



## *Education Law Update*

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### KINDERGARTEN READINESS ACT OF 2010

On September 30, 2010, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 1381 which has now become law. The new law changes the birthday cut-off dates for admitting pupils to kindergarten and first grade. Under previous law, California school districts were required to admit a pupil to kindergarten if the child's fifth birthday fell on or before December 5 of that school year. Districts were also required to admit a student to first grade if the student enrolled after their kindergarten year and their sixth birthday fell on or before December 5 when first entering school.

The current law changes the cutoff dates for kindergarten and first grade admissions and creates a transitional kindergarten year for those pupils whose birthdays fall between September 2 and December 2. The December 2 cutoff date will remain in effect throughout the 2011/2012 school year. The new law will be gradually implemented over a three-year period beginning with the 2012/2013 school year.

A copy of the applicable portion of SB 1381, reflecting the changes discussed above, is enclosed for your review.

If you have questions concerning these changes or related issues, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

— Kathleen R. LaMay

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*Education Law Updates are intended to alert clients to developments in legislation, opinions of courts and administrative bodies and related matters. They are not intended as legal advice in any specific situation. Please consult legal counsel as to how the issue presented may affect your particular circumstances.*