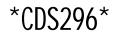
Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H3/30/01 S4/9/01	
2	83rd General Assembly	A Bill	Act 1748 of 2001
3	Regular Session, 2001		HOUSE BILL 2514
4			
5	By: Representatives T. Stee	ele, Broadway, Adams, Fite, Schall, French, Dange	au, Rodgers, Goss, Mack,
6	Salmon, J. Elliott		
7	By: Senator Wilkins		
8			
9			
10		For An Act To Be Entitled	
11	AN ACT	TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ARKANSAS' SO	CHOOL
12	CHI LDR	EN BY MANDATING EVERY KINDERGARTEN TH	ROUGH
13	GRADE	NINE (K-9) PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITU	TI ON
14	IN THE	S STATE TO OFFER HEALTH RELATED EDUCA	TI ON
15	INCLUD	ING PHYSICAL EDUCATION TRAINING AND	
16	INSTRU	CTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	
17			
18		Subtitle	
19	AN .	ACT TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF	
20	ARK	ANSAS' SCHOOL CHILDREN BY MANDATING	
21	EVE	RY PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN	
22	THI	S STATE TO OFFER HEALTH RELATED	
23	EDU	CATION INCLUDING PHYSICAL EDUCATION	
24	TRA	INING AND INSTRUCTION.	
25			
26			
27	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKA	ANSAS:
28			
29	SECTION 1. The	e General Assembly finds:	
30	<u>(1)</u> That resea	arch has shown that active children be	come active adults;
31	<u>(2)</u> That child	dren who engage in physical education	<u>at school are twice</u>
32	<u>as likely to engage i</u>	n physical activity outside of school	·
33	<u>(3)</u> That resea	arch has shown that physical exercise	<u>contributes to</u>
34	<u>maximizing brain func</u>	ction, by increasing cerebral blood fl	ow and levels of
35	<u>brain cell growth hor</u>	mone;	
36	(4) That resea	arch has shown that physical exercise	decreases the



As Engrossed: H3/30/01 S4/9/01

HB2514

1	incidence of clinical depression, even for persons diagnosed with cancer;
2	(5) That the Physical Education for Progress Act authorized under
3	Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act makes federal dollars
4	available for kindergarten through grade nine (K-9) physical education
5	programs.
6	
7	SECTION 2. <u>(a) Every kindergarten through grade nine (K-9) public</u>
8	educational institution in this state shall require no less than one (1) hour
9	per week of physical education training and instruction which includes no
10	less that twenty (20) minutes of physical activity three (3) times a week for
11	every student who is physically fit and able to participate.
12	(b) The physical education training and instruction shall be designed
13	<u>to:</u>
14	(1) Improve the health of this state's school children;
15	(2) Increase knowledge about the health benefits of physical
16	activity and exercise;
17	(3) Develop behavioral and motor skills that promote a lifelong
18	commitment to healthy physical activity;
19	(4) Promote health-focused physical activity among children and
20	adol escents; and
21	(5) Encourage physical activity outside of physical education.
22	<u>(c)(1) Suitable modified courses shall be provided for students</u>
23	physically or mentally unable or unfit to take the course or courses
24	prescribed for other pupils.
25	(2) Nothing in this act shall be construed to require any school
26	or school district to hire personnel certified in physical education.
27	(3) Each school shall develop a physical education program which
28	fits effectively and efficiently into the school's existing organization
29	while incorporating the goals of this act.
30	(d)(1) A student may be exempted from physical education and physical
31	activity requirements by seeking a waiver from the local school board of
32	di rectors.
33	(2) The local board may grant such a waiver based on the
34	following criteria:
35	(A) The student must present a statement by the student's
36	attending physician indicating that participation in physical education and

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1	physical activity will jeopardize the student's health and well-being; or
2	(B)(i) The parent and student must show that attending
3	physical education classes will violate the student's religious beliefs and
4	would not be merely a matter of personal objection; and
5	(ii) The parent or student must be members of a
6	recognized religious faith that objects to physical education as part of its
7	official doctrine or creed.
8	(3) The local board shall encourage a student granted waiver
9	<u>under this subsection to take, as an alternative to physical education,</u>
10	appropriate instruction in health education or other instruction in lifestyle
11	modification if an exemption is granted pursuant to this section.
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14	/s/ T. Steele
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17	APPROVED: 4/18/2001
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