

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1593

Introduced by Assembly Member Obernolte
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Mayes)
(Coauthor: Senator Morrell)

January 6, 2016

An act to amend Section 48205 of the Education Code, relating to pupil attendance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1593, as introduced, Obernolte. Pupil attendance: excused absences: naturalization ceremony.

Existing law requires a pupil to be excused from school for specified types of absences and prohibits those excused absences from generating state apportionment payments by deeming them as absences in computing average daily attendance.

This bill would include attending the pupil's naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen as another type of excused absence.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 48205 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 48205. (a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be
- 4 excused from school when the absence is:
- 5 (1) Due to his or her illness.

- 1 (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city
2 health officer.
- 3 (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or
4 chiropractic services rendered.
- 5 (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member
6 of his or her immediate family, so long as the absence is not more
7 than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more
8 than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
- 9 (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by
10 law.
- 11 (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school
12 hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
- 13 (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited
14 to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service,
15 observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion,
16 attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an employment
17 conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the
18 legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization
19 when the pupil’s absence is requested in writing by the parent or
20 guardian and approved by the principal or a designated
21 representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the
22 governing board.
- 23 (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board
24 for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
- 25 (9) For the purpose of spending time with a member of the
26 pupil’s immediate family, who is an active duty member of the
27 uniformed services, as defined in Section 49701, and has been
28 called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned
29 from, deployment to a combat zone or combat support position.
30 Absences granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be granted for
31 a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the
32 superintendent of the school district.
- 33 (10) *For the purpose of attending the pupil’s naturalization*
34 *ceremony to become a United States citizen.*
- 35 (b) A pupil absent from school under this section shall be
36 allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the
37 absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory
38 completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full
39 credit therefor. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent
40 shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably

1 equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and
2 assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

3 (c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats
4 shall not exceed four hours per semester.

5 (d) Absences pursuant to this section are deemed to be absences
6 in computing average daily attendance and shall not generate state
7 apportionment payments.

8 (e) “Immediate family,” as used in this section, has the same
9 meaning as set forth in Section 45194, except that references
10 therein to “employee” shall be deemed to be references to “pupil.”

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