

1 HB21
2 161726-1
3 By Representative Warren
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15
6 PFD: 02/18/2015

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8 SYNOPSIS: Currently, the minimum age that a child may
9 enter school is six years of age on or before the
10 date school begins in an enrolling district for the
11 child.

12 This bill would change that date to allow a
13 child who is six years of age on or before the date
14 the second semester begins to enroll in the
15 enrolling district.

16
17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT
20

21 To amend Section 16-28-4, Code of Alabama 1975,
22 relating to enrolling for school; to allow a child who is six
23 years of age on or before the beginning of the second semester
24 to enroll in the enrolling school district.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

1 "§16-28-4.

2 "(a) A child who is six years of age on or before
3 September 1 or the date on which the second semester of the
4 school begins in the enrolling district shall be entitled to
5 admission to the public elementary schools at the opening of
6 such schools for that school year or as soon as practicable
7 thereafter. A child who is under six years of age on September
8 1 or the date on which the second semester of the school
9 begins in the enrolling district shall not be entitled to
10 admission to the first grade in the public elementary schools
11 during that school year; except, that an underage child who
12 transfers from the first grade of a school in another state
13 may be admitted to school upon approval of the board of
14 education in authority, and an underage child who has moved
15 into this state having completed or graduated from a mandated
16 kindergarten program in another state shall be entitled to
17 admission to the public elementary schools regardless of age.
18 A child who becomes six years of age on or before February 1
19 may, on approval of the board of education in authority, be
20 admitted at the beginning of the second semester of that
21 school year to schools in school systems having semiannual
22 promotions of pupils.

23 "(b) A child who is five years of age on or before
24 September 1 or the date on which school begins in the
25 enrolling district shall be entitled to admission to the local
26 public school kindergartens at the opening of such schools for
27 that school year or as soon as practicable thereafter; a child

1 who is under five years of age on September 1 or the date on
2 which school begins in the enrolling district shall not be
3 entitled to admission to such schools during that school year;
4 except that, an underage child who transfers from the public
5 school kindergarten in another state may be admitted to local
6 public kindergarten on the prior approval of the local board
7 of education on a space available basis. The aforementioned
8 underage children transferring from the public school
9 kindergartens of another state, upon successful completion of
10 the kindergarten in the local public schools, will then be
11 allowed admission to the first grade of the local public
12 schools.

13 "(c) Students who were four years of age on or
14 before October 1, 1989, and are enrolled in a public, private
15 or church four-year-old program or kindergarten during the
16 1989-90 school year will be allowed to enroll in a
17 five-year-old public kindergarten, applicable only for the
18 1990-91 school year and to enroll in grade one of a public
19 school, applicable only for 1991-92 school year. Students who
20 are already enrolled in a public, private or church
21 kindergarten will be allowed to enroll in grade one of a
22 public school, applicable only for the 1990-91 school year.

23 "(d) No public school system shall lose any teacher
24 unit as a result of this section. The State Board of Education
25 is authorized to adopt policies for local boards of education
26 for the implementation of this section."

1 Section 2. This act shall become effective
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.