

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2019-2020**

**H. B. No. 693**

**Representatives Swearingen, Manning, G.  
Cosponsors: Representatives Patton, Riedel**

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**A BILL**

To prohibit, for the 2020-2021 school year only, 1  
public and chartered nonpublic schools from 2  
opening for instruction prior to the Wednesday 3  
after Labor Day and to declare an emergency. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** (A) (1) This section applies to all of the 5  
following educational institutions: 6

(a) The board of education of each city, exempted village, 7  
local, or joint vocational school district; 8

(b) The governing authority of each community school 9  
established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code; 10

(c) The governing body of each STEM and STEAM school 11  
established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code; 12

(d) The governing authority of each chartered nonpublic 13  
school. 14

(2) This section does not apply to any school that 15  
operates on a year-round basis requiring students to be in 16  
attendance throughout the entire school year, including summer 17

but excluding authorized breaks. 18

(B) For the 2020-2021 school year only, and to the extent 19  
permitted by any existing collective bargaining agreement, each 20  
educational institution described in division (A)(1) of this 21  
section shall not open its schools for instruction with students 22  
in attendance until Wednesday, September 9, 2020. 23

(C) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall set the 24  
dates for administration of the state assessments prescribed by 25  
divisions (A) and (C) of section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code, 26  
as authorized under division (C) of that section, so that they 27  
accommodate the later than usual opening of schools for 28  
instruction. 29

**Section 2.** This act is hereby declared to be an emergency 30  
measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 31  
peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is to 32  
ensure that the changes made by that section take effect before 33  
the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Therefore, this act 34  
shall go into immediate effect. 35