

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 27-6 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-6) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-6)

7 Sec. 27-6. Courses in physical education required; special  
8 activities.

9 (a) Pupils enrolled in the public schools and State  
10 universities engaged in preparing teachers shall be required to  
11 engage ~~during the school day, except on block scheduled days~~  
12 ~~for those public schools engaged in block scheduling,~~ in  
13 courses of physical education for such periods as are  
14 compatible with the optimum growth and developmental needs of  
15 individuals at the various age levels except when appropriate  
16 excuses are submitted to the school by a pupil's parent or  
17 guardian or by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act  
18 of 1987 and except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
19 Section. A school board may determine the schedule or frequency  
20 of physical education courses, provided that a pupil in  
21 kindergarten through grade 12 shall engage in a course of  
22 physical education for a minimum of 150 minutes per week ~~a~~  
23 ~~pupil engages in a course of physical education for a minimum~~

1 ~~of 3 days per 5 day week.~~

2 Special activities in physical education shall be provided  
3 for pupils whose physical or emotional condition, as determined  
4 by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act of 1987,  
5 prevents their participation in the courses provided for normal  
6 children.

7 (b) A school board is authorized to excuse pupils enrolled  
8 in grades 11 and 12 from engaging in physical education courses  
9 if those pupils request to be excused for any of the following  
10 reasons: (1) for ongoing participation in an interscholastic  
11 athletic program; (2) to enroll in academic classes which are  
12 required for admission to an institution of higher learning,  
13 provided that failure to take such classes will result in the  
14 pupil being denied admission to the institution of his or her  
15 choice; or (3) to enroll in academic classes which are required  
16 for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take  
17 such classes will result in the pupil being unable to graduate.

18 A school board may also excuse pupils in grades 9 through 12  
19 enrolled in a marching band program for credit from engaging in  
20 physical education courses if those pupils request to be  
21 excused for ongoing participation in such marching band  
22 program. A school board may also, on a case-by-case basis,  
23 excuse pupils in grades 7 through 12 who participate in an  
24 interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program from  
25 engaging in physical education courses. In addition, a pupil in  
26 any of grades 3 through 12 who is eligible for special

1 education may be excused if the pupil's parent or guardian  
2 agrees that the pupil must utilize the time set aside for  
3 physical education to receive special education support and  
4 services or, if there is no agreement, the individualized  
5 education program team for the pupil determines that the pupil  
6 must utilize the time set aside for physical education to  
7 receive special education support and services, which  
8 agreement or determination must be made a part of the  
9 individualized education program. However, a pupil requiring  
10 adapted physical education must receive that service in  
11 accordance with the individualized education program developed  
12 for the pupil. If requested, a school board is authorized to  
13 excuse a pupil from engaging in a physical education course if  
14 the pupil has an individualized educational program under  
15 Article 14 of this Code, is participating in an adaptive  
16 athletic program outside of the school setting, and documents  
17 such participation as determined by the school board. A school  
18 board may also excuse pupils in grades 9 through 12 enrolled in  
19 a Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by  
20 the school district from engaging in physical education  
21 courses. School boards which choose to exercise this authority  
22 shall establish a policy to excuse pupils on an individual  
23 basis.

24 (c) The provisions of this Section are subject to the  
25 provisions of Section 27-22.05.

26 (Source: P.A. 100-465, eff. 8-31-17.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
2    2018.