OLR Bill Analysis
sHB 7250

AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPROVEMENT OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PLAY.

SUMMARY

This bill allows local or regional boards of education to substitute undirected play for physical exercise in elementary school students’ regular school day. Current law requires at least 20 minutes of daily physical exercise in public elementary school. As under current law, the bill allows a planning and placement team (PPT) to develop a different schedule for students who receive special education or related services.

The bill also expressly allows boards of education to include more than 20 minutes of physical exercise or undirected play in their elementary schools’ regular daily schedules, which current law also permits for daily physical exercise.

It also requires boards of education to, by October 1, 2019, adopt a policy to address any school employee who prevents, as a form of discipline, an elementary school student from participating in the required period of undirected play during the regular school day. Current law requires such a policy for employees who prevent an elementary school student from participating in the required period of physical activity as a form of discipline.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

Planning and Placement Team (PPT)

The PPT determines the specific educational needs of a child with a disability and develops an individualized education program (IEP) for the child pursuant to state and federal special education law (Conn.
Agencies Regs. § 10-76a-1(14)). The PPT consists of a student’s parents, teachers, school administrators, and educational specialists.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 34  Nay 0  (03/15/2019)