### 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## State of Illinois

# 2007 and 2008

#### SB1630

Introduced 2/9/2007, by Sen. Michael Noland

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/26-1

from Ch. 122, par. 26-1

Amends the School Code. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the compulsory school age.

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A BILL FOR

SB1630

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AN ACT concerning education.

# 2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
26-1 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/26-1) (from Ch. 122, par. 26-1)

7 Sec. 26-1. Compulsory school age-Exemptions. Whoever has custody or control of any child between the the ages of 7 and 8 9 17 years (unless the child has already graduated from high school) shall cause such child to attend some public school in 10 the district wherein the child resides the entire time it is in 11 session during the regular school term, except as provided in 12 Section 10-19.1, and during a required summer school program 13 14 established under Section 10-22.33B; provided, that the following children shall not be required to attend the public 15 16 schools:

Any child attending a private or a parochial school
 where children are taught the branches of education taught
 to children of corresponding age and grade in the public
 schools, and where the instruction of the child in the
 branches of education is in the English language;

22 2. Any child who is physically or mentally unable to 23 attend school, such disability being certified to the SB1630

county or district truant officer by a competent physician 1 2 licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in 3 all its branches, an advanced practice nurse who has a collaborative agreement with a collaborating 4 written 5 physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, a physician assistant who has 6 7 the authority to been delegated perform health 8 examinations by his or her supervising physician, or a 9 Christian Science practitioner residing in this State and 10 listed in the Christian Science Journal; or who is excused 11 for temporary absence for cause by the principal or teacher 12 of the school which the child attends; the exemptions in this paragraph (2) do not apply to any female who is 13 14 pregnant or the mother of one or more children, except 15 where a female is unable to attend school due to a 16 complication arising from her pregnancy and the existence 17 of such complication is certified to the county or district truant officer by a competent physician; 18

19 3. Any child necessarily and lawfully employed 20 according to the provisions of the law regulating child 21 labor may be excused from attendance at school by the 22 county superintendent of schools or the superintendent of 23 the public school which the child should be attending, on 24 certification of the facts by and the recommendation of the 25 school board of the public school district in which the 26 child resides. In districts having part time continuation

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- schools, children so excused shall attend such schools at least 8 hours each week;
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 Any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in attendance at confirmation classes;

5 5. Any child absent from a public school on a particular day or days or at a particular time of day for 6 the reason that he is unable to attend classes or to 7 8 participate in any examination, study or work requirements 9 on a particular day or days or at a particular time of day, 10 because the tenets of his religion forbid secular activity 11 on a particular day or days or at a particular time of day. 12 Each school board shall prescribe rules and regulations relative to absences for religious holidays including, but 13 14 not limited to, a list of religious holidays on which it shall be mandatory to excuse a child; but nothing in this 15 16 paragraph 5 shall be construed to limit the right of any 17 school board, at its discretion, to excuse an absence on any other day by reason of the observance of a religious 18 19 holiday. A school board may require the parent or guardian 20 of a child who is to be excused from attending school due 21 to the observance of a religious holiday to give notice, 22 not exceeding 5 days, of the child's absence to the school 23 principal or other school personnel. Any child excused from attending school under this paragraph 5 shall not be 24 25 required to submit a written excuse for such absence after 26 returning to school; and

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6. Any child 16 years of age or older who (i) submits to a school district evidence of necessary and lawful employment pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Section and (ii) is enrolled in a graduation incentives program pursuant to Section 26-16 of this Code or an alternative learning opportunities program established pursuant to Article 13B of this Code.

8 (Source: P.A. 93-858, eff. 1-1-05; 94-350, eff. 7-28-05.)