

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 30

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to mandatory kindergarten attendance in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 25.085 (b) and (c), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) Unless specifically exempted by Section 25.086, a child who is at least five [~~six~~] years of age on the first day of August [~~September~~] of the school year, or who is younger than five [~~six~~] years of age and has previously been enrolled in prekindergarten or kindergarten [~~first grade~~], and who has not yet reached the child's 18th birthday shall attend school.

~~(c) On enrollment in prekindergarten [or kindergarten], a child shall attend school.~~

SECTION 2. Section 29.009, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 29.009. PUBLIC NOTICE CONCERNING PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. Each school district shall develop a system to notify the population in the district with children who are at least three years of age but younger than five [~~six~~] years of age and who are eligible for enrollment in a special education program of the availability of the program.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately and applies beginning with the 2003-2004 school year.