

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 177

BY SENATOR FIELDS

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION. Changes school year for certain requirements relative to entering first grade. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:151.3(C)(1), relative to kindergarten attendance; to provide
3 clarification relative to students entering first grade during the 2022-2023 school
4 year; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:151.3(C)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §151.3. Kindergarten; establishment; entrance age; prerequisites

8 * * *

9 C.(1)(a) For the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school year years, a child, as a
10 prerequisite to enrollment in the first grade of a public school, shall have attended
11 at least a full-day public or nonpublic kindergarten for a full school year, or shall
12 have satisfactorily passed an academic readiness screening administered by the city,
13 parish, or other local public school board prior to the time of enrollment in the first
14 grade. Each city, parish, or other local public school board shall establish the
15 academic readiness level for entry into the first grade.

16 (b) Beginning with the ~~2022-2023~~ 2023-2024 school year, a child, as a
17 prerequisite to enrollment in the first grade of a public school, shall have attended

1 a full-day public or nonpublic kindergarten for a full school year, and shall have
 2 satisfactorily passed an academic readiness screening administered by the city,
 3 parish, or other local public school board prior to the time of enrollment in the first
 4 grade. Each city, parish, or other local public school board shall establish the
 5 academic readiness level for entry into the first grade.

6 * * *

7 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 8 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 9 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 10 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 11 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

	DIGEST	
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Present law provides for mandatory kindergarten attendance beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.

Present law provides different requirements for students entering first grade during the 2021-2022 school year and those entering first grade thereafter.

Proposed law changes the dates for the differing provisions relative to students entering first grade to capture the implementation of mandatory kindergarten.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:151.3(C)(1))