

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 642 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY L. WILLIAMS, BREWSTER, BROWNE, COSTA, FARNESE,  
 FONTANA, HUGHES, KEARNEY, MUTH, SCHWANK AND TARTAGLIONE,  
 MAY 13, 2019

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MAY 13, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
 2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
 3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
 4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
 5 laws relating thereto," in pupils and attendance, further  
 6 providing for definitions; and, in school districts of the  
 7 first class, further providing for board of public education  
 8 and additional duties.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The definition of "compulsory school age" in  
 12 section 1326 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known  
 13 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended to read:

14 Section 1326. Definitions.--When used in this article, the  
 15 following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

16 \* \* \*

17 "Compulsory school age" shall mean the period of a child's  
 18 life from the time the child's parents elect to have the child  
 19 enter school and which shall be no later than [eight (8)] six  
 20 (6) years of age until the child reaches [seventeen (17)]

1 eighteen (18) years of age. The term does not include a child  
2 who holds a certificate of graduation from a regularly  
3 accredited, licensed, registered or approved high school.

4 \* \* \*

5 Section 2. Section 2103(8) of the act is amended to read:

6 Section 2103. Board of Public Education; Additional  
7 Duties.--The duties of the board of public education in  
8 districts of the first class, in addition to the duties  
9 prescribed in this act, shall be--

10 \* \* \*

11 (8) Provided that, [notwithstanding the provisions of  
12 section 1326,] the governing authority of the school district  
13 [may] shall establish the compulsory school age at no earlier  
14 than age six. The provisions of section 1326 shall continue to  
15 apply to any student enrolled in a program under section 1327.1  
16 or to any student whose parent or guardian files a notice with  
17 the superintendent of the school district of the intention to  
18 enroll the student in a program under section 1327.1.

19 Section 3. The amendment of the definition of "compulsory  
20 school age" in section 1326 and section 2103(8) of the act shall  
21 apply to academic years commencing after the effective date of  
22 this section.

23 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 90 days.