

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Senate Bill Number 120

Legislative Action:

Introduced by: Renée Griffith

House Committee: _____

Authored by: Renée Griffith

House: _____

Senate Committee: _____

Delegation: Butte Senior High School

Senate: _____

Governor: _____

Referred to Committee: Senate Education Committee

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE COMPULSORY ENROLLMENT FOR
2 PUPILS UNTIL THEIR EIGHTEENTH BIRTHDAY; AMENDING SECTION 20-5-102, MCA.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE MONTANA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
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5 **Section 1. Definitions** (1) "Compulsory enrollment" refers to being instructed in a program
6 prescribed by the board of public education, which defines and specifies the basic instructional program
7 for pupils in public schools.

8 (2) "Pupils" refers to a child 6 years of age or older, but who has not yet reached 19 years of age,
9 on or before September 10 of the year in which the child is to enroll in school.

10 **Section 2. Basic Provisions** (1) Pupils shall be required to enroll in and attend a school until
11 they are 18 years of age, which is when they legally become adults.

12 (2) This nullifies the stipulation that students may not be required to enroll in school for the next
13 school fiscal year as long as they have a date of completion of the work of the eighth grade, unless they
14 are still in eighth grade during their eighteenth birthday.

15 **Section 3. Amend an Existing Law** (1) ~~Any parent, guardian, or other person who is responsible~~
16 ~~for the care of any child who is 7 years of age or older...shall cause the child to be instructed in the~~
17 ~~program prescribed by the board of public education...until the...following date: the child's 16th~~
18 ~~birthday.~~

19 (2) Any parent, guardian, or other person who is responsible for the care of any child who is 7
20 years of age or older ... shall cause the child to be instructed in the program prescribed by the board of
21 public education...until the...following date: the child's 18th birthday.

22 **Section 3. Procedural and Administrative Provisions** The attendance officer of a school who
23 discovers a student not currently enrolled or truant who meets the age requirements for attendance in a
24 school shall exercise the right to enforce this law.

25 **Section 4. Sanctions and Penalties** Students subject to compulsory attendance who are not
26 enrolled in a school or are truant are subject to the current penalties as defined in 20-5-106, MCA, which
27 include: notification in writing from the attendance officer to the parent or guardian; filing of a complaint
28 by the officer against such person in a court of competent jurisdiction; fining and the requirement to give
29 bond if convicted, conditioned upon the agreement to enroll the child within two days thereafter in a
30 school; temporary imprisonment if the person refuses to pay a fine or give a bond.

31 **Section 5. Effective date.** This bill shall become effective upon the first day of the next school
32 fiscal year, 2007-2008.

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