AN ACT relating to High School Equivalency Diplomas.

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

Section 1. KRS 158.143 is amended to read as follows:

(1) Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, a state agency child, as defined in KRS 158.135(1), who is at least seventeen (17) years of age shall be eligible to seek attainment of a High School Equivalency Diploma.

(2) Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, a student enrolled in a district-operated alternative education program shall be eligible to seek attainment of a High School Equivalency Diploma if the student:

(a) Is at least seventeen (17) years of age;

(b) Is not on track to graduate; and

(c) Has previously attained a passing score on an official readiness test for a High School Equivalency Diploma program authorized by the Office of Adult Education pursuant to KRS 151B.403.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to exempt a student who has attained a High School Equivalency Diploma from the compulsory attendance requirements of KRS 159.010.