

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 adding Section
5 27-6.3 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-6.3 new)

7 Sec. 27-6.3. Play time required in elementary school.

8 (a) All public schools shall provide daily time for
9 supervised, unstructured, child-directed play for all students
10 in kindergarten through grade 5. Play time must allow
11 unstructured play, and may include organized games, but shall
12 not include the use of computers, tablets, phones, or videos.
13 Schools are encouraged to provide play time outdoors, but it
14 may be held indoors. If play time is held indoors, schools are
15 encouraged to provide it in a space that promotes physical
16 activity. Time spent dressing or undressing for outdoor play
17 time shall not count towards the daily time for play.

18 (b) Play time shall not count as a course of physical
19 education that fulfills the requirements of Section 27-6, nor
20 shall time spent in a course of physical education count
21 towards the daily time for play.

22 (c) Play time shall be considered clock hours for the
23 purposes of Section 10-19.05. For any school day 5 clock hours

1 or longer in length, the total time allotted for play for
2 students in kindergarten through grade 5 must be at least 30
3 minutes. For any school day less than 5 clock hours in length,
4 the total time allotted for play each school day must be at
5 least one-tenth of a day of attendance for the student
6 pursuant to Section 10-19.05. Play time may be divided into
7 play periods of at least 15 consecutive minutes in length.

8 (d) For students with disabilities, play time shall comply
9 with a student's applicable individualized education program
10 (IEP) or federal Section 504 plan.

11 (e) All public schools shall prohibit the withholding of
12 play time as a disciplinary or punitive action, except when a
13 student's participation in play time poses an immediate threat
14 to the safety of the student or others. School officials shall
15 make all reasonable efforts to resolve such threats and
16 minimize the use of exclusion from play to the greatest extent
17 practicable and in accordance with subsection (d).

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
19 2021.