

House File 184 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 184

BY BRINK

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to statewide preschool program by modifying
2 provisions relating to eligibility, funding, and compulsory
3 attendance and including applicability provisions.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256C.3, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
2 2019, is amended to read as follows:

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

9 Sec. 2. Section 256C.4, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
10 2019, is amended to read as follows:

11 a. To be included as an eligible student in the enrollment
12 count of the preschool programming provided by a school
13 district approved to participate in the preschool program, a
14 child must be four years of age by ~~September~~ March 15 in the
15 base year and attending the school district's approved local
16 program.

17 Sec. 3. Section 299.1A, subsection 3, Code 2019, is amended
18 to read as follows:

19 3. A child who has reached the age of four by ~~September~~
20 March 15 and who is enrolled in the statewide preschool program
21 under **chapter 256C** shall be considered to be of compulsory
22 attendance age unless the parent or guardian of the child
23 submits written notice to the school district implementing the
24 program of the parent's or guardian's intent to remove the
25 child from enrollment in the preschool program.

26 Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget
27 years beginning on or after July 1, 2020.

28 EXPLANATION

29 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
30 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31 The statewide preschool program for four-year-old children
32 under Code chapter 256C provides that a child who is a resident
33 of Iowa and is four years of age on or before September 15 of
34 a school year shall be eligible to enroll in the preschool
35 program. Additionally, to be included as an eligible student

1 in the enrollment count of the preschool programming for
2 state funding purposes, a child must be four years of age
3 by September 15 in the base year and attending the school
4 district's approved local program. This bill changes the date
5 in each of those provisions from September 15 to March 15.

6 Code section 299.1A specifies that a child who has reached
7 the age of four by September 15 and who is enrolled in the
8 statewide preschool program is considered to be of compulsory
9 attendance age. The bill changes that date from September 15
10 to March 15.

11 The bill applies to school budget years beginning on or after
12 July 1, 2020.