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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 1695 Session of 1991

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INTRODUCED BY COWELL, TIGUE, DALEY, KOSINSKI, BATTISTO, COY,  
ROEBUCK, BILLOW, ROBINSON, JAROLIN, SALOOM, OLASZ, HALUSKA,  
COLAIZZO, STISH, VAN HORNE, LEVDANSKY, NOYE, GRUPPO, FREEMAN,  
KUKOVICH, LINTON, GIGLIOTTI, MELIO, WOZNIAK, PISTELLA,  
HARPER, TRELLO AND TANGRETTI, JUNE 12, 1991

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 12, 1991

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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," further providing for the compulsory  
6 age of attendance.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 1304 of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 amended January 14, 1970 (1969 P.L.468, No.192), is amended to  
12 read:

13 Section 1304. Admission of Beginners.--(a) The admission of  
14 beginners to the public schools shall be confined to the first  
15 two weeks of the annual school term in districts operating on an  
16 annual promotion basis, and to the first two weeks of either the  
17 first or the second semester of the school term in districts  
18 operating on a semi-annual promotion basis. Admission shall be

1 limited to beginners who have attained the age of five years and  
2 seven months before the first day of September if they are to be  
3 admitted in the fall, and to those who have attained the age of  
4 five years and seven months before the first day of February if  
5 they are to be admitted at the beginning of the second semester.  
6 The board of school directors of any school district may admit  
7 beginners who are less than five years and seven months of age,  
8 in accordance with standards prescribed by the State Board of  
9 Education. [The board of school directors may refuse to accept  
10 or retain beginners who have not attained a mental age of five  
11 years, as determined by the supervisor of special education or a  
12 properly certificated public school psychologist in accordance  
13 with standards prescribed by the State Board of Education.]

14 (b) The term "beginners," as used in this section, shall  
15 mean any child that should enter the lowest grade of the primary  
16 school or the lowest primary class above the kindergarten level.

17 Section 2. Section 1326 of the act is amended to read:

18 Section 1326. Definitions.--(a) The term "compulsory school  
19 age," as hereinafter used, shall mean the period of a child's  
20 life from the time the child's parents elect to have the child  
21 enter school, which shall be not later than at the age of [eight  
22 (8)] six (6) years, until the age of [seventeen (17)] eighteen  
23 (18) years. The term shall not include any child who holds a  
24 certificate of graduation from a regularly accredited senior  
25 high school.

26 (b) The term "migratory child," wherever used in this  
27 subdivision of this article, shall include any child domiciled  
28 temporarily in any school district for the purpose of seasonal  
29 employment, but not acquiring residence therein, and any child  
30 accompanying his parent or guardian who is so domiciled.

1       Section 3.   This act shall take effect in 60 days.