



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 5352

LCO No. 2062



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE WITHHOLDING OF RECESS AS A FORM OF STUDENT DISCIPLINE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-221o of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall require each
4 school under its jurisdiction to (1) offer all full day students a daily lunch
5 period of not less than twenty minutes, and (2) include in the regular
6 school day for each student enrolled in elementary school time devoted
7 to physical exercise of not less than twenty minutes in total, except that
8 a planning and placement team may develop a different schedule for a
9 child requiring special education and related services in accordance
10 with chapter 164 and the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act,
11 20 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time. In the event of a
12 conflict with this section and any provision of chapter 164, such other
13 provision of chapter 164 shall be deemed controlling. Nothing in this
14 subsection shall prevent a local or regional board of education from
15 including an additional amount of time, beyond the twenty minutes

16 required for physical exercise, devoted to undirected play during the
17 regular school day for each student enrolled in elementary school.

18 (b) [Not later than October 1, 2019, each local and regional board of
19 education shall adopt a policy, as the board deems appropriate,
20 concerning the issue regarding any school employee being involved in
21 preventing a student from participating in the entire time devoted to
22 physical exercise or undirected play in the regular school day, pursuant
23 to subsection (a) of this section, as a form of discipline] For the school
24 year commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, no school
25 employee shall prevent a student enrolled in grades kindergarten to
26 five, inclusive, from participating in the entire time devoted to physical
27 exercise in the regular school day, pursuant to subsection (a) of this
28 section, as a form of discipline. For purposes of this section, "school
29 employee" means (1) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator,
30 school superintendent, guidance counselor, school counselor,
31 psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional
32 or coach employed by a local or regional board of education or working
33 in a public elementary, middle or high school; or (2) any other
34 individual who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular
35 contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of
36 students enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high school,
37 pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2022	10-221o
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Statement of Purpose:

To prevent a school employee from withholding recess from a student in grades kindergarten to five, inclusive, as a form of discipline.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]