

State of Arkansas
87th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

SENATE BILL 295

By: Senator J. Jeffress

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

TO ENSURE CONSISTENT PUBLIC SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE LAWS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(a)(1) concerning compulsory attendance is amended to read as follows:

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

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

(B)(i) If an election is made, the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child ~~must~~ shall file a signed kindergarten waiver form with the local school district administrative



1 office.

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

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