

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1639

4
5 By: Representative Broadway
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE AGE PERIOD FOR ENROLLMENT IN
10 KINDERGARTEN BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2004; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES."

Subtitle

12
13
14 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE AGE PERIOD FOR
15 ENROLLMENT IN KINDERGARTEN BEGINNING ON
16 JULY 1, 2004."
17
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

20
21 SECTION 1. Effective July 1, 2004, Arkansas Code 6-18-201(a) is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 "6-18-201. Compulsory attendance - Exceptions. [Effective Date July 1,
24 2004.]

25 (a) Beginning on July 1, 2004, ~~Under~~ under such penalty for
26 noncompliance as shall be set by law, ~~and providing an exception whereby, in~~
27 ~~any school district having fifty percent (50%) or more students eligible to~~
28 ~~receive free lunches or in any county having a majority of school districts~~
29 ~~with fifty percent (50%) or more students eligible to receive free lunches the~~
30 ~~board of directors of a local school district may elect to use any other date~~
31 ~~between September 1 and October 1,~~ every parent, guardian, or other person
32 residing within the State of Arkansas having custody or charge of any child
33 age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before September 1 of that
34 year shall enroll and send the child to a public, private, or parochial
35 school, or provide a home school for the child, as described in §§ 6-15-501 ~~et~~
36 ~~seq.,~~ through 6-15-507, with the following exceptions:

1 (1) Any child who has received a high school diploma, or its
 2 equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education, is not subject to
 3 the attendance requirement.

4 (2) Any parent, guardian, or other person residing within the
 5 state and having custody or charge of any child may elect for the child not to
 6 attend kindergarten if the child or children will not be age ~~five (5)~~ six (6)
 7 on September 1 of that particular school year. If such an election is made,
 8 the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child
 9 must file a signed kindergarten waiver form with the local district
 10 administrative office. Such form shall be prescribed by regulation of the
 11 Department of Education. On filing the kindergarten waiver form, the child
 12 shall not be required to attend kindergarten in that school year.

13 (3) Any child age sixteen (16) or above enrolled in a
 14 postsecondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-
 15 year or four-year institution of higher education is not subject to the
 16 attendance requirement.

17 (4)(i) Any child age sixteen (16) or above enrolled in an adult
 18 education program as provided for in subsection (b) of this section or in the
 19 National Guard Youth Challenge Program is not subject to the attendance
 20 requirement.

21 (ii) The requirements in subsection (b) of this section shall not
 22 apply to the National Guard Youth Challenge Program.

23 ~~(5) Any child age sixteen (16) or above enrolled in an adult education~~
 24 ~~program prior to June 13, 1994, under a waiver granted by the local school~~
 25 ~~district, and currently attending the program, is not subject to the~~
 26 ~~attendance requirement."~~

27
 28 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
 29 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
 30 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

31
 32 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
 33 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
 34 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
 35 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
 36 act are declared to be severable.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.