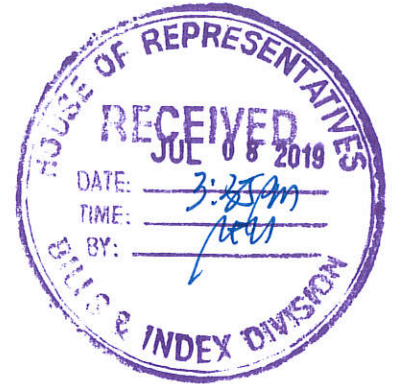


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1591



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ANN K. HOFER

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to shift and synchronize the opening of classes across all levels—from kindergarten to college—in both public and private schools, to August of every year.

The move to shift the opening of classes from June to August was prompted by the need to minimize class disruption and students' exposure to environmental disasters and hazards brought about by the monsoon season. Some schools also adopted the new academic calendar in view of the ASEAN integration, which synchronizes the academic calendar among ASEAN member countries. This move opens up opportunities for both students and faculty members to explore academic opportunities outside the country. However, most schools have yet to follow suit.

In April 2019, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) released a memorandum enjoining all state universities and colleges (SUCs) and local universities and colleges (LUCs) to begin in August of every year starting academic year 2019-2020. This way, the academic year of all SUCs and LUCs will be synchronized to the fiscal year.

Moreover, shifting and synchronizing the opening of school classes across all levels will benefit not only the students but also their families. For those with more than one child in school, having a uniform schedule for the opening of classes in all levels will ensure that families will be able to spend quality time together as a whole during school breaks.

For the abovementioned reasons, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in orange ink, appearing to read 'Ann K. Hofer'.

ANN K. HOFER
2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1591**

Introduced by REP. ANN K. HOFER

AN ACT
SHIFTING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR FROM JUNE TO AUGUST

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Academic Calendar Shift Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. Coverage. – This Act shall cover all educational institutions in the country, from kindergarten to college in both public and private schools.

SEC. 3. Synchronizing the Start of the Academic Year. – All covered educational institutions shall commence the academic school year in August of every year.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from the date of its effectivity.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. – Should any part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof not affected not thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, implementing rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.