

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Dettmer and others

Subject: Physical education

Analyst: Lisa Larson

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Overview

Directs the education commissioner to adopt in rule statewide physical education standards and benchmarks based on the K-12 National Association of Sport and Physical Education standards and benchmarks. Allows students to be excused from a physical education class under some circumstances. Encourages schools not to exclude K-5 students from recess as a form of punishment or discipline. Requires the commissioner of education to annually report on physical education course taking.

Section

- 1** **Required academic standards.** (c) Directs the education department to adopt the most recent K-12 National Association of Sport and Physical Education standards and benchmarks as the required physical education academic standards. Allows the department to modify and adapt the standards. Directs the department to make sample assessments available for school districts to use to assess students' mastery of the physical education standards beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.
- 2** **Rulemaking.** Directs the education commissioner to adopt statewide rules for implementing physical education standards.
- 3** **Revisions and reviews required.** (g) Directs the education commissioner to implement a review of the statewide physical education standards beginning in the 2024-2025 school year and 10 years thereafter.
- 4** **Physical education.**

Section

Subd. 1. Exclusion from class; recess. Allows a student to be excused from a physical education class with a signed doctor's note, if being excused meets the child's unique needs under the child's individualized education program, federal 504 plan, or individualized health plan or the child's parent requests an exemption on religious grounds. Requires a child with a disability to be given the necessary accommodations to allow a physical education class to meet the student's needs. Strongly encourages schools not to exclude K-5 students from recess as a form of punishment or discipline.

Subd. 2. Teachers. Requires licensed or certified teachers to teach physical education, to be adequately prepared, and to participate in staff development activities.

5 School performance reports. Includes among the education data the education commissioner must annually report the weekly amount of time K-8 students spend in a physical education class, the percent of K-12 students who receive a passing physical education grade, and the number of required physical education credits high school students must complete to graduate.

Makes this section applicable to reports for the 2017-2018 school year and later.