

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 557

2 INTRODUCED BY J. ETCHART, L. SCHUBERT, M. VINTON, S. KELLY, K. LOVE, G. OVERSTREET, T.
3 SHARP, E. BYRNE, R. GREGG, L. BENNETT, T. MILLETT, D. ZOLNIKOV, D. EMRICH, J. FULLER, C.
4 HINKLE, R. MARSHALL, A. REGIER, S. VANCE, M. REGIER, S. VINTON, C. GLIMM, B. LER, J.
5 SCHILLINGER, G. OBLANDER, K. ZOLNIKOV, L. DEMING, F. NAVE, T. FALK, P. FIELDER, G. HERTZ, G.
6 KMETZ, D. LENZ, T. MCGILLVRAY, B. MITCHELL, G. PARRY, K. SEEKINS-CROWE, J. TREBAS, Z. WIRTH,
7 B. BEARD, S. ESSMANN, J. DARLING, V. MOORE

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9 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING EDUCATION LAWS TO LIMIT THE STATE
10 PROMOTION OF TEACHER ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS; PROHIBITING
11 PUPIL-INSTRUCTION-RELATED DAYS FROM BEING USED FOR ATTENDING STATE MEETINGS OF
12 TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS; REMOVING THE MANDATE THAT TRUSTEES CLOSE SCHOOLS FOR THE
13 ANNUAL MEETINGS OF TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS; AMENDING SECTIONS 20-1-304 AND 20-4-304,
14 MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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18 **Section 1.** Section 20-1-304, MCA, is amended to read:

19 **"20-1-304. Pupil-instruction-related day.** A pupil-instruction-related day is a day of teacher activities
20 devoted to improving the quality of instruction. The activities may include but are not limited to inservice
21 training, ~~attending state meetings of teacher organizations,~~ and conducting parent conferences. The activities
22 may not include attending state meetings of teacher organizations. A maximum of 7 pupil-instruction-related
23 days may be conducted during a school year, with a minimum of 3 of the days for instructional and professional
24 development meetings or other appropriate inservice training, if the days are planned in accordance with the
25 policy adopted by the board of public education. The days may not be included as a part of the required
26 minimum aggregate hours of pupil instruction."

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28 **Section 2.** Section 20-4-304, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"20-4-304. Attendance at instructional and professional development meetings.** ~~The trustees of~~
2 ~~a school district shall close the schools of the district for the annual instructional and professional development~~
3 ~~meetings of teachers' organizations.~~ A teacher may attend instructional and professional development meetings
4 without loss of salary or attend other appropriate inservice training that may be prescribed by the trustees
5 without loss of salary. If a teacher does not attend, the teacher may not be paid."

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7 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

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