HB 839 -- School Calendars and Attendance

Sponsor: Wallace

Currently, the Commissioner of Education may reduce the required number of hours and days in a school year when flooding prevents students from attending a public school. This bill adds inclement weather as a possible condition for allowing a reduction. Inclement weather will include ice, snow, extreme cold, or a tornado, but not excessive heat. School calendars are required to include six makeup days for possible loss of attendance. The current schedule of making up days lost to inclement weather is revised to require a district to make up the first six days and one-half of the number of days over six. Ten days before Labor Day is the earliest allowed school opening date, unless a local school board holds a meeting to take testimony on the subject of the opening date.

The bill contains an emergency clause.