

1914

## c 275 Adolescent School Attendance Act

Ontario

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## CHAPTER 275.

## An Act respecting the Compulsory School Attendance of Adolescents.

**H**IS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as *The Adolescent School Attendance Act*. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 1. Short title.

2. In this Act,—

(a) "Adolescent" shall mean a young person of either sex who has passed the high school entrance examination or completed the course of the fourth form of the public schools or an equivalent course and is under the age of seventeen years, or who is not less than fourteen nor more than seventeen years of age; Interpretation.  
"Adolescent."

(b) "Board" shall mean and include the board of high school trustees or board of education of a city, town or village, an urban board of Public School Trustees and an urban board of Separate School Trustees. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 2. "Board."

3.—(1) A board may pass by-laws requiring the attendance of adolescents in a city, town or village under the jurisdiction of the board at day or evening classes to be established by the board or at some other classes or school in the municipality. Powers of Board respecting classes for adolescents.

(2) Every such by-law shall be passed at a special meeting of the board called for the purpose of considering the same after public notice of the meeting and of the object thereof has been given once a week for four weeks in some newspaper published in the city, town or village, or if there is no such newspaper, in a newspaper published in an adjoining municipality or in the county or district town. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 3. Special meeting for consideration of by-laws.

4. The by-laws may provide for

(a) the compulsory attendance at classes to be established by the board or at some other school or classes in the municipality of every adolescent who is not otherwise receiving a suitable education or who is not exempt by the by-law; Provisions of by-laws. Compulsory attendance.

- Establishment of classes. (b) the establishment of day and evening classes for adolescents;
- Age of attendance. (c) fixing the age, not exceeding seventeen years, for such compulsory attendance;
- Courses of study,—providing instructors. (d) prescribing courses of study approved by the Minister of Education and providing instructors and teachers for such classes with qualifications approved by the Minister of Education;
- Distinguishing as to sex or occupation. (e) special classes for either sex or for both and for those engaged in particular trades or occupations designated in the by-law;
- Fixing times of compulsory attendance. (f) fixing the seasons and the number of hours in each day and in each week for the compulsory attendance required under the by-law. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 4.

When by-law to be prepared by advisory industrial committee. Rev. Stat. c. 276.

5.—(1) In a city, town or village in which schools have been established under section 4 of *The Industrial Education Act* the terms of the by-laws, so far as they relate to adolescents engaged in trades or in industrial or manufacturing occupations, shall be settled by the advisory industrial committee.

When to be prepared by advisory commercial committee.

(2) In a city, town or village in which there is a commercial high school or in which there is a commercial department in a high school or continuation school the terms of the by-laws, so far as they relate to adolescents engaged as clerks in offices or in any other department of commercial business, shall be settled by the advisory commercial committee. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 5.

When by-law to come into force.

6. Every by-law passed under this Act shall come into force at the expiration of thirty days from the passing thereof unless a petition is filed as hereinafter provided praying that it may be submitted to the electors. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 6.

Petition for submission of by-law to electors.

7.—(1) If within thirty days after the passing of a by-law under this Act a petition signed by at least ten per cent. of the municipal electors in the municipality is filed with the clerk of the municipality praying that such by-law shall be submitted, the council shall, at a date not later than the next general municipal election in the municipality, submit the same in the manner provided by *The Municipal Act*, to a vote of the electors of the municipality qualified to vote at municipal elections.

Rev. Stat. c. 192

By-law if assented to to come into force.

(2) If the by-law receives the assent of the majority of the electors voting thereon the clerk shall certify the result to the chairman of the board and the by-law shall thereupon come into force; but if the by-law does not receive such assent

it shall not come into force and no by-law for the same or a like purpose shall be passed by the board for at least one year thereafter. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 7.

8. In a city, town or village for which there is an advisory industrial committee constituted under *The Industrial Education Act* that committee shall have the control and management of any classes established under a by-law prepared by it as provided in section 5, and in a city, town or village for which there is an advisory commercial committee constituted under *The Industrial Education Act* that committee shall have the control and management of the classes established under a by-law prepared by it as provided by section 5. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 8.

9. No adolescent shall be compellable to attend classes established under this Act if he

- (a) is declared exempt by by-law under this Act; or
- (b) has been granted special exemption by the board or committee having the control or management of the classes which he should otherwise attend; or
- (c) is unable through sickness, infirmity or physical defect to attend such classes; or,
- (d) has obtained a junior high school diploma or the equivalent thereof. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 9.

10. Where a by-law passed under this Act is in force every person who has in his employment any adolescent to whom the by-law applies shall give notice to the board of such employment at such times as the by-law may require, and shall state in such notice the hours during which the adolescent is employed by him. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 10.

11.—(1) Every person who

- (a) fails to give the notice required by section 10; or,
- (b) knowingly employs an adolescent at any time during which his attendance is by the by-law required at classes of instruction; or,
- (c) employs such adolescent for such a number of hours as with the number of hours during which the adolescent is required to attend such classes will exceed in any day or week the number of hours during which such adolescent may be lawfully so employed; or,
- (d) being a parent or guardian of an adolescent has by wilful default or neglect suffered or permitted the employment of the adolescent in violation of any

Control of classes where there is an advisory industrial committee or advisory commercial committee under Rev. Stat. c. 276.

Exemptions from attendance.

Notice by employer of adolescents.

Offences—

by-law passed under this Act, or suffers or permits such adolescent through want of proper care and control to violate any by-law requiring his attendance at such classes

**Penalty.** shall incur a penalty not exceeding \$5 for the first offence and in the case of a second or subsequent offence in relation to the same adolescent or another adolescent shall incur a penalty not exceeding \$25.

**Recovery of.** (2) The penalties imposed by this section shall be recoverable under *The Ontario Summary Convictions Act*. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 11.

**Powers and duties of truant officers.** **12.** For the purpose of enforcing any by-law passed under this Act the truant officer appointed under *The Truancy Act* shall have and may exercise the powers and shall perform the duties conferred and imposed upon him by that Act. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 12.

**Roman Catholics.** **13.—(1)** No by-law passed under this Act shall require the attendance of an adolescent who is a Roman Catholic at any of the classes of a public school.

**Absence on holy days excused.** (2) No penalty shall be imposed in respect to the absence of an adolescent from any school or from any classes established under this Act on a day regarded as a holy day by the church or religious denomination to which such adolescent belongs. 2 Geo. V. c. 77, s. 13.