

House File 116 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 116

BY JORGENSEN and IVERSON

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the compulsory school attendance age,
- 2 a driver's license penalty for failure to attend, and
- 3 including effective date provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 299.1A, Code 2011, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **299.1A Compulsory attendance age.**

4 1. A child who has reached the age of six and is under
5 sixteen eighteen years of age by September 15 is of compulsory
6 attendance age. However, if a child enrolled in a school
7 district or accredited nonpublic school reaches the age of
8 sixteen eighteen on or after September 15, the child remains of
9 compulsory age until the end of the regular school calendar.

10 2. The superintendent of a school district or the
11 administrator of an accredited nonpublic school may waive the
12 compulsory attendance requirement for a student who has reached
13 the age of sixteen if the student, the student's parent or
14 legal guardian, and the superintendent or administrator, as
15 appropriate, agree in writing that it is in the best interest
16 of the student that the student not be required to attend
17 school. If the compulsory attendance requirements are waived
18 for a student under this subsection, the provisions of this
19 chapter shall not apply to the student.

20 Sec. 2. Section 299.1B, Code 2011, is amended to read as
21 follows:

22 **299.1B Failure to attend — driver's license.**

23 A person who is of compulsory attendance age, is not exempt
24 under section 299.2, and does not attend a public school, an
25 accredited nonpublic school, competent private instruction in
26 accordance with the provisions of chapter 299A, an alternative
27 school, or adult education classes, shall not receive an
28 intermediate or full driver's license until age eighteen. If
29 the person reaches the age of eighteen on or after September
30 15, the person shall not receive a restricted or a full
31 driver's license until the end of the regular school calendar.

32 Sec. 3. Section 299A.8, Code 2011, is amended to read as
33 follows:

34 **299A.8 Dual enrollment.**

35 If a parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a child who is

1 receiving competent private instruction under this chapter ~~or a~~
 2 ~~child over compulsory age who is receiving private instruction~~
 3 submits a request, the child shall also be registered in a
 4 public school for dual enrollment purposes. If the child
 5 is enrolled in a public school district for dual enrollment
 6 purposes, the child shall be permitted to participate in any
 7 academic activities in the district and shall also be permitted
 8 to participate on the same basis as public school children in
 9 any extracurricular activities available to children in the
 10 child's grade or group, and the parent, guardian, or legal
 11 custodian shall not be required to pay the costs of any annual
 12 evaluation under this chapter. If the child is enrolled for
 13 dual enrollment purposes, the child shall be included in the
 14 public school's basic enrollment under section 257.6. A pupil
 15 who is participating only in extracurricular activities shall
 16 be counted under section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a",
 17 subparagraph (6). A pupil enrolled in grades nine through
 18 twelve under this section shall be counted in the same manner
 19 as a shared-time pupil under section 257.6, subsection 1,
 20 paragraph "a", subparagraph (3).

21 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
 22 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
 23 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
 24 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
 25 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
 26 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
 27 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section
 28 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall
 29 be necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and
 30 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

31 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect July 1, 2012.

32 EXPLANATION

33 This bill raises the compulsory school attendance age from
 34 16 to 18.

35 The bill makes a corresponding change to Code section 299.1B

1 to provide that a person who reaches age 18 after September 15
2 is ineligible for a restricted or full license until the end
3 of the regular school calendar.

4 The bill authorizes the superintendent of a school district
5 or the administrator of an accredited nonpublic school to waive
6 the compulsory attendance requirement for a student who has
7 reached the age of 16 if the student, the student's parent
8 or legal guardian, and the superintendent or administrator,
9 as appropriate, agree in writing that it is in the best
10 interest of the student that the student not be required to
11 attend school. If the compulsory attendance requirements are
12 waived for a student, the provisions of the chapter, including
13 provisions relating to truancy and loss of driving license
14 privileges, shall not apply to the student.

15 The bill includes technical amendments to eliminate a
16 reference to the compulsory attendance age for purposes of dual
17 enrollment.

18 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
19 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
20 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
21 district from state school foundation aid received by the
22 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
23 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
24 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
25 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
26 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
27 mandates included in the bill.

28 The bill takes effect July 1, 2012.