COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 344

Submitted by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and Committee on Higher and Technical Education on JUN 01 2020
Re: HOUSE BILL NO. 6895

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1406, 1591, 1845, 3201, 3610, 3983, 4074, 6661 and 6807.
Sponsors: Reps. Romulo and Go (M.)

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture and Committee on Higher and Technical Education, to which were referred House Bill No. 1406, introduced by Rep. Alfred D. Vargas, entitled:

AN ACT
SYNCHRONIZING THE OPENING OF ALL CLASSES IN ALL SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES

House Bill No. 1591, introduced by Rep. Ann K. Hofer, entitled:

AN ACT
SHIFTING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR FROM JUNE TO AUGUST

House Bill No. 1845, introduced by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez, entitled:

AN ACT
REVISING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AND STUDENT YOUTH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

House Bill No. 3201, introduced by Rep. Eric L. Olivarez, entitled:

AN ACT
SHIFTING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR FROM JUNE TO AUGUST

House Bill No. 3610, introduced by Rep. Evelina G. Escudero, entitled:

AN ACT
SYNCHRONIZING THE OPENING OF ALL CLASSES IN ALL SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES
House Bill No. 3983, introduced by Rep. Ronnie L. Ong, entitled:

AN ACT
SYNCHRONIZING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR IN ALL LEVELS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

House Bill No. 4074, introduced by Rep. Michael John R. Duavit, entitled:

AN ACT
SYNCHRONIZING THE OPENING OF ALL CLASSES IN THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS IN ALL SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES

House Bill No. 6661, introduced by Reps. Eduardo "Bro. Eddie" C. Villanueva and Domingo C. Rivera, entitled:

AN ACT
AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION TO POSTPONE THE START OF SCHOOL YEAR IN CASE OF A DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY, STATE OF CALAMITY OR SIMILAR OCCURRENCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7977, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS DAYS"

and House Bill No. 6807, introduced by Rep. Westie Gatchalian, entitled:

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS DAYS"

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 6895 entitled:

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS DAYS"

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1406, 1591, 1845, 3201, 3610, 3983, 4074, 6661 and 6807, with Reps. Romulo, Gatchalian, Vargas, Hofer, Rodriguez, Olivarez, Escudero, Ong (R.), Duavit, Villanueva (E.), Rivera, Go (M.), Tambunting, Delos Santos, Cojuangco, Savellano, Sy-Alvarado, Nieto, Gonzales (A.), Fortuno, Vergara, Amante-Marba, Balindong, Violago, Barba, Guico, Ouano-Dizon, Cabredo, Robes, Loyola, Acop, Bordado, Reyes, Revilla, Elago, Tejada, Tutor, Sangol, Nolasco, Castro (F. L. ), Babasa, Haresco, Dinaporo (A.), Mariano-Hernandez, Natividad-Nagao, Dialog, Castelo, Lacson, Abueg-Zaldívar, Bollita, Collantes, Cueva, Daza and Acosta-Alba as authors thereof.

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Respectfully submitted,

MARK O. GO
Chairperson
Committee on Higher and Technical Education

ROMAN T. ROMULO
Chairperson
Committee on Basic Education and Culture

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY
AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
"AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED
(200) DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS
DAYS"

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:

Section 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7797, otherwise known as "AN ACT TO
LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) DAYS TO NOT
MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS DAYS", is hereby amended to
read as follows:

"SEC. 3. Start of the School Year. – The school year shall start on the first
Monday of June but not later than the last day of August. PROVIDED, THAT IN
THE EVENT OF A DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY OR
STATE OF CALAMITY, THE PRESIDENT, UPON THE
RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, MAY SET A
DIFFERENT DATE FOR THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN THE
COUNTRY OR PARTS THEREOF.

In the implementation of this Act, the Secretary of Education[, Culture and
Sports] shall determine the end of the regular school year, taking into
consideration the Christmas and summer vacations, and the peculiar
circumstances of each region.

In the exercise of this authority, the Secretary of Education[, Culture and
Sports] may authorize the holding of Saturday classes for elementary and
secondary levels for public and private schools.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISION OF ANY LAW TO THE
CONTRARY, THE DEFERRED SCHOOL OPENING SHALL APPLY TO ALL
BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS, INCLUDING FOREIGN OR
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Sec. 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within thirty (30) days after the
effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education, in consultation with relevant
stakeholders, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

Sec. 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive orders,
administrative orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with, or contrary to
the provisions of this Act are hereby modified, amended, or repealed accordingly.

Sec. 4. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in the
Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,
House of Representatives  
Committee Affairs Department  

FACT SHEET  

House Bill No. 6895  
(In substitution of House Bill Nos. 1406, 1591, 1845, 3201, 3610, 3983, 4074, 6661 and 6807)  

AMENDING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR ACT  

Introduced by: REPS. ROMULO, GATCHALIAN, VARGAS, HOFER, RODRIGUEZ, OLIVAREZ, ESCUDERO, ONG (R.), DUAUT, VILLANUEVA, RIVERA, GO (M.), TAMBUNTING, DELOS SANTOS, COJUANGCO, SAVELLANO, SY-ALVARADO, NIETO, GONZALES (A.), FORTUNO, VERGARA, AMANTE-MATBA, BALINDONG, VIOLAGO, BARBA, GUICO, OUANO-DIZON, CABREDO, ROBES, LOYOLA, ACOP, BORDADO, REYES, REVILLA, ELAGO, TEJADA, TUTOR, SAULONG, NOLASCO, CASTRO (F.L.), BABASA, HARESCO, DIMPORO (A.), MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO, DALOG, CASTELO, LACSON, ABUEG-ZALDIVAR, BOLILIA, COLLANTES, CUEVA, DAZA AND ACOSTA-ALBA

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION & CULTURE (Primary)  
Committee Chairperson: REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO  
Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON HIGHER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (Secondary)  
Committee Chairperson: REP. MARK O. GO

OBJECTIVE: 

- To meet the urgent and reasonable need to protect the health, safety and overall well-being of students

KEY PROVISIONS: 

- Amends Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7797 to empower the President, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Education, to set a different date for the start of the school year in the event of a declaration of a state of emergency or state of calamity

- Mandates that the deferment by the President of the start of a school year during a state of emergency or calamity shall apply to all basic education schools, including foreign or international schools

RELATED LAW: 

- Republic Act No. 7797, or the “Lengthening of School Calendar from 200 to 220 Class Days"