CCS#3 HCS SCS SB 64 -- ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

This bill changes the laws regarding elementary and secondary education. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Establishes a procedure for school districts to set an opening date of school earlier than 10 days before Labor Day by holding a public hearing;

(2) Revises the school calendar requirements for make-up days by requiring six additional days to be scheduled for inclement weather purposes and requires school districts to make up half of the days missed in excess of six;

(3) Requires mentoring standards to be established for beginning teachers and principals by June 30, 2008, and establishes benchmarks for quality programs; and

(4) Allows students in districts that have been provisionally accredited or unaccredited, or any combination of less than fully accredited, for two consecutive years to enroll in the state's virtual school beginning in school year 2008-2009. The bill contains provisions regarding funding and computer equipment.