

ARKANSAS SENATE
85th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2005
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 2

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE CREDIT FOR PARTICIPATION
IN SCHOOL SPORTS ACTIVITIES."

Amendment No. 2 to Senate Bill No. 2.

Amend Senate Bill No. 2 as engrossed, S1/20/05 (version: 01-20-2005 08:44)::

Delete everything following the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-17-137. Physical education credit for physical activity courses.

(a) For the purpose of this act the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Content standards" means those curriculum course content standards identified and set out in the Department of Education Curriculum Frameworks;

(2) "Curriculum frameworks" means those content-specific requirements identified and mandated pursuant to § 6-15-1501 et seq. and the Arkansas Standards of Accreditation;

(3) "Organized physical activity course" means a school course taught by an instructor with a certification in physical education or a coaching endorsement that involves body movement produced by skeletal muscles resulting in energy expenditures through organized group or class activities; and

(4) "Statement of assurance" means a written statement to be filed by the superintendent or chief academic officer by October 1 of each school year with the Department of Education which ensures that the organized physical activity course is in compliance with the physical education course content standards and curriculum frameworks as required pursuant to § 6-15-1505 and the requirements of subdivision (b)(2).

(b) Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, a student in grades nine through twelve (9-12) participating in and successfully completing an organized physical activity course in his or her school shall be eligible to receive one-half (1/2) unit of physical education credit required for graduation if:

(1) The organized physical activity course is aligned to the Department of Education's physical education course content standards and curriculum frameworks; and

(2) The organized physical activity course is verified by the superintendent of the school district or the chief administrative officer of an open-enrollment charter school who files a written statement of assurance



with the Department of Education by October 1 of the school year as required under § 6-15-1505 stating that:

(A) The teacher of the organized physical activity course is licensed or qualified under the rules of the State Board of Education; and

(B) The organized physical activity course is aligned to the Department of Education's physical education course content standards and curriculum frameworks.

(c) A student is limited to only the one-half (1/2) unit of physical education credit for graduation for the organized physical activity course, and the student shall not be allowed any other credit toward graduation for that same course.

(d) A student must complete the entire semester and pass the physical activity course to receive the one-half (1/2) unit of physical education credit required for graduation.

(e) The physical activity course shall take place during the regular school day to qualify for physical education credit, unless the organized physical activity course is listed on the school district master schedule for a time that is not during the regular school day.

(f)(1) If it is determined by the Department of Education that any organized physical activity course or organized sport allowed to be used for physical education credit by a student does not meet the Department of Education's physical education course content standards and curriculum frameworks, as required under this section, the school district or open-enrollment charter school may be cited or placed in probationary violation of the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools under The Quality Education Act of 2003, § 6-15-201 et seq.

(2) If it is determined by the Department of Education that a superintendent or chief academic officer or any other certified personnel has knowingly provided false or misleading information in the statement of assurance required under this section, the State Board of Education may take appropriate action on the license of that individual pursuant to § 6-17-410.

(g) The Department of Education is authorized to monitor, review documentation, request information, or require additional reports, from public schools, school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, or school personnel to enforce compliance with the requirements of this section.

(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, it is recognized that organized physical activity courses as set forth under subsection (b) are not a requirement for an adequate education and shall not be considered a core academic requirement of the State of Arkansas or public schools districts.

(i) The State Board of Education may promulgate rules necessary to implement this section."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Womack
KAC/TAT - 02-08-2005 13:14
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Secretary