

By Representative Lynn

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to school attendance; amending  
3           s. 232.01, F.S.; revising age requirements for  
4           compulsory school attendance; providing an  
5           effective date.

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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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9           Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) of  
10          section 232.01, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended  
11          to read:

12                 232.01 School attendance.--

13                 ~~(1)(a)1. All children who have attained the age of 6~~  
14                 ~~years or who will have attained the age of 6 years by February~~  
15                 ~~1 of any school year or who are older than 6 years of age but~~  
16                 ~~who have not attained the age of 16 years, except as~~  
17                 ~~hereinafter provided, are required to attend school regularly~~  
18                 ~~during the entire school term.~~

19                 2. All children who will have attained the age of 5  
20                 years on or before September 1 of the school year or who are  
21                 older than 5 years of age but who have not attained the age of  
22                 16 years, except as hereinafter provided, are required to  
23                 attend school regularly during the entire school term ~~are~~  
24                 ~~eligible for admission to public kindergartens during that~~  
25                 ~~school year under rules prescribed by the school board.~~

26                 ~~3. Children who will have attained the age of 3 years~~  
27                 ~~on or before September 1 of the school year are eligible for~~  
28                 ~~admission to prekindergarten early intervention programs~~  
29                 ~~during that school year as provided in s. 230.2305 or a~~  
30                 ~~preschool program as provided in s. 228.061.~~

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1           (b) Any child who has attained the age of 5 ~~6~~ years on  
2 or before September 1 of the school year ~~and who has been~~  
3 ~~enrolled in a public school or who has attained the age of 6~~  
4 ~~years on or before September 1 and has satisfactorily~~  
5 ~~completed the requirements for kindergarten in a nonpublic~~  
6 ~~school from which the district school board accepts transfer~~  
7 ~~of academic credit, or who otherwise meets the criteria for~~  
8 ~~admission or transfer in a manner similar to that applicable~~  
9 ~~to other grades, shall progress according to the district's~~  
10 pupil progression plan. However, nothing in this section shall  
11 authorize the state or any school district to oversee or  
12 exercise control over the curricula or academic programs of  
13 nonpublic schools or home education programs.

14           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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17           HOUSE SUMMARY

18           Revises age requirements for compulsory school  
19           attendance.  
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