

HOUSE BILL NO. 557

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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