

By Senator Thompson

12-01480-13

20131144

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to physical education in the public
3 schools; amending s. 1003.455, F.S.; revising criteria
4 for waiver of physical education requirements for
5 students in grades 6 through 8; providing an effective
6 date.

7
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
10 Section 1. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section
11 1003.455, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

12 1003.455 Physical education; assessment.—

13 (3) Each district school board shall provide 150 minutes of
14 physical education each week for students in kindergarten
15 through grade 5 and for students in grade 6 who are enrolled in
16 a school that contains one or more elementary grades so that on
17 any day during which physical education instruction is conducted
18 there are at least 30 consecutive minutes per day.

19 (4) Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, the
20 equivalent of one class period per day of physical education for
21 one semester of each year is required for students enrolled in
22 grades 6 through 8. Students enrolled in such instruction shall
23 be reported through the periodic student membership surveys, and
24 records of such enrollment shall be audited pursuant to s.
25 1010.305. Such instruction may be provided by any instructional
26 personnel as defined in s. 1012.01(2), regardless of
27 certification, who are designated by the school principal.

28 (5)~~(4)~~ The requirement in subsection (4) ~~(3)~~ shall be
29 waived for one semester each year for a student who meets one of

12-01480-13

20131144

30 the following criteria:

31 (a) The student is enrolled or required to enroll in a
32 remedial course.

33 (b) The student's parent indicates in writing to the school
34 principal or the principal's designee, and the principal or the
35 principal's designee verifies, that:

36 1. ~~The parent requests that the student enroll in another~~
37 ~~course from among those courses offered as options by the school~~
38 ~~district; or~~

39 2. the student is participating in physical activities
40 outside the school day which are equal to or in excess of the
41 mandated requirement.

42 (c) The student submits to the school principal or the
43 principal's designee a note from a physician licensed under
44 chapter 458 or chapter 459 which specifies the health reasons as
45 to why the student should not participate in physical education.

46 (6) ~~(5)~~ Each school district shall notify the student's
47 parent of the options available under subsection (5) ~~(4)~~ before
48 scheduling the student to participate in physical education.

49 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.