

HCS HB 509 -- PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS

SPONSOR: Wallace (Stream)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 12 to 1.

By July 1, 2011, this substitute requires all school districts to have a physical education program that:

- (1) Requires daily participation in physical education for students in kindergarten through eighth grade at a weekly minimum duration specified in the substitute, plus a minimum 20-minute daily recess period for elementary grade students;
- (2) Establishes goals and objectives for physical education based on a sequential, developmentally appropriate curriculum, with a minimum of 50% of class time devoted to physical activity, in addition to other requirements specified in the substitute;
- (3) Provides for regular assessments on physical fitness proficiency at the local level for attainment of objectives, and in first through eighth grades through the state's physical fitness assessment which are to be reported to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in the June reporting cycle for core data; and
- (4) Provides for health-related fitness testing to be integrated into the curriculum as an instructional tool.

Exemptions from taking physical education courses that are based on participation in other activities such as marching band or athletic teams are not permitted. Facilities and equipment as well as teacher requirements are specified. The physical education program must be coordinated with other components of overall school health programs, local wellness policies, and health education and physical education grade level expectations.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there is a direct correlation between physical fitness and academic achievement. Physical education can help with readiness to learn. Having physical education oriented toward lifetime health can provide benefits in reduced insurance costs.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Stream; Laura Beckman; Thomas Loughrey; Craig Ruperb; David Ross, Kansas City Healthy Kids; Nancy Johnson; Ken Roberts, American Diabetes

Association; Soraya Nouri-Wolverson, American Heart Association; American Cancer Society; Luana Gifford, American Federation of Teachers; Maggie Menefee, Healthy Youth Partnership; Ann Flannery, PE4Life; Partnership for Children; Laura Gundy; Missouri Council of School Administrators; Missouri Academy of Family Physicians; and Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say it is part of the university's extension service's information base.

Testifying on the bill was Donna Mehrle, University of Missouri Extension.