

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 27-6 and 27-7 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-6) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-6)

7 Sec. 27-6. Courses in physical education required; special
8 activities.

9 (a) Pupils enrolled in the public schools and State
10 universities engaged in preparing teachers shall, ~~as soon as~~
11 ~~practicable~~, be required to engage daily, during the school
12 day, in courses of physical education for such periods as are
13 compatible with the optimum growth and developmental
14 ~~development~~ needs of individuals at the various age levels
15 except when appropriate excuses are submitted to the school by
16 a pupil's parent or guardian or by a person licensed under the
17 Medical Practice Act of 1987 and except as provided in
18 subsection (b) of this Section.

19 Special activities in physical education shall be provided
20 for pupils whose physical or emotional condition, as determined
21 by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act of 1987,
22 prevents their participation in the courses provided for normal
23 children.

24 (b) A school board is authorized to excuse pupils enrolled
25 in grades 11 and 12 from engaging in physical education courses
26 if those pupils request to be excused for any of the following
27 reasons: (1) for ongoing participation in an interscholastic
28 athletic program; (2) to enroll in academic classes which are
29 required for admission to an institution of higher learning,
30 provided that failure to take such classes will result in the
31 pupil being denied admission to the institution of his or her
32 choice; or (3) to enroll in academic classes which are required

1 for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take
2 such classes will result in the pupil being unable to graduate.
3 A school board may also excuse pupils in grades 9 through 12
4 enrolled in a marching band program for credit from engaging in
5 physical education courses if those pupils request to be
6 excused for ongoing participation in such marching band
7 program. In addition, a school board may excuse pupils in
8 grades 9 through 12 if those pupils must utilize the time set
9 aside for physical education to receive special education
10 support and services. A school board may also excuse pupils in
11 grades 9 through 12 enrolled in a Reserve Officer's Training
12 Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by the school district from
13 engaging in physical education courses. School boards which
14 choose to exercise this authority shall establish a policy to
15 excuse pupils on an individual basis.

16 (c) The provisions of this Section are subject to the
17 provisions of Section 27-22.05.

18 (Source: P.A. 88-269; 89-155, eff. 7-19-95; 89-175, eff.
19 7-19-95; 89-626, eff. 8-9-96.)

20 (105 ILCS 5/27-7) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-7)

21 Sec. 27-7. Physical education course of study. ~~Purposes of~~
22 ~~courses in physical education and training - Courses of~~
23 ~~instruction.~~ A physical education course of study shall include
24 a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that
25 fosters the development of movement skills, enhances
26 health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers
27 direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a
28 group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for
29 a healthy lifestyle. A physical education course of study shall
30 provide students with an opportunity for an appropriate amount
31 of daily physical activity. A physical education course of
32 study must be part of the regular school curriculum and not
33 extra-curricular in nature or organization. Courses in
34 physical education and training shall be for the following
35 purposes:

- 1 ~~1. to develop organic vigor;~~
- 2 ~~2. to provide bodily and emotional poise;~~
- 3 ~~3. to provide neuro-muscular training;~~
- 4 ~~4. to prevent or correct certain postural defects;~~
- 5 ~~5. to develop strength and endurance;~~
- 6 ~~6. to develop desirable moral and social qualities;~~
- 7 ~~7. to promote hygienic school and home life; and~~
- 8 ~~8. to secure scientific supervision of the sanitation and~~
- 9 ~~safety of school buildings, playgrounds, athletic fields and~~
- 10 ~~equipment thereof.~~

11 The State Board of Education shall prepare and make
12 available guidelines for the various grades and types of
13 schools in order to make effective the purposes set forth in
14 this section and the requirements provided in Section 27-6, and
15 shall see that the general provisions and intent of Sections
16 27-5 to 27-9, inclusive, are enforced.

17 (Source: P.A. 90-372, eff. 7-1-98.)

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law.