

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 1011

Short Title: Time for Initial Entry Into Kindergarten.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Foxx; Albertson, Allran, Blust, Carpenter, Carrington, Clark, Cochrane, Conder, Dalton, Garwood, Hartsell, Horton, Jenkins, Jordan, Kerr, Kincaid, Kinnaird, Ledbetter, Lee, Lucas, Martin of Pitt, Martin of Guilford, McDaniel, Miller, Page, Phillips, Reeves, Rucho, Shaw of Guilford, Soles, Webster, Weinstein, and Wellons.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

April 21, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE LOCAL BOARDS TO ADMIT OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE CHILDREN TO KINDERGARTEN AFTER THE FIRST MONTH OF SCHOOL.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-364 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-364. Admission requirements.

~~A child, to be entitled to initial entry in the public schools, must have passed the fifth anniversary of his/her birth on or before October 16 of the year in which the child is presented for enrollment, and must be presented for enrollment during the first month of the school year. A child who reaches the age of five on or before October 16 of the school year in which the child is presented for enrollment is entitled to initial entry into the public schools. A child who did not reach the age of five on or before October 16 of the school year in which the child is presented for enrollment but who attended school in another state in accordance with the laws or rules of that state before the child moved to and became a resident of North Carolina also is entitled to initial entry into the public schools.~~ The initial point of entry into the public school system shall be at the

1 kindergarten level: ~~Provided, that if a particular child has already been attending school~~
2 ~~in another state in accordance with the laws or regulations of the school authorities of~~
3 ~~such state before moving to and becoming a resident of North Carolina, such child will be~~
4 ~~eligible for enrollment in the schools of this State regardless of whether such child has~~
5 ~~passed the fifth anniversary of his birth before October 16, level.~~ If the principal of a
6 school finds as fact subsequent to initial entry that a child, by reason of maturity can be
7 more appropriately served in the first grade rather than in kindergarten, the principal may
8 act under ~~the provisions of~~ G.S. 115C-288 to implement this educational decision
9 without regard to chronological age. The principal of any public school ~~shall have the~~
10 ~~authority to~~ may require the parents of any child presented for admission for the first time
11 to ~~such that~~ school to furnish a certified copy of the child's birth ~~certificate of such child,~~
12 certificate, which shall be furnished by the register of deeds of the county having on file
13 the record of the birth of ~~such the~~ child, or other satisfactory evidence of date of birth."

14 Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.