



Senate

File No. 625

General Assembly

February Session, 2006

(Reprint of File No. 417)

Substitute Senate Bill No. 204
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 24, 2006

AN ACT PROMOTING THE PHYSICAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than January 1,
2 2007, the Department of Education shall (1) develop guidelines for
3 addressing the physical health needs of students in a comprehensive
4 manner that coordinates services, including services provided by
5 municipal parks and recreation departments, and (2) make available to
6 each local and regional board of education a copy of the guidelines.
7 The department shall develop the guidelines after consultation with
8 (A) the chairpersons and ranking members of (i) the joint standing
9 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
10 relating to education, and (ii) the select committee of the General
11 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, (B) at least
12 one state-wide nonprofit organization with expertise in child wellness
13 or physical exercise, and (C) the Connecticut Recreation and Parks
14 Association. The guidelines shall not be deemed to be regulations, as
15 defined in section 4-166 of the general statutes. Local and regional

16 boards of education may establish and implement plans based on the
17 guidelines in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

18 (b) The guidelines shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) Plans
19 for engaging students in daily physical exercise during regular school
20 hours and strategies for engaging students in daily physical exercise
21 before and after regular school hours in coordination with municipal
22 parks and recreation departments, (2) strategies for coordinating
23 school-based health education, programs and services, (3) procedures
24 for assessing the need for community-based services such as services
25 provided by school-based health clinics, municipal parks and
26 recreation departments, family resource centers and after-school
27 programs, and (4) procedures for maximizing monetary and other
28 resources from local, state and federal sources to address the physical
29 health needs of students.

30 (c) Not later than April 1, 2007, each local and regional board of
31 education may (1) establish a comprehensive and coordinated plan to
32 address the physical health needs of students, and (2) base its plan on
33 the guidelines developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. The
34 board may implement such plan for the 2007-2008 school year and
35 may have a plan in place for each school year thereafter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
All Municipalities	None	None	None

Explanation

The development of guidelines regarding physical health by the State Department of Education can be carried out within currently available resources. The establishment of plans in this area by local and regional school districts can be achieved without the need for resources beyond which they already have.

House "A" (LCO 4468) is technical and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 204 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT PROMOTING THE PHYSICAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows local and regional boards of education, by April 1, 2007, to establish a comprehensive, coordinated plan to address their students' physical health needs based on State Department of Education (SDE) guidelines. School boards may implement them by the 2007-08 school year and have a plan in place for each successive school year.

*House Amendment "A" makes the establishment of the plans permissive rather than mandatory and adds the park and recreation provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

SDE GUIDELINES

The bill requires SDE, by January 1, 2007, to develop guidelines and give copies to each local and regional board of education. They must first consult with (1) the chairmen and ranking members of the Education and Children's committees, (2) at least one statewide nonprofit organization with expertise in child wellness or physical exercise, and (3) the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association.

Required Topics

The guidelines must include, at a minimum:

1. plans for engaging students in daily exercise (a) during the

regular school days and (b) before and after school in coordination with municipal park and recreation departments;

2. strategies for coordinating school-based health education, programs, and services;
3. procedures to assess the need for community-based services, including those provided by school-based health clinics, municipal parks and recreation departments, family resource centers, and after-school programs; and
4. procedures for maximizing funding and other resources from local, state, and federal sources.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 11 Nay 1 (03/09/2006)

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference
Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/22/2006)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 41 Nay 8 (04/04/2006)

Joint Committee on Legislative Management

Joint Favorable
Yea 16 Nay 11 (04/19/2006)