

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

S

1

SENATE BILL 527

Short Title: Require Physical Education. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Rabin (Primary Sponsor); and Sanderson.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 30, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-81 reads as rewritten:
5 "§ 115C-81. Basic Education Program.

6 ...
7 (b) The Basic Education Program shall include course requirements and descriptions
8 similar in format to materials previously contained in the standard course of study and it shall
9 ~~provide~~ provide all of the following:

- 10 (1) A core curriculum for all students that takes into account the special needs of
11 ~~children~~ children.
12 (2) A set of competencies, by grade level, for each curriculum ~~area~~ area.
13 (2a) A requirement that all students in kindergarten through fifth grade
14 participate in at least three, supervised, one-hour physical education classes
15 each school week that will enhance their physical fitness and promote the
16 idea that exercise is good for developing the mind and body. Students from
17 different grade levels may participate simultaneously if, in the opinion of the
18 school principal, simultaneous participation is necessary at a particular
19 school and the classes are appropriate to the ages of the participating
20 students.
21 (3) A list of textbooks for use in providing the ~~curriculum~~ curriculum.
22 (4) Standards for student performance and promotion based on the mastery of
23 competencies, including standards for graduation, that take into account
24 children with disabilities and, in particular, include appropriate
25 ~~modifications~~ modifications.
26 (5) A program of remedial ~~education~~ education.
27 (6) Required support ~~programs~~ programs.
28 (7) A definition of the instructional ~~day~~ day.
29 (8) Class size recommendations and ~~requirements~~ requirements.
30 (9) Prescribed staffing allotment ~~ratios~~ ratios.
31 (10) Material and equipment allotment ~~ratios~~ ratios.
32 (11) Facilities guidelines that reflect educational program appropriateness,
33 long-term cost efficiency, and safety ~~considerations~~ and considerations.
34 (12) Any other information the Board considers appropriate and necessary.

35 The State Board shall not adopt or enforce any rule that requires Algebra I as a graduation
36 standard or as a requirement for a high school diploma for any student whose individualized



1 education program (i) identifies the student as learning disabled in the area of mathematics and
2 (ii) states that this learning disability will prevent the student from mastering Algebra I.

3 The State Board shall not require any student to prepare a high school graduation project as
4 a condition of graduation from high school; local boards of education may, however, require
5 their students to complete a high school graduation project.

6 ...

7 (e3) Physical Education. – The State Board of Education shall require the teaching of
8 one one-credit course on physical education each year in sixth through twelfth grades."

9 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

10 "(64) To Ensure That All Students Participate in Physical Education. – It is the
11 duty of each local board of education to ensure that all students participate in
12 physical education classes pursuant to G.S. 115C-81."

13 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
14 the 2017-2018 school year.