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H.B. No. 440

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to adapting the public school physical education
3 curriculum to accommodate the needs of students with mental
4 disabilities.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 28.002(d), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (d) The physical education curriculum required under
9 Subsection (a)(2)(C) must be sequential, developmentally
10 appropriate, and designed, implemented, and evaluated to enable
11 students to develop the motor, self-management, and other skills,
12 knowledge, attitudes, and confidence necessary to participate in
13 physical activity throughout life. Each school district shall
14 establish specific objectives and goals the district intends to
15 accomplish through the physical education curriculum. In
16 identifying the essential knowledge and skills of physical
17 education, the State Board of Education shall ensure that the
18 curriculum:

19 (1) emphasizes the knowledge and skills capable of
20 being used during a lifetime of regular physical activity;

21 (2) is consistent with national physical education
22 standards for:

23 (A) the information that students should learn
24 about physical activity; and

1 (B) the physical activities that students should
2 be able to perform;

3 (3) requires that, on a weekly basis, at least 50
4 percent of the physical education class be used for actual student
5 physical activity and that the activity be, to the extent
6 practicable, at a moderate or vigorous level;

7 (4) offers students an opportunity to choose among
8 many types of physical activity in which to participate;

9 (5) offers students both cooperative and competitive
10 games;

11 (6) meets the needs of students of all physical
12 ability levels, including students who have a [~~disability,~~ chronic
13 health problem, disability, including a student who is a person
14 with a disability described under Section 29.003(b) or criteria
15 developed by the agency in accordance with that section, or other
16 special need that precludes the student from participating in
17 regular physical education instruction but who might be able to
18 participate in physical education that is suitably adapted and, if
19 applicable, included in the student's individualized education
20 program;

21 (7) takes into account the effect that gender and
22 cultural differences might have on the degree of student interest
23 in physical activity or on the types of physical activity in which a
24 student is interested;

25 (8) teaches self-management and movement skills;

26 (9) teaches cooperation, fair play, and responsible
27 participation in physical activity;

1 (10) promotes student participation in physical
2 activity outside of school; and

3 (11) allows physical education classes to be an
4 enjoyable experience for students.

5 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016
6 school year.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.