

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 5

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By: **Delegates Szeliga, Afzali, Anderton, Arentz, Aumann, Beidle, Beitzel, Bromwell, Carey, Carozza, Chang, Ciliberti, Cluster, Fennell, Frush, Gaines, Glass, Glenn, Hornberger, Impallaria, Jacobs, Kipke, Kittleman, Long, Mautz, McComas, McConkey, Metzgar, Miele, Otto, Parrott, Reilly, Rose, Saab, Shoemaker, Sophocleus, A. Washington, West, B. Wilson, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2016

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Public Schools – Post–Labor Day Start Date**

3 FOR the purpose of directing local school systems in the State to establish a post–Labor  
4 Day school start date for students beginning with the 2016–2017 school year.

5 WHEREAS, State law establishes the length of the school year; however, the specific  
6 start and end dates of the school year are under the authority of each local board of  
7 education; and

8 WHEREAS, Each local school system has a calendar planning committee that  
9 considers various factors including testing dates, mandated holidays, and negotiated  
10 agreements; and

11 WHEREAS, In August 2013, State Comptroller Peter Franchot released an  
12 economic impact report on a post–Labor Day start for public schools by the Bureau of  
13 Revenue Estimates that concluded that a delayed school start in the State would result in  
14 an additional \$74.3 million in direct economic activity, including \$3.7 million in new wages  
15 and an additional \$7.7 million in new State and local government revenue; and

16 WHEREAS, State Comptroller Franchot has proposed requiring local school systems  
17 to start school after Labor Day to boost the State economy and summer tourism; and

18 WHEREAS, The Task Force to Study a Post–Labor Day Start Date for Maryland  
19 Public Schools established by Chapter 336 of 2014 recommended a post–Labor Day start  
20 date for public schools in the State; and



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1           WHEREAS, On January 15, 2015, State Comptroller Franchot announced that more  
2 than 13,240 Marylanders had signed a petition to start school after Labor Day in order to  
3 increase direct economic activity for the State, bolster small businesses that rely on  
4 seasonal workers, increase wages for young people, and provide families with another week  
5 of quality time together; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That each local  
7 school system in the State establish a post-Labor Day start date for students beginning  
8 with the 2016–2017 school year; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
10 Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the  
11 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the  
12 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates.