

H.F. 2067

As amended by H2067DE2

Subject Attendance

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Overview

This bill modifies statutes relating to student absences from school. It modifies the list of persons to whom a parent reports an absence, defines when a student is considered as being in attendance, requires student attendance to be included on state assessment results, establishes notification requirements that apply when a student is dropped from a school's roll based on unexcused absences, modifies presumptions regarding truancy or educational neglect based on the child's age, and makes other changes.

Summary

Section Description

1 Compulsory instruction; legitimate exemptions.

Modifies the list of persons to whom a parent may apply to have a child excused from attendance.

2 Compulsory instruction; reporting attendance.

Defines a student as being in attendance when a school employee is paid to supervise or provide services to the student. Requires a principal, rather than a clerk, to keep a record of excused absences.

3 Reports to the state or county.

Requires a principal, within 15 days after the beginning of a term, to report to the superintendent a list of the students who were enrolled in school the previous term, are not enrolled in the current term, and are eligible for enrollment, unless the school has been notified that the student has enrolled in another school. Requires the superintendent to make the list available to an authorized representative of a county agency whose statutory purpose is to enroll students in school.

4 Assessment reporting requirements; reporting requirements.

Requires the report on a student's state assessment results to include the number and percent of days the student was absent from school the previous school year.

Section Description

5 Definition of pupil units; average daily membership.

Requires a district to notify the local welfare agency of any student dropped from its roll for having more than 15 consecutive unexcused absences, and the local welfare agency to inform the school if it is unable to contact the student or student's family. If the local welfare agency is unable to contact the student or student's family, the district must notify the Department of Education.

6 Definition of pupil units; Department of Education to encourage reenrollment.

Requires the Department of Education to be responsible for reenrolling a student who has been dropped from the roll based on absences. Requires the department to notify the family of county and community resources to support the student's reenrollment in school, and notify the family of the child's right to reenroll in the child's school and of other accessible educational opportunities that may be available to a child.

7 Hearing; presumptions regarding truancy or educational neglect.

Raises from 12 to 16 the age at which it is presumed that a child's unexcused absence is due to the child's intent to be absent from school.



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