**South Carolina General Assembly**

122nd Session, 2017-2018

**A99, R3, S338**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Senators Hembree, Courson, J. Matthews, Setzler and Fanning

Document Path: l:\council\bills\agm\19092wab17.docx

Introduced in the Senate on February 1, 2017

Introduced in the House on February 15, 2017

Passed by the General Assembly on February 23, 2017

Governor's Action: February 28, 2017, Signed

Summary: School start date

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/1/2017 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\sj\20170201.docx))

2/1/2017 Senate Referred to Committee on **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\sj\20170201.docx))

2/2/2017 Senate Recalled from Committee on **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 4](file:///h:\sj\20170202.docx))

2/9/2017 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\sj\20170209.docx))

2/9/2017 Senate Roll call Ayes‑39 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\sj\20170209.docx))

2/14/2017 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 21](file:///h:\sj\20170214.docx))

2/15/2017 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 21](file:///h:\hj\20170215.docx))

2/15/2017 House Referred to Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 21](file:///h:\hj\20170215.docx))

2/21/2017 House Recalled from Committee on **Education and Public Works** ([House Journal‑page 43](file:///h:\hj\20170221.docx))

2/22/2017 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\hj\20170222.docx))

2/22/2017 House Roll call Yeas‑85 Nays‑14 ([House Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\hj\20170222.docx))

2/23/2017 House Read third time and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 6](file:///h:\hj\20170223.docx))

2/23/2017 Ratified R 3

2/28/2017 Signed By Governor

3/2/2017 Effective date 02/28/17

7/12/2017 Act No. 99

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=338&session=122&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/1/2017](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\338_20170201.docx)

[2/2/2017](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\338_20170202.docx)

[2/21/2017](file:///p:\pprever\2017-18\338_20170221.docx)

(A99, R3, S338)

**A JOINT RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE OPENING DATE FOR STUDENTS TO ATTEND PUBLIC SCHOOLS DURING THE 2017‑2018 SCHOOL YEAR MAY BE AS EARLY AS THURSDAY, AUGUST SEVENTEENTH, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**

Whereas, on Monday, August 21, 2017, South Carolina will be in the path of the largest total solar eclipse experienced in North America since February 1978, providing a rare learning opportunity for people in the Palmetto State; and

Whereas, to capitalize on the potential educational value of this eclipse, South Carolina public school districts should be given the flexibility to move their opening dates to before the eclipse. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**2017 public school year start date, flexibility due to rare solar eclipse**

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 59‑1‑425(A) regarding the opening date for students to attend public schools, a local school board may choose Thursday, August 17, 2017, or later, as the opening date for students attending schools in the district. These provisions only apply to the 2017‑2018 School Year.

**Time effective**

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 23rd day of February, 2017.

Approved the 28th day of February, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_