

SENATE BILL 1963

By Southerland

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, relative to school attendance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 30, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Notwithstanding this part, a student who begins grade nine (9) in a public or nonpublic high school shall attend a public or nonpublic high school for four (4) full school years, unless the student:

(1) Is excused from compulsory attendance under § 49-6-3005;

(2) Received a diploma or other certificate of graduation issued to the student by a secondary high school;

(3) Is enrolled and making satisfactory progress in a course leading to a GED® or HiSET® from a state-approved institution or organization, or has obtained a GED® or HiSET®;

(4) Is seventeen (17) years of age or older and enrolled in a home school; or

(5) Successfully completed an early high school graduation program under the Move On When Ready Act, compiled in part 81 of this chapter.

(b) As used in this section, "nonpublic school" and "public school" have the same meanings as defined in § 49-6-3001.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to the 2022-2023 school year and subsequent school years.