

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO SECURE TO CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF EIGHT AND FIFTEEN YEARS THE BENEFIT OF AN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :

SECTION 1. That any parent, guardian or other person having the care or control of any
2 child between the ages of eight and fifteen years, residing within one and one-half miles by
3 a traveled road of any public school, which is annually taught for a period of sixteen weeks
4 or more, shall cause such child to attend some public or private school, for a period of six-
5 teen weeks, each of the years between eight and fifteen as designated by this act, or so
6 many thereof as may yet remain to the child under fifteen after the passage of this act,
7 eight weeks of which shall be consecutive, unless such child shall be excused by the board
8 of directors of the district wherein such child resides by reason of physical or mental disa-
9 bility, which fact may be shown by the certificate of a practicing physician or determined
0 by the board themselves.

SEC. 2. Any parent, guardian, or other person having the care or control of any child
2 between the ages of eight and fifteen years, failing to comply with the requirements of this
3 act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined ten dollars
4 and costs of prosecution for the first offense, and fifteen dollars for each subsequent offense
5 for each child respecting whom such failure was made, *provided*, however, that no fine re-
6 specting the same child shall be imposed more frequently than once in six months. All
7 fines, when so imposed and collected, shall be paid into the hands of the treasurer of the
8 district wherein such offense was committed for the benefit of the contingent fund of said
9 district.

SEC. 3. Whenever any parent, guardian or other person having the care or control of any
2 child between the ages of eight and fifteen years, shall state in writing to the secretary of
3 the board of directors of the district wherein such person resides, that he is unable to pro-
4 vide suitable text-books for such child, or whenever the teacher of any public school shall
5 report in writing to the secretary of the board that any child coming within the provisions
6 of this act in attendance at such school is not provided with suitable text-books, it shall be
7 the duty of the secretary to inform the president of the board, and these two officers shall
8 examine into the facts in such cases, and if they find that the person whose duty it is to
9 provide such text-books is unable so to do, they shall furnish such books as a loan to the

10 child at the expense of the contingent fund of said district, such books to be held under the
11 care of the secretary of the board as the property of said district.

SEC. 4. In case any parent, guardian or other person having the care or control of any
2 child between the ages of eight and fifteen years, is unable to induce or cause such child to
3 attend some public or private school, and shall so state in writing to the secretary of the
4 board of directors of the district wherein he resides, such person shall be relieved from all
5 obligations and penalties imposed by the provisions of this act as regards such child.

SEC. 5. Any child between the ages of eight and fifteen years who willfully and persist-
2 ently refuses to comply with the provisions of this act may, upon complaint of parent, guar-
3 dian or other person having the care or control of such child, or upon the complaint of the
4 secretary and president of the board of directors of the district wherein such child resides,
5 be brought before a judge of a court of record, who may commit such child to the State In-
6 dustrial school for reformation and instruction.