

HCS HB 2748 -- PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

SPONSOR: Davidson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 6 to 4, with 1 member voting present. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2748.

Currently, school districts must ensure that elementary school students participate in an average of 30 minutes of physical activity a day.

This bill requires that schools ensure that all students in grades K-12 participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity for a certain length of time each day, as specified in the bill.

The bill contains an emergency clause.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the more physical movement a child does, the better he or she does during classroom time, and there is greater improvement in things like mental, psychological, and intellectual advances. Supporters further state that physical movement should be prioritized as any other school-related activity. The sooner in life one becomes physically active, the greater the chance that a person will continue such habits later in life.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Davidson; Thomas J. Loughrey; Laura Beckmann; Jorgen Schlemeier, Chuck Stetson; and Haley Edwards.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that it should be up to the local school district to determine how much time each school or student should focus on physical activities.

Testifying in person against the bill was Arnie C. Dienoff .

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say younger male students especially benefit from lots of physical activity during the day, as well as those with special needs.

Testifying in person on the bill was Otto Fajen.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.