

AMENDMENTS TO LB 996

Introduced by Wightman

1           1. Strike original section 3 and insert the following new  
2 section:

3           Sec. 2. (1) A person who has legal or actual charge  
4 or control of a child who is at least sixteen years of age  
5 but less than eighteen years of age may withdraw such child  
6 from school before graduation and be exempt from the mandatory  
7 attendance requirements of section 79-201 if an exit interview  
8 is conducted and the withdrawal form is signed as required by  
9 subsections (2) through (5) of this section for a child enrolled  
10 in a public, private, denominational, or parochial school or if a  
11 signed notarized release form is filed with the Commissioner of  
12 Education as required by subsection (6) of this section for a child  
13 enrolled in a school that elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to  
14 meet accreditation or approval requirements.

15           (2) Upon the written request of any person who has  
16 legal or actual charge or control of a child who is at least  
17 sixteen years of age but less than eighteen years of age,  
18 the superintendent of a school district or the superintendent's  
19 designee shall conduct an exit interview if the child (a) is  
20 enrolled in a school operated by the school district or (b)  
21 resides in the school district and is enrolled in a private,  
22 denominational, or parochial school.

23           (3) The superintendent or the superintendent's designee

1 shall set the time and place for the exit interview which shall  
2 be personally attended by: (a) The child, unless the withdrawal is  
3 being requested due to an illness of the child making attendance at  
4 the exit interview impossible or impracticable; (b) the person who  
5 has legal or actual charge or control of the child who requested  
6 the exit interview; (c) the superintendent or the superintendent's  
7 designee; (d) the child's principal or the principal's designee  
8 if the child at the time of the exit interview is enrolled in a  
9 school operated by the school district; and (e) any other person  
10 requested by any of the required parties who agrees to attend  
11 the exit interview and is available at the time designated for  
12 the exit interview which may include, but need not be limited  
13 to, other school district personnel or the child's principal or  
14 such principal's designee if the child is enrolled in a private,  
15 denominational, or parochial school.

16 (4) At the exit interview, the person making the written  
17 request pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall present  
18 evidence that (a) the person has legal or actual charge or control  
19 of the child and (b) the child would be withdrawing due to  
20 either (i) financial hardships requiring the child to be employed  
21 to support the child's family or one or more dependents of the  
22 child or (ii) an illness of the child making attendance impossible  
23 or impracticable. The superintendent or superintendent's designee  
24 shall identify all known alternative educational opportunities,  
25 including vocational courses of study, that are available to the  
26 child in the school district and how withdrawing from school  
27 is likely to reduce potential future earnings for the child

1 and increase the likelihood of the child being unemployed in  
2 the future. Any other relevant information may be presented and  
3 discussed by any of the parties in attendance.

4 (5) (a) At the conclusion of the exit interview, the  
5 person making the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of  
6 this section may sign the withdrawal form provided by the school  
7 district agreeing to the withdrawal of the child or may rescind the  
8 written request for the withdrawal.

9 (b) Any withdrawal form signed by the person making  
10 the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of this section  
11 shall be valid only if (i) the child signs the form unless the  
12 withdrawal is being requested due to an illness of the child making  
13 attendance at the exit interview impossible or impracticable and  
14 (ii) the superintendent or superintendent's designee signs the form  
15 acknowledging that the interview was held, the required information  
16 was provided and discussed at the interview, and, in the opinion  
17 of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, the person  
18 making the written request pursuant to subsection (2) of this  
19 section does in fact have legal or actual charge or control of the  
20 child and the child is experiencing either (A) financial hardships  
21 requiring the child to be employed to support the child's family  
22 or one or more dependents of the child or (B) an illness making  
23 attendance impossible or impracticable.

24 (6) A person who has legal or actual charge or control  
25 of the child who is at least sixteen years of age but less than  
26 eighteen years of age may withdraw such a child before graduation  
27 and be exempt from the mandatory attendance requirements of section

1 79-201 if such child has been enrolled in a school that elects  
2 pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet the accreditation or  
3 approval requirements by filing with the Department of Education a  
4 signed notarized release on a form prescribed by the Commissioner  
5 of Education.

6 (7) A child who has been withdrawn from school pursuant  
7 to this section may enroll in a school district at a later  
8 date as provided in section 79-215 or may enroll in a private,  
9 denominational, or parochial school or a school which elects  
10 pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet accreditation or approval  
11 requirements. Any such enrollment shall void the withdrawal form  
12 previously entered, and the provisions of sections 79-201 through  
13 79-210 shall apply to the child.

14 (8) The Commissioner of Education shall prescribe the  
15 required form for withdrawals pursuant to this section and  
16 determine and direct either that (a) withdrawal forms of school  
17 districts for any child who is withdrawn from school pursuant to  
18 this section and subdivision (3)(c) of section 79-201 shall be  
19 provided annually to the State Department of Education or (b) data  
20 regarding such students shall be collected under subsection (2) of  
21 section 79-528.

22 2. On page 3, line 1, reinstate the stricken "(c)" and  
23 insert "Has reached sixteen years of age and has been withdrawn  
24 from school pursuant to section 2 of this act;"; and in lines 4,  
25 13, and 24 strike the new matter and reinstate the stricken matter.

26 3. Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.