The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph c of subdivision 2 of section 3205 of the education law, as amended by chapter 277 of the laws of 2017, is amended to read as follows:

c. The board of education of the Syracuse city school district, the board of education of the city school district of the city of New York, the board of education of the city school district of the city of Rochester, the board of education of the city school district of the city of Utica, the board of education of the city school district of the city of Buffalo, the board of education of the city school district of the city of Cohoes, the board of education of the city school district of the city of Watervliet, and the board of education of the city school district of the city of Yonkers are hereby authorized to require minors who are five years of age on or before December first to attend kindergarten instruction. However, the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to:

(i) Minors whose parents elect not to enroll their children in school until the following September.

(ii) Students enrolled in non-public schools or in home instruction.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD04323-01-9
NEW YORK STATE SENATE
INTRODUCER'S MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
submitted in accordance with Senate Rule VI. Sec 1

BILL NUMBER:  S1624
SPONSOR:  SKOUFIS

TITLE OF BILL:
An act to amend the education law, in relation to allowing a board of education to require minors who are five years of age to attend kindergarten.

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL:
Relates to allowing boards of education of every school district to require minors who are five years of age to attend kindergarten.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:
Amends paragraph c of subdivision 2 of section 3205 of the education law to allow the board of education of every school district within the state to require minors who are five years of age on or before December first to attend kindergarten.

JUSTIFICATION:
In recent years, the Legislature has enacted laws to permit a handful of school districts (New York City, Syracuse, Rochester, Utica, Buffalo, Cohoes, Watervliet, and Yonkers) the authorization to require kindergarten attendance for five-year-olds. This bill seeks to lend the same authorization statewide.

PRIOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:
Assembly:  04/10/18 - Referred to Education

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:
None

EFFECTIVE DATE:
This act shall take effect immediately.