

By: Allen

H.B. No. 2086

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to health and physical education requirements in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (1) and adding Subsection (1-4) to read as follows:

(1) A school district shall require a student enrolled in full-day prekindergarten, in kindergarten, or in a grade level below grade six to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes throughout the school year as part of the district's physical education curriculum or through structured activity during a school campus's daily recess. To the extent practicable, a school district shall require a student enrolled in prekindergarten on less than a full-day basis to participate in the same type and amount of physical activity as a student enrolled in full-day prekindergarten. A school district shall require students enrolled in grade levels six, seven, and eight to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes for six ~~[at least four]~~ semesters during those grade levels as part of the district's physical education curriculum. If a school district determines, for any particular grade level below grade six, that requiring moderate or vigorous daily physical activity is impractical due to scheduling

concerns or other factors, the district may as an alternative require a student in that grade level to participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 135 minutes during each school week. Additionally, a school district may as an alternative require a student enrolled in a grade level for which the district uses block scheduling to participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 225 minutes during each period of two school weeks. A school district must provide for an exemption for:

(1) any student who is unable to participate in the required physical activity because of illness or disability; and

(2) a middle school or junior high school student who participates in an extracurricular activity with a moderate or vigorous physical activity component that is considered a structured activity under rules adopted by the commissioner.

(1-4) The agency shall develop and institute policies on the recess period during the school day that encourage constructive, age-appropriate outdoor playtime. The policies must include guidelines for outdoor equipment and facilities on public school campuses that maximize the effectiveness of outdoor physical activity.

SECTION 2. Section 28.025(b-1), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b-1) The State Board of Education by rule shall require that the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program under Subsection (a) include a requirement that students successfully complete:

(1) four credits in English language arts under

1 Section 28.002(a)(1)(A), including one credit in English I, one
2 credit in English II, one credit in English III, and one credit in
3 an advanced English course authorized under Subsection (b-2);

4 (2) three credits in mathematics under Section
5 28.002(a)(1)(B), including one credit in Algebra I, one credit in
6 geometry, and one credit in any advanced mathematics course
7 authorized under Subsection (b-2);

8 (3) three credits in science under Section
9 28.002(a)(1)(C), including one credit in biology, one credit in any
10 advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2), and one
11 credit in integrated physics and chemistry or in an additional
12 advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2);

13 (4) three credits in social studies under Section
14 28.002(a)(1)(D), including one credit in United States history, at
15 least one-half credit in government and at least one-half credit in
16 economics, and one credit in world geography or world history;

17 (5) except as provided under Subsections (b-12),
18 (b-13), and (b-14), two credits in the same language in a language
19 other than English under Section 28.002(a)(2)(A);

20 (6) four [~~five~~] elective credits;

21 (7) one credit in fine arts under Section
22 28.002(a)(2)(D); ~~and~~

23 (8) except as provided by Subsection (b-11), 1-1/2
24 credits [~~one credit~~] in physical education under Section
25 28.002(a)(2)(C); and

26 (9) one-half credit in health under Section
27 28.002(a)(2)(B).

1 SECTION 3. Section 28.002(1), Education Code, as amended by
2 this Act, applies only to students entering the sixth grade during
3 the 2015-2016 school year or a later school year. For students
4 entering a grade above sixth grade during the 2015-2016 school
5 year, Section 28.002(1), Education Code, as that section existed
6 before amendment by this Act, applies, and that section is
7 continued in effect for that purpose.

8 SECTION 4. Section 28.025(b-1), Education Code, as amended
9 by this Act, applies only to students entering the ninth grade
10 during the 2015-2016 school year or a later school year. For
11 students entering a grade above ninth grade during the 2015-2016
12 school year, Section 28.025(b-1), Education Code, as that section
13 existed before amendment by this Act, applies, and that section is
14 continued in effect for that purpose.

15 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.