

**ACT 6**

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**H. B. NO. 944**

**A Bill for an Act Relating to the Department of Education.**

***Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:***

SECTION 1. Section 298-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“Section 298-4. Kindergartens; attendance.** The department of education may establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction in school zones in which there are at least fifteen children eligible to attend, as a part of the public school system. No child shall attend any kindergarten unless he will be at least five years of age on or before December 31 of the school year; provided that a child attending a school which convenes after the regular school schedule shall be five years of age on or before one hundred twenty-five days following the date the school convenes; and provided further that the department may establish procedures and criteria to determine the psychological and physiological readiness of children for kindergarten and may grant an exception in the case of a child who is found to be ready.

“The department may accept gifts to establish and maintain kindergartens.”

SECTION 2. Section 298-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“Section 298-8. Public schools; attendance.** Except as authorized by section 298-4, no child shall attend any public school unless he will be at least six years of age on or before December 31 of the school year; provided that a child attending a school which convenes after the regular school schedule shall be six years of age on or before one hundred twenty-five days following the date such school shall convene; and provided further that the department of education may establish procedures and criteria to determine the psychological and physiological readiness of children for public school and may grant an exception in the case of a child who is found to be ready.

“All teachers who teach in the first and second grades and principals of public schools shall enforce this section and require proof of age by birth certificates or certificates of registration, or if none can be obtained, then by satisfactory evidence.”

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this act, the revisor of statutes need not include the brackets, the bracketed material or the underscoring.\*

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 28, 1970.)

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\* Edited accordingly