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BILL ANALYSIS



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Senate Bill 885 (as introduced 3-1-18)
Sponsor: Senator Mike Shirkey
Committee: Education

Date Completed: 3-19-18

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to provide that a waiver allowing a school district, intermediate school district (ISD), or public school academy (PSA) to begin a school year before Labor Day would be valid until the school district, ISD, or PSA notified the Department of Education that the waiver was no longer required.

Currently, the board of a school district or ISD or board of directors of a PSA is required to ensure that the district's or PSA's school year does not begin before Labor Day.

This requirement does not apply to a school district, ISD, or PSA that has been operating a year-round school or program since September 29, 2005, or has been operating since that date a school that is an international baccalaureate academy that provides 1,160 hours of pupil instruction per school year.

If a school district, ISD, or PSA began operating a year-round school or program after September 29, 2005, the school district, ISD, or PSA may apply to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a waiver allowing it to begin a school year before Labor Day. If the Superintendent determines that a school or program is a bona fide year-round school or program established for educational reasons, he or she must grant the waiver.

The bill provides that a waiver would be valid until the school district, ISD, or PSA notified the Department, in a form and manner prescribed by the Department, that the school district, ISD, or PSA no longer required the waiver.

The bill would take effect 90 days after being enacted.

MCL 380.124b

Legislative Analyst: Nathan Leaman

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the Department of Education, local schools, intermediate school districts, or public school academies.

Fiscal Analyst: Cory Savino

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