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# Task Force Debating Delaying School Year t... text size A A A

Updated: Tuesday, November 12 2013, 07:06 PM EST



A *Maryland State Task Force* is debating whether to require Maryland public schools to delay starting their school year until after Labor Day. Currently all MD public schools open well before Labor Day and some state officials say that decision is costing the state in lost revenue.

Eastern Shore Senator Jim Mathias is the former mayor of Ocean City and is a member of the task force.

"It would be terrific to have the families be able to continue to vacation through that last week," Mathias said. "If you look at how many small businesses in the community are really predicated on summer employment...these are the benefits and this is how we see a positive economic impact."

But critics say if the *school year* starts *after Labor Day* it won't end until late June. Local school officials also say they also don't want to be forced by the state to delay starting their school year.

The task force is expected to submit its recommendations to the general assembly by the end of the year.

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