

HB 3409 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 5/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts children who are present in the United States on a nonimmigrant visa and who attend an accredited private English Language Learner program in preparation for attending a private high school or college from compulsory school attendance.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of allowing students attending private institutions preparation time for purpose of private high school or college
- Concern with truancy for students attending private schools outside the months of July and August
- Use of private college and high school preparation programs and their academic calendars
- Overseas school years and their different academic calendars

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

There is no exemption from compulsory school attendance in current law for students on nonimmigrant visas who attend an accredited English Language Learner program in preparation for high school or college. There are only exemptions for the following: children being taught in a private or parochial school; children who showed the School Board of Education they satisfy requirements for knowledge attained in grades K-12; children who have received a high school diploma; children being taught by a private teacher; children being educated in a home; and those excluded from such attendance laws.

House Bill 3409-A exempts children from compulsory school attendance who are present in the United States on a nonimmigrant visa and who attend an accredited private English Language Learner program in preparation for attending a private high school or college.