CHAPTER 429, Laws of 1977

AN ACT to repeal 118.14 (2) and 120.13 (14); to renumber and amend 118.14; to amend 115.28 (8), 121.004 (5) and (6) and 121.02 (1) (b); and to create 118.14 (2) of the statutes, relating to age of admission to kindergarten and first grade.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 115.28 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

115.28 (8) (title) ADMISSIONS TO KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE. Prescribe procedures, conditions and standards under which admissions to kindergarten and first grade may be made at an age earlier than those specified in s. 118.14 in exceptional cases.

SECTION 1m. 118.14 of the statutes is renumbered 118.14 (1) and amended to read:

118.14 (1) No Except as provided in sub. (2) and s. 115.28 (8), no child may be admitted to kindergarten unless he or she is 5 years old on or before September 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school. Except as provided in sub. (2) and s. 115.28 (8), no child may be admitted to the 1st grade unless he or she is 6 years old, on or before December 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school. A resident over 20 years of age may be admitted to school when in the judgment of the school board he the resident will not interfere with the pupils of school age.

SECTION 2. 118.14 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

118.14 (2) For the school term commencing after July 1, 1979, no child may be admitted to kindergarten unless the child is 5 years old on or before November 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school and no child may be admitted to the first grade unless the child is 6 years old on or before December 1 of the year in which he or she proposes to enter school. For the school term commencing after July 1, 1980, no child may be admitted to kindergarten unless the child is 5 years old on or before October 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school and no child may be admitted to first
grade unless the child is 6 years old on or before November 1 of the year in which he or she proposes to enter school. For the school term commencing after July 1, 1981, no child may be admitted to kindergarten unless the child is 5 years old on or before September 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school and no child may be admitted to first grade unless the child is 6 years old on or before October 1 of the year he or she proposes to enter school.

SECTION 3. 118.14 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 3m. 120.13 (14) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 4. 121.004 (5) (b) and (c) of the statutes, as created by chapter 29, laws of 1977, are amended to read:

121.004 (5) (b) A first grade pupil may be counted only if the pupil attains the age of 6 years on or before December 1 of the school year in which the pupil enters first grade permitted under s. 115.28 (8) or required under s. 118.14 for first grade admission.

(c) A pupil enrolled in kindergarten may be counted only if the pupil attains the age of 5 years on or before December 1 of the school year in which the pupil enrolls permitted under s. 115.28 (8) or required under s. 118.14 for kindergarten admission. A kindergarten pupil shall be counted as one-half pupil.

SECTION 4m. 121.02 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

121.02 (1) (b) Every teacher shall be paid at least the minimum salary and granted the sick leave specified in s. 121.17 and the district shall comply with ss. 42.39 to 42.43, 118.01, 118.02, and 118.07 (2) and 120.13 (14).

SECTION 5. Effective date. This act shall take effect July 1, 1979, except that the repeal under SECTION 3 of this act of section 118.14 (2) of the statutes as created by this act shall take effect June 30, 1982.