



65 E. Wacker Place
Suite 1620
Chicago, IL 60601
Ph. 312-368-1066
Fx. 312-368-1090

108 E. Cook St.
Springfield, IL 62704
Ph. 217-528-9200
Fx. 217-528-7214

www.ilcatholic.org
Diocese of Belleville
Archdiocese of Chicago
Diocese of Joliet
Diocese of Peoria
Diocese of Rockford
Diocese of Springfield-in-IL

SENATE BILL 1569 ANALYSIS

Senate Bill 1569 (Senator Bertino-Tarrant & Representative Davis) is the education omnibus bill passed during May's four-day special session. The bill includes the following provisions:

- If the Governor has issued a disaster declaration due to a public health emergency, the State Superintendent has the power to require a school district, a group of school districts, a region or the entire state, to utilize remote learning and blended remote learning days.
In such cases: "Remote learning days, blended remote learning days, and up to 5 remote and blended remote learning planning days . . . shall be deemed pupil attendance days for calculation of the length of a school term under this sections."
- If the Governor has issued a disaster declaration, and the State Superintendent requires public schools to utilize remote learning days or blended remote learning days, they must do so according to their adopted e-learning plan, which shall address the following:
 - accessibility of the remote instruction to all students enrolled in the district;
 - if applicable, a requirement that the remote learning day and blended remote learning day activities reflect State learning standards;
 - a means for students to confer with an educator, as necessary;
 - the unique needs of students in special populations, including, but not limited to, students eligible for special education, students who are English learners, and students experiencing homelessness or other vulnerable student populations;
 - how the district will take attendance and monitor and verify each student's remote participation; and
 - transitions from remote learning to on-site learning upon the State Superintendent's declaration that remote learning days or blended remote learning days are no longer deemed necessary.
 - Moreover, the school district superintendent shall periodically review and amend the district's remote and blended remote learning day plan to ensure the plan meets the needs of all students; each remote and blended remote learning day plan shall be posted on the district's Internet website where other policies, rules, and standards of conduct are posted and shall be provided to students and faculty; and, a district may not offer individual behind-the-wheel instruction via a district's remote and blended remote learning day plan.
 - These plans do not relieve schools and districts from completing all other statutory and regulatory curricular mandates and offerings.

*** The provisions in this legislation regarding e-learning plans do not apply to nonpublic schools. The provisions in this legislation regarding the State Superintendent's power to order remote learning or blended remote learning arguably do not apply to

nonpublic schools. However, the state recognition process will surely account for incorporating remote learning and blended remote learning days as pupil attendance days. Exactly how that is to be done is to be determined. ***

- The waiver and modification of certain teacher licensure requirements:
 - All licenses issued by the State Board of Education that expire on June 30, 2020 and have not been renewed by the end of the 2020 renewal period shall be extended for one year and shall expire on June 30, 2021.
 - During a disaster declaration issued by the Governor based on a public health emergency, the requirements for a teacher performance assessment are waived for an applicant seeking an educator license.
 - During the implementation of remote learning days a candidate seeking an educator license may
 - complete his or her required student teaching or equivalent experience remotely; or,
 - complete his or her required school business management internship remotely.
 - For the spring 2020 semester only, a candidate's requirement to complete student teaching, or its equivalent, or a school business management internship is waived.
- Any diploma conferred during the 2019-2020 school year, including during the summer of 2020, under graduation requirements that were modified by an executive order, emergency rulemaking, or school board policy prompted by a gubernatorial disaster proclamation based on a public health emergency is not subject to challenge or review due to a failure to meet minimum requirements otherwise required by state law or school board policy.
- Necessary adaptations to coursework requirements (constitution test, history of the United States and Illinois, physical fitness assessments, etc.) and educator evaluations in public schools.
- A school may not withhold a child's report card, during a school year in which the Governor has declared a disaster due to a public health emergency, for failing to submit a dental or eye examination.
- Allows early childhood grantees to serve as emergency child care centers during a public health emergency.
- Waives state assessment requirements when the state receives a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education.
- Enacts multiple modifications to the School Code to support educator recruitment, preparation, and support, including:
 - makes licenses endorsed for visiting international educators valid for five years (currently three);
 - allows career and technical education teachers to renew their licenses with a test of workplace proficiency, not just educators whose license was issued July 1, 2015, or after;
 - requires international educators to complete an English proficiency exam; and
 - update language to conform with current licensure nomenclature.