

State of Arkansas
87th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

SENATE BILL 313

By: Senator D. Johnson

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CLARIFY APPLICABLE KINDERGARTEN AND
PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CLARIFY APPLICABLE KINDERGARTEN AND
PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-207(a)(2) and (3), as amended by Act 29 of 2009, concerning the enrollment deadline for kindergarten, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Any student who has been enrolled in a ~~state-accredited or state-approved~~ licensed kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he or she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the school district.

(3)~~(A)~~ Notwithstanding the age requirements in subdivision (a)(1) of this section, a public school or public school district shall allow a child to enroll in kindergarten if the child:

~~(i)~~ (A) Was enrolled in a ~~state-approved~~ licensed prekindergarten program during the 2008-2009 school year;

~~(ii)~~ (B) Attended a ~~state-approved~~ licensed prekindergarten program for at least one hundred (100) days during the 2008-2009 school year and each subsequent year in which he or she is enrolled in a ~~state-approved~~ licensed prekindergarten program; and



1 ~~(iii)~~ (C) Will be at least five (5) years of age no later
2 than September 15 during the year in which he or she enrolls in kindergarten.

3 ~~(B) As used in this subdivision (a)(3), "state approved~~
4 ~~prekindergarten program" means a prekindergarten program that is accredited~~
5 ~~and quality approved by the Department of Human Services Division of Child~~
6 ~~Care and Early Childhood Education.~~