

AN ACT relating to school attendance.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. KRS 159.070 is amended to read as follows:

(1) Each school district shall constitute a separate attendance district unless two (2) or more contiguous school districts, with the approval of the Kentucky Board of Education, unite to form one (1) attendance district. Controversies arising in attendance districts relating to attendance matters shall be submitted to the Kentucky Board of Education for settlement. In case an agreement suitable to all parties cannot be reached, the Kentucky Board of Education may dissolve a united district. In case of dissolution, each school district involved may unite with other contiguous school districts in forming a united attendance district or may act as a separate attendance district.

(2) In a county containing a city of the first class, within the appropriate school district attendance area, parents or legal guardians shall be permitted to enroll for attendance their children in the public school nearest their home, except in cases in which the school nearest their home has academic or skill prerequisites for attending the school. If the number of children living in an attendance area exceeds the capacity of a school, the children residing the shortest travel distance from the school shall be given first priority in assignment to the school. Parents or legal guardians may enroll their children for attendance in a public school other than the nearest school with permission of the school district.

(a) If the number of children whose parents request for them to attend the school nearest their home exceeds the capacity of the school, the children residing the shortest travel distance from the school shall be given first priority in assignment to the school. No child who is currently attending the school shall be displaced in order to permit the attendance of another child.

(b) A child who is denied attendance at a school under paragraph (a) of this

subsection shall be given priority in assignment to the next closest school.

No child who is currently attending the school shall be displaced in order to permit the attendance of another child.

(3) In a county containing a city of the first class, parents or legal guardians may enroll their children for attendance in a public school other than the nearest school if the children meet any academic or skill prerequisites for enrollment, and there is attendance capacity in the school, and they are granted permission by the school district.