

ACT 362

S.B. NO. 58

A Bill for an Act Relating to Kindergartens.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 302A-411, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending its title and subsection (a) to read as follows:

“~~[[]§302A-411[]]~~ **Kindergartens; establishment; attendance.** (a) The department [may] shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction [in school zones where there are at least fifteen children eligible to attend,] as a part of the public school system[.]; provided that attendance shall not be mandatory. No child shall attend any kindergarten unless the child will be at least five years of age on or before December 31 of the school year; provided that a child attending a school that convenes after the regular school schedule shall be five years of age on or before one hundred twenty-five days following the date the school convenes; and provided further that the [department may establish procedures and criteria to determine the psychological and physiological readiness of children for kindergarten and may grant an exception in the case of a child who is found to be ready.] board shall develop informational guidance to promote the understanding of a child’s readiness for kindergarten.’”

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1997.

(Approved July 3, 1997.)