



House of Representatives *State of Utah*

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January 27, 2006

Mr. Speaker:

The Education Committee reports a favorable recommendation on **H.B. 253**, SCHOOL TRUANCY AMENDMENTS, by Representative E. Hutchings, with the following amendments:

1. *Page 1, Line 12:*

- 12 ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ directs a local school board or school district to strongly consider preapproving an extended absence of a school-age minor if it is determined that the school-age minor is exhibiting academic excellence and that the extended absence will not adversely impact the school-age minor's education;

2. *Page 3, Line 62:*

- 62 ENACTS: =
- 53A-11-101.3, Utah Code Annotated 1953

3. *Page 6, Lines 162 through 164:*

- 162 ~~{(1) "Absence" or "absent" means failure, on any day, of a school-age minor~~
- to attend
- 163 ~~the entire class or class period of each scheduled class or class period to which the~~
- school-age
- 164 ~~minor is assigned that is held on that day.}~~
- (1) (a) "Absence" or "absent" means, consistent with Subsection (1)(b), failure of a school-age minor assigned to a class or class period to attend the entire class or class period.
- (b) A school-age minor may not be considered absent under this part more than one time during one day.

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4. Page 7, Lines 208 through 212:

- 208 (9) "Valid excuse" means:
209 (a) an illness;
210 (b) a family death or crisis;
211 (c) an approved school activity; ~~{or}~~
(d) an absence permitted by a school-age minor's:
(i) individualized education program, developed pursuant to the
Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, as amended; or
(ii) accommodation plan, developed pursuant to Section 504 of the
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
212 ~~{(d)}~~ (e) any other excuse established as valid by a local school board or
school district.

Section 3. Section 53A-11-101.3 is enacted to read:

53A-11-101.3. Preapproval of extended absence.

In determining whether to preapprove an extended absence of a school-age
minor as a valid excuse under Subsection 53A-11-101(9)(e), a local school board or
school district shall strongly consider approving the absence if the local school board
or school district determines that:

- (1) the school-age minor is exhibiting academic excellence; and
(2) the extended absence will not adversely impact the school-age minor's
education.

Renumber remaining sections accordingly.

1. Page 13, Lines 388 through 390:

- 388 (e) considering alternatives proposed by a parent; ~~{and}~~
389 [~~(e)~~] (f) monitoring school attendance of the minor [for a period not to exceed 30
390 days] ~~{-}~~ ; and
(g) voluntary participation in truancy mediation.

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Respectfully,

Margaret Dayton
Committee Chair

Voting: 11-0-4

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