

Subject Compulsory instruction

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## Overview

This bill lowers the compulsory age of instruction to begin at six, rather than seven, and requires school districts to offer kindergarten instruction. The bill makes corresponding changes in various sections of law.

In 2013, the legislature enacted funding for all-day kindergarten for all school districts, at no cost to families. The change went into effect for the 2014-2015 school year and later. Before that change, many districts offered free, full-day kindergarten at some or all of their school sites, other districts offered half-day or every other day programming, others offered only half-day or every other day programming, and others offered free half-day kindergarten coupled with a fee for the all-day program. Districts can continue to provide half-day programs but most kindergarten students attend all-day programs.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<b>Compulsory instruction; ages and terms.</b> Lowers the age of compulsory instruction to begin at six. Modifies description of kindergarten programs based on hours of program.
2	<b>Compulsory instruction; children under age six.</b> Lowers the age of compulsory instruction to begin at six. Strikes language allowing the board of a district to exempt children under minimum age from requirement that once enrolled in school, the child is subject to compulsory attendance requirements.
3	<b>Compulsory instruction; assessment of performance.</b> Modifies language in assessment subdivision to reflect the change in the age for compulsory instruction.
4	<b>Reports to superintendent.</b> Modifies language in superintendent report requirement to reflect the change in the age for compulsory instruction.

Section	Description
5	<b>Duty to maintain elementary and secondary schools.</b> Requires a district to provide kindergarten.
6	<b>Kindergarten instruction.</b> Requires a school board to provide kindergarten free of charge to all eligible children in the district.
7	<b>Use of general education revenue for kindergarten and prekindergarten.</b> Strikes language that prohibits a district from using fees for an all-day kindergarten program on programs for three- and four-year old children.



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