

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 725

BY REPRESENTATIVE LAFLEUR

SCHOOLS: Prohibits middle schools and high schools from beginning the instructional day prior to specified start times

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:154.1(D) and 3996(B)(82), relative to schools; to prohibit middle schools
3 and high schools from beginning the instructional day prior to specified start times;
4 to provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:154.1(D) and 3996(B)(82) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §154.1. Length of school day and year; requirements

8 * * *

9 D. The instructional day for middle schools shall not begin prior to eight
10 o'clock in the morning, and the instructional day for high schools shall not begin
11 prior to eight-thirty in the morning.

12 * * *

13 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

14 * * *

15 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
16 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
17 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
18 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
19 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are

1 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
2 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

3 * * *

4 (82) School day start times, R.S. 17:154.1(D).

5 * * *

6 Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be implemented beginning with the 2026-
7 2027 school year.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 725 Original

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LaFleur

Abstract: Prohibits middle schools from starting earlier than 8:00 a.m. and high schools from starting earlier than 8:30 a.m. beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

Present law provides for minimum instructional minutes in a school day and minimum school days in a school year. Proposed law, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, prohibits the instructional day for middle schools from beginning prior to 8:00 a.m. and the instructional day for high schools from beginning prior to 8:30 a.m.

(Adds R.S. 17:154.1(D) and 3996(B)(82))