

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1456

5 By: Representative C. Douglas  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO WAIVE PHYSICAL  
9 EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A STUDENT WHO PROVIDES  
10 PROOF OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY; TO EXEMPT A STUDENT WITH  
11 A PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
12 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO ALLOW A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO WAIVE  
16 PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A  
17 STUDENT WHO PROVIDES PROOF OF PHYSICAL  
18 ACTIVITY; AND TO EXEMPT A STUDENT WITH A  
19 PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER FROM PHYSICAL  
20 EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-16-132(b)(4)(B), concerning the granting  
27 of a waiver from physical education requirements, is amended to add an  
28 additional subdivision to read as follows:

29 (B) The local school district board of directors may grant  
30 such a waiver based on the following criteria:

31 (i) The student must present a statement by the  
32 student's attending physician indicating that participation in physical  
33 education and physical activity will jeopardize the student's health and  
34 well-being; ~~or~~

35 (ii)(a) The parent and student must show that  
36 attending physical education classes will violate the student's religious



1 beliefs and would not be merely a matter of personal objection.

2 (b) The parent or student must be members of a  
3 recognized religious faith that objects to physical education as part of its  
4 official doctrine or creed; or

5 (iii)(a) The student's parent or legal guardian  
6 indicates in writing on a form prescribed by the school district that the  
7 student is participating outside the school day in physical activities that  
8 are equal to or in excess of the physical education standards developed by  
9 the State Board of Education.

10 (b) Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, a  
11 student in grades nine through twelve (9-12) who is granted a waiver under  
12 subdivision (b)(4)(B)(iii)(a) of this section shall be eligible to receive  
13 one-half (1/2) unit of physical education credit required for graduation.