

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to physical education in the public  
 3           schools; amending s. 1003.455, F.S.; requiring school  
 4           districts to administer student physical fitness  
 5           assessments and report results; providing school district  
 6           duties relating to teacher inservice training and  
 7           development of a physical education program and policy;  
 8           amending s. 1004.04, F.S.; including concepts of physical  
 9           education in core curricula for teacher preparation  
 10          programs; authorizing the establishment of partnerships to  
 11          provide for a system of grants for the improvement of  
 12          student physical fitness; providing an effective date.

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 14   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16           Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.455,  
 17   Florida Statutes, to read:

18           1003.455   Physical education; fitness assessment.--

19           (4) Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year:

20           (a)1. Each school district shall administer twice annually  
 21           a nationally validated health-related physical fitness  
 22           assessment, including a pretest and posttest, to each student in  
 23           the district. A school district shall provide for appropriate  
 24           training for persons administering the physical fitness  
 25           assessment instrument. Each school must report the physical  
 26           fitness assessment scores of its students to its school  
 27           improvement team and to the district school board. Each student  
 28           and his or her parents shall receive the individual results of

29 the student's assessment. The school district must report  
30 aggregate results annually to the Department of Education.

31 2. To promote physical fitness in the community, each  
32 school district is encouraged to invite representatives of  
33 community-based organizations, such as the YMCA, YWCA, and Boys  
34 and Girls Clubs, to physical fitness assessment training  
35 sessions and to events that showcase fitness-based and lifetime  
36 sports instruction and the results of annual physical fitness  
37 assessments.

38 (b) Each school district shall provide teacher inservice  
39 training that incorporates the use of best practices for  
40 fitness-related instruction, strategies that support classroom  
41 learning, the connection between movement and learning, and  
42 strategies for integrating academic subject matter, particularly  
43 reading and mathematics, with physical education.

44 (c) Each school district shall appoint a district-level  
45 coordinator for physical education and health whose main  
46 responsibilities shall be related to developing and maintaining  
47 a quality physical education program in the school district.  
48 School districts with 10 or fewer schools may cooperate to  
49 provide such services. Each school district shall adopt a policy  
50 for its physical education program that must include specific  
51 criteria for class size, content, frequency, and teacher  
52 qualifications.

53 (d) Each school district shall develop and publicize its  
54 local wellness policy required by the federal Child Nutrition  
55 and WIC Reauthorization Act, which must include goals for

56 nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based  
57 efforts to promote student wellness.

58 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1004.04, Florida  
59 Statutes, is amended to read:

60 1004.04 Public accountability and state approval for  
61 teacher preparation programs.--

62 (2) UNIFORM CORE CURRICULA.--

63 (a) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules  
64 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 that establish uniform  
65 core curricula for each state-approved teacher preparation  
66 program.

67 (b) The rules to establish uniform core curricula for each  
68 state-approved teacher preparation program must include, but are  
69 not limited to, a State Board of Education identified foundation  
70 in scientifically researched, knowledge-based reading literacy  
71 and computational skills acquisition; concepts of physical  
72 education that include physical fitness, the connection between  
73 movement and learning, and curriculum integration strategies;  
74 classroom management; school safety; professional ethics;  
75 educational law; human development and learning; and  
76 understanding of the Sunshine State Standards content measured  
77 by state achievement tests, reading and interpretation of data,  
78 and use of data to improve student achievement.

79 (c) These rules shall not require an additional period of  
80 time-to-degree but may be phased in to enable teacher  
81 preparation programs to supplant courses, including pedagogy  
82 courses, not required by law or State Board of Education rule  
83 with the courses identified pursuant to paragraph (b).

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84           Section 3. Public and private partnerships are authorized  
85 to provide for a system of grants to school districts and  
86 schools that demonstrate adequate annual progress toward  
87 improving the physical fitness of their students and the  
88 connection between improved physical fitness and academic  
89 achievement. The grant moneys may be used for fitness centers,  
90 fitness assessment equipment, professional development, or  
91 teacher recognition.

92           Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.