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AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in pupils and attendance, further providing for age limits and temporary residence and providing for age limit extension during COVID-19 pandemic of 2020.

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

Section 1. Section 1301 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended to read:

Section 1301. Age Limits; Temporary Residence.--Every child, being a resident of any school district, between the ages of six (6) and twenty-one (21) years, may attend the public schools in his district, subject to the provisions of this act.

[Notwithstanding] Except as provided in section 1301.1, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a child who attains the age of twenty-one (21) years during the school term and who has not graduated from high school may continue to attend the public schools in his district free of charge until the end of the school term. The board of school directors of any school district may admit to the schools of the district, with or without the payment of tuition, any non-resident child temporarily residing in the district, and may require the attendance of such non-resident child in the same manner and on the same conditions as it requires the attendance of a resident child.

Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

Section 1301.1. Age Limit Extension During COVID-19 Pandemic of 2020.-- No child enrolled in a school district of this Commonwealth with an active IEP at the start of the proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, shall lose their eligibility for continued service and attendance in accordance with section 1301, until 12 months after the expiration of said proclamation and any of its subsequent renewals. This extension shall be provided at no charge and shall be at the discretion of the student and their family. Students who previously were disqualified during the proclamation of the state of disaster on March 6, 2020 and its subsequent renewals due to age, shall have the ability to reenter services in accordance with the time frame of this section.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.