law.

**Subd. 4. Student teachers.** Allows teacher preparation programs to award credit to students in teacher preparation programs whose student teaching was cut short or interrupted for a COVID-19 related reason. The section also prohibits Professional Educator and Licensing Standards Board (PELSB) from penalizing the

**Section**   **Description**

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teacher preparation programs or teacher license applicants who awarded or received credit in this way.

**Subd. 5. Probationary teachers.** Reduces the number of service days required for probationary teachers by the number of instructional days cancelled for a COVID-19 related reason. A similar provision was included in the 2019 snow days' law.

**Subd. 6. Accounting.** Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards (UFARS) is a multi-dimension accounting system that each school district must use. UFARS assigns each financial transaction a 17 digit code which attributes the spending to the proper place. An "object" code's major categories include salaries and benefits among others. This subdivision authorizes a school district to continue to account for the hours that an employee is paid under subdivision 2 in the same salary and benefit categories as if the employee were performing the employee's regular job functions. An identical provision was included in the 2019 snow days' law.



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