

House File 263 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 263

BY EHLERT, B. MEYER, WILSON,
LEVIN, OLSON, WILBURN,
AMOS JR., MADISON, CROKEN,
R. JOHNSON, WICHTENDAHL,
BAGNIEWSKI, KRESSIG, JAMES,
MATSON, KURTH, and
BROWN-POWERS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to physical activity requirements applicable to
2 students enrolled in public schools and accredited nonpublic
3 schools.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsection 6, paragraph b,
2 subparagraph (1), Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) All In addition to the physical education curriculum
4 required under subsection 3, physically able students in
5 kindergarten through grade five who are not suspended or expelled
6 shall be required to engage in a physical activity for a minimum
7 of thirty minutes per school day. A school shall not prevent a
8 student from engaging in a physical activity as required in this
9 subparagraph unless one of the following applies:

10 (a) The student poses a danger to the health or safety of a
11 school employee, contractor, or another student.

12 (b) Due to inclement weather, the school relocates physical
13 activity that was to take place outdoors.

14 (c) The school dismisses classes early due to unforeseen
15 circumstances, including inclement weather or loss of utilities
16 services.

17 (d) The student is absent from school, including due to
18 illness or a medical appointment, during the time of the school
19 day that the school provides for the student's class to engage in
20 physical activity.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill relates to physical activity requirements applicable
25 to students enrolled in public schools and accredited nonpublic
26 schools.

27 Current law requires all physically able students in
28 kindergarten through grade five to engage in a physical activity
29 for a minimum of 30 minutes per school day, which may include
30 physical education. The bill provides that physical education
31 shall not be used to meet this physical activity requirement.

32 The bill provides that the physical activity requirement shall
33 not apply when a student is suspended or expelled. The bill
34 also provides that a school shall not prevent a student from
35 engaging in 30 minutes of physical activity per school day unless

1 the student poses a danger to the health or safety of certain
2 specified persons, the school relocates physical activity that
3 was to take place outdoors due to inclement weather, the school
4 dismisses classes early due to unforeseen circumstances, or the
5 student is absent from school, including due to illness or a
6 medical appointment, during the time of the school day that the
7 school provides for the student's class to engage in physical
8 activity.

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