

HB 982 -- Compulsory School Attendance Age

Sponsor: Baker

This bill raises the age for leaving school from 16 to 18 at the option of a student's parent or guardian. The bill also clarifies that all parents or guardians, rather than one, must agree in writing when children are excused from school for work or dropped from school rolls. A religious exemption is also added to compulsory school attendance. The bill clarifies that students who have successfully completed all elementary and secondary grade levels before the age of 18 are exempt from the compulsory school age. Sections of law concerning work certificates and working hours and days of children are amended to reflect the option of the higher age.