



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1981-2009, **Version:** *

Res. No. 1981

Resolution calling upon the Department of Education to bring its birthday cutoff date for admissions to kindergarten more in line with that of private schools.

By Council Members Lappin, Brewer and James

Whereas, According to New York State Education Law the compulsory ages for school attendance include children between six and sixteen years of age; and

Whereas, State Education Law section 3205 further states that “a minor who becomes six years of age on or before the first of December in any school year shall be required to attend upon full time instruction from the first day that the appropriate public schools are in session in September of such school year;” and

Whereas, Attendance in kindergarten is not mandatory in New York State or the City; and

Whereas, There is no state-mandated birthday cutoff date for admissions to kindergarten; and

Whereas, The New York City Department of Education (DOE) has the discretion to establish a birthday cutoff date for admissions to kindergarten; and

Whereas, Parents of kindergarten-aged children generally apply for admission to attend kindergarten in either public or private school; and

Whereas, The fact that public and private schools have different birthday cutoff dates for kindergarten makes it more difficult for parents of kindergarten-aged children to navigate through the admissions process; and

Whereas, DOE uses a birthday cutoff date of December 31, while many private schools use a birthday cutoff date of September 1; and

Whereas, Using a consistent birthday cutoff date of September 1 for both public and private school

kindergarten admissions would simplify the application process for parents of kindergarten-aged children; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the Department of Education to bring its birthday cutoff date for admissions to kindergarten more in line with that of private schools.

LS#6884

JA

4/30/09

2:30pm