

By: Watson

S.B. No. 355

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the adoption and implementation of a recess policy by public school districts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.0042 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.0042. RECESS POLICY. (a) The board of trustees of each school district shall:

(1) after reviewing the policy recommendations of the local school health advisory council provided under Section 28.004(1), adopt a recess policy; and

(2) review and, if necessary, revise the recess policy at least every five years.

(b) The recess policy must specify:

(1) the required number of minutes of weekly unstructured playtime; and

(2) whether a student's recess time may be withheld as a form of student discipline.

(c) Each school district campus subject to the district recess policy adopted under Subsection (a) shall implement the recess policy.

SECTION 2. (a) Not later than May 1, 2018, the board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a recess policy as required by Section 28.0042, Education Code, as added by this Act.

1           (b) Not later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school  
2 year, each school district campus subject to a school district  
3 recess policy adopted under Section 28.0042, Education Code, as  
4 added by this Act, shall implement the adopted policy.

5           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.