

HOUSE BILL 85

By Cepicky

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to physical activity for students.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1021(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting:

(a) In accordance with § 49-6-1022, each LEA shall integrate:

(1) For elementary school students, a minimum of sixty (60) minutes of physical activity per full school day; and

(2) For middle and high school students, a minimum of ninety (90) minutes of physical activity per full school week.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1021(b), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting:

(b)

(1) Physical activity may include walking, jumping rope, playing volleyball, or other forms of physical activity that promote fitness and well-being. Walking to and from class is not physical activity for purposes of this section.

(2) To satisfy the requirements of subdivision (a)(1):

(A) Physical activity:

(i) Must include unstructured play outside, unless weather conditions negatively impact reasonable execution of physical activity outside; and

(ii) Does not include:

(a) Time during which a student is permitted to use an electronic device; or

(b) Time spent by a student in a physical education class;

(B) An LEA shall offer elementary students two (2) thirty-minute periods of physical activity per school day, one (1) session occurring in the morning and one (1) session occurring in the afternoon; and

(C) A student shall not be withheld from participating in physical activity as a form of punishment.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2025, the public welfare requiring it.