

1 HB191
2 155897-5
3 By Representative Rich
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 14-JAN-14

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

ENROLLED, An Act,

To amend Section 16-28-3, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to school attendance; to require any child who withdraws from a public school to enroll in and attend an accredited online school to be counted as a transfer student; and to require grade placement testing for any student who later returns to a public school.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. This bill does not and should not be interpreted to create on-line schools. However, if a student chooses to attend an accredited, state authorized on-line school, that student's former school should not be penalized by the student being classified as a dropout.

Section 2. Section 16-28-3, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§16-28-3.

Every (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), every child between the ages of six and 17 years shall be required to attend a public school, private school, church school, or be instructed by a competent private tutor for the entire length of the school term in every scholastic year except that, prior to attaining his or her 16th birthday every child attending a church school as defined in Section 16-28-1 is exempt from the requirements of this

1 section, provided such child complies with enrollment and
2 reporting procedure specified in Section 16-28-7. Admission to
3 public school shall be on an individual basis on the
4 application of the parents, legal custodian, or guardian of
5 the child to the local board of education at the beginning of
6 each school year, under such rules and regulations as the
7 board may prescribe. The parent, legal custodian, or guardian
8 of a child who is six years of age, may opt out of enrolling
9 their child in school at the age of six years by notifying the
10 local school board of education, in writing, that the child
11 will not be enrolled in school until he or she is seven years
12 of age.

13 "(b) If a child withdraws from a public school, upon
14 verification of enrollment in an a Southern Association of
15 Colleges and Schools or any entity with accreditation status
16 as determined by one of the agencies identified on the United
17 States Department of Education's list of Recognized National
18 and Regional Accrediting Agencies or their affiliates
19 accredited and recognized online school which has been
20 authorized by the Alabama State Department of Education to
21 provide instruction in lieu of in-person instruction, the
22 child shall be counted as a transfer student.

23 "(c) If a child returns to a public school, semester
24 exams shall be given to the child to determine grade
25 placement."

1 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
2 first day of the third month following its passage and
3 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17

Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 13-FEB-14, as amended.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

03-APR-14

Passed