SENATE BILL 2630

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to age for school attendance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

- SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-201(b)(3), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:
 - (3) Children entering kindergarten shall be five (5) years of age on or before July 31;
- SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3001, is amended by deleting the language "September 30" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "July 31".
- SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3001(b)(2), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (A) and by adding the following language as new subdivision (B):
 - (B) Notwithstanding subdivision (b)(2)(A) to the contrary, a parent or guardian may request that a child who is four (4) years of age on or before July 31 be permitted to enter kindergarten. If the director of schools finds through evaluation and testing that the child is sufficiently mature emotionally and academically, then the child shall be permitted to enter kindergarten.
- SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-101, is amended by deleting the language "September 30" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "July 31".
- SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-104, is amended by deleting the language "September 30" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "July 31".

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.

- 2 - 01064162