

House File 144 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 144

BY HANUSA

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing that children who are enrolled in the
2 statewide preschool program are of compulsory attendance
3 age.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256C.3, subsection 1, Code 2013, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. *Eligible children.*

4 a. A child who is a resident of Iowa and is four years
5 of age on or before September 15 of a school year shall be
6 eligible to enroll in the preschool program under this chapter.
7 If such a child is enrolled under this chapter, the child shall
8 be considered to be of compulsory attendance age as provided in
9 section 299.1A, subsection 3.

10 b. If space and funding are available, a school district
11 approved to participate in the preschool program may enroll a
12 younger or older child in the preschool program; however, the
13 child shall not be counted for state funding purposes.

14 Sec. 2. Section 299.1A, subsection 1, Code 2013, is amended
15 to read as follows:

16 1. Except as provided in ~~subsection~~ subsections 2 and 3,
17 a child who has reached the age of six and is under sixteen
18 years of age by September 15 is of compulsory attendance age.
19 However, if a child enrolled in a school district or accredited
20 nonpublic school reaches the age of sixteen on or after
21 September 15, the child remains of compulsory age until the end
22 of the regular school calendar.

23 Sec. 3. Section 299.1A, Code 2013, is amended by adding the
24 following new subsection:

25 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. A child who has reached the age of
26 four by September 15 and who is enrolled in the statewide
27 preschool program under chapter 256C shall be considered to
28 be of compulsory attendance age unless the parent or guardian
29 of the child submits written notice to the school district
30 implementing the program of the parent's or guardian's intent
31 to remove the child from enrollment in the preschool program.

32 EXPLANATION

33 This bill provides that a child who is four years of age on
34 or before September 15 of a school year and who is enrolled
35 in the statewide preschool program for four-year-old children

1 shall be considered to be of compulsory attendance age unless
2 the parent or guardian of the child submits written notice to
3 the school district implementing the program of the parent's or
4 guardian's intent to remove the child from enrollment in the
5 preschool program.