HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary =

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 314 DATE: February 18, 2009

Version: First engrossment

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Subject: Increasing the compulsory attendance age to 18

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Overview

Requires students to stay in school through age 18 or graduation, whichever comes first. Also directs home school parents to report on providing instruction to students between ages 7 and 16.

Section

Ages and terms. (a) Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year and later, requires every student between the ages of 7 and 18, instead of 16, to receive instruction unless the student completes graduation requirements before age 18.

Makes this section effective for the 2012-2013 school year and later.

Reports to superintendent. Requires parents to report on providing instruction to home school students between the ages of 7 and 16.

Makes this section effective for the 2012-2013 school year and later.

Habitual truant. Defines truancy in terms of the number of unexcused absences on a per school year basis: seven school days per school year for elementary school students; and one or more class periods on seven school days per school year for middle, junior, and senior high school students. Strikes language including as a truant those students ages 16 and 17 who have seven unexcused absences and have not formally withdrawn from school.

Makes this section effective for the 2012-2013 school year and later.

Repealer. Repeals effective for the 2012-2013 school year and later the provision (Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, subd. 8) allowing students ages 16 and 17 to withdraw from school.