

By: Allen

H.B. No. 2884

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to health and physical education requirements in public
3 schools.

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 (1-4) The agency shall develop and institute policies on the
16 recess period during the school day that encourage constructive,
17 age-appropriate outdoor playtime. The policies must include
18 guidelines for outdoor equipment and facilities on public school
19 campuses that maximize the effectiveness of outdoor physical
20 activity.

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

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

27 (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 2017-2018 school year or a later school year. For students
4 entering a grade above sixth grade during the 2017-2018 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 2017-2018 school year or a later school year. For
11 students entering a grade above ninth grade during the 2017-2018
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, 2017.