

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 215 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

SENATE BILL 295

4
5 By: Senator J. Jeffress
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT ENSURE CONSISTENT PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
10 LAWS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

11
12 TO ENSURE CONSISTENT PUBLIC SCHOOL
13 ATTENDANCE LAWS.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(a)(1) concerning compulsory
20 attendance is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) Under the penalty for noncompliance ~~as shall be~~ set by law, every
22 parent, guardian, or other person residing within the State of Arkansas
23 having custody or charge of ~~any a~~ child ~~ages~~ five (5) years of age through
24 seventeen (17) years of age on or before ~~September 15~~ the date established in
25 § 6-18-207 for the minimum age for enrollment in public school of that year
26 shall enroll and send the child to a public, private, or parochial school or
27 provide a home school for the child, as described in § 6-15-501 et seq., with
28 the following exceptions:

29 (1)(A) ~~Any a~~ parent, guardian, or other person residing within
30 the state and having custody or charge of ~~any a~~ child may elect for the child
31 not to attend kindergarten if the child will not be ~~age~~ six (6) years of age
32 on ~~September 15~~ the date established in § 6-18-207 for the minimum age for
33 enrollment in public school of that ~~particular~~ school year.

34 (B)(i) If an election is made, the parent, guardian, or
35 other person having custody or charge of the child ~~must~~ shall file a signed



1 kindergarten waiver form with the local school district administrative
2 office.

3 (ii) The kindergarten waiver form shall be
4 prescribed by ~~regulation~~ rule of the Department of Education.

5 (C) Upon the filing of the kindergarten waiver form, the
6 child shall not be required to attend kindergarten in that school year;

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APPROVED: 2/20/2009