

1 HB168
2 171106-1
3 By Representatives Warren, Drummond, McClammy, Lee, Moore (B)
4 and Coleman
5 RFD: Education Policy
6 First Read: 09-FEB-16

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Currently, the minimum age that a child may
9 enter first grade is six years of age on or before
10 September 1 or the date school begins in an
11 enrolling district for the child.

12 This bill would change that date to allow a
13 child who is six years of age on or before December
14 31 or the date school begins in the enrolling
15 district to enroll in first grade.

16
17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT

20
21 To amend Section 16-28-4, Code of Alabama 1975,
22 relating to enrolling for school; to allow a child who is six
23 years of age on or before December 31 to enroll in first grade
24 in the enrolling school district.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

26 Section 1. Section 16-28-4 of the Code of Alabama
27 1975, is amended to read as follows:

1 "§16-28-4.

2 "(a) A child who is six years of age on or before
3 ~~September 1~~ December 31 or the date on which school begins in
4 the enrolling district shall be entitled to admission to the
5 first grade in the public elementary schools at the opening of
6 such schools for that school year or as soon as practicable
7 thereafter. A child who is under six years of age on ~~September~~
8 ~~1~~ December 31 or the date on which school begins in the
9 enrolling district shall not be entitled to admission to the
10 first grade in the public elementary schools during that
11 school year; except, that an underage child who transfers from
12 the first grade of a school in another state may be admitted
13 to school upon approval of the board of education in
14 authority, and an underage child who has moved into this state
15 having completed or graduated from a mandated kindergarten
16 program in another state shall be entitled to admission to the
17 public elementary schools regardless of age. A child who
18 becomes six years of age on or before February 1 may, on
19 approval of the local board of education ~~in authority~~, be
20 admitted at the beginning of the second semester of that
21 school year to schools in school systems having semiannual
22 promotions of pupils.

23 "(b) A child who is five years of age on or before
24 September 1 or the date on which school begins in the
25 enrolling district shall be entitled to admission to the local
26 public school kindergartens at the opening of such schools for
27 that school year or as soon as practicable thereafter; a child

1 who is under five years of age on September 1 or the date on
2 which school begins in the enrolling district shall not be
3 entitled to admission to such schools during that school year;
4 except that, an underage child who transfers from the public
5 school kindergarten in another state may be admitted to local
6 public kindergarten on the prior approval of the local board
7 of education on a space available basis. The aforementioned
8 underage children transferring from the public school
9 kindergartens of another state, upon successful completion of
10 the kindergarten in the local public schools, will then be
11 allowed admission to the first grade of the local public
12 schools.

13 ~~"(c) Students who were four years of age on or~~
14 ~~before October 1, 1989, and are enrolled in a public, private~~
15 ~~or church four-year-old program or kindergarten during the~~
16 ~~1989-90 school year will be allowed to enroll in a~~
17 ~~five-year-old public kindergarten, applicable only for the~~
18 ~~1990-91 school year and to enroll in grade one of a public~~
19 ~~school, applicable only for 1991-92 school year. Students who~~
20 ~~are already enrolled in a public, private or church~~
21 ~~kindergarten will be allowed to enroll in grade one of a~~
22 ~~public school, applicable only for the 1990-91 school year.~~

23 ~~"(d) (c)~~ No public school system shall lose any
24 teacher unit as a result of this section. The State Board of
25 Education is authorized to adopt policies for local boards of
26 education for the implementation of this section."

1 Section 2. This act shall become effective
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.