

1 HB191
2 155897-1
3 By Representative Rich
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 14-JAN-14

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a student who enrolls in
9 an online school is considered a non-graduate or
10 dropout for purposes of determining high school
11 graduation rates.

12 This bill would require any child who
13 withdraws from a public school to enroll in and
14 attend an accredited online school to be counted as
15 a transfer student and would require grade
16 placement testing for any student who later returns
17 to a public school.

18
19 A BILL

20 TO BE ENTITLED

21 AN ACT

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23 To amend Section 16-28-3, Code of Alabama 1975,
24 relating to school attendance; to require any child who
25 withdraws from a public school to enroll in and attend an
26 accredited online school to be counted as a transfer student;

1 and to require grade placement testing for any student who
2 later returns to a public school.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 16-28-3, Code of Alabama 1975, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "§16-28-3.

7 "Every (a) Except as otherwise provided in
8 subsection (b), every child between the ages of six and 17
9 years shall be required to attend a public school, private
10 school, church school, or be instructed by a competent private
11 tutor for the entire length of the school term in every
12 scholastic year except that, prior to attaining his or her
13 16th birthday every child attending a church school as defined
14 in Section 16-28-1 is exempt from the requirements of this
15 section, provided such child complies with enrollment and
16 reporting procedure specified in Section 16-28-7. Admission to
17 public school shall be on an individual basis on the
18 application of the parents, legal custodian, or guardian of
19 the child to the local board of education at the beginning of
20 each school year, under such rules and regulations as the
21 board may prescribe. The parent, legal custodian, or guardian
22 of a child who is six years of age, may opt out of enrolling
23 their child in school at the age of six years by notifying the
24 local school board of education, in writing, that the child
25 will not be enrolled in school until he or she is seven years
26 of age.

1 "(b) If a child withdraws from a public school, upon
2 verification of enrollment in an accredited and recognized
3 online school, the child shall be counted as a transfer
4 student.

5 "(c) If a child returns to a public school, semester
6 exams shall be given to the child to determine grade
7 placement."

8 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
9 first day of the third month following its passage and
10 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.