

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 daily during the school day, except on block scheduled  
12 days 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.

20 Special activities in physical education shall be provided  
21 for pupils whose physical or emotional condition, as determined  
22 by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act of 1987,  
23 prevents their participation in the courses provided for normal  
24 children.

25 (b) A school board is authorized to excuse pupils enrolled  
26 in grades 11 and 12 from engaging in physical education courses  
27 if those pupils request to be excused for any of the following  
28 reasons: (1) for ongoing participation in an interscholastic  
29 athletic program; (2) to enroll in academic classes which are  
30 required for admission to an institution of higher learning,  
31 provided that failure to take such classes will result in the  
32 pupil being denied admission to the institution of his or her

1 choice; or (3) to enroll in academic classes which are required  
2 for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take  
3 such classes will result in the pupil being unable to graduate.  
4 A school board may also excuse pupils in grades 9 through 12  
5 enrolled in a marching band program for credit from engaging in  
6 physical education courses if those pupils request to be  
7 excused for ongoing participation in such marching band  
8 program. In addition, a ~~pupil school board may excuse pupils~~ in  
9 any of grades 3 9 through 12 who is eligible for special  
10 education may be excused if the pupil's parent or guardian  
11 agrees that the pupil ~~those pupils~~ must utilize the time set  
12 aside for physical education to receive special education  
13 support and services or, if there is no agreement, the  
14 individualized education program team for the pupil determines  
15 that the pupil must utilize the time set aside for physical  
16 education to receive special education support and services,  
17 which agreement or determination must be made a part of the  
18 individualized education program. However, a pupil requiring  
19 adapted physical education must receive that service in  
20 accordance with the individualized education program developed  
21 for the pupil. A school board may also excuse pupils in grades  
22 9 through 12 enrolled in a Reserve Officer's Training Corps  
23 (ROTC) program sponsored by the school district from engaging  
24 in physical education courses. School boards which choose to  
25 exercise this authority shall establish a policy to excuse  
26 pupils on an individual basis.

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

29 (Source: P.A. 94-189, eff. 7-12-05; 94-198, eff. 1-1-06;  
30 94-200, eff. 7-12-05; revised 8-19-05.)

31 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
32 becoming law.