

- SUBJECT:** Requiring a report on physical education in school districts
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Bohac, Deshotel, Gooden, K. King, Koop, Meyer, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- 2 absent — Allen, Dutton
- WITNESSES:** For — Jud Scott, Mission: Readiness; Tania Boughton; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jim Arnold, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Joel Romo, American Diabetes Association, the Cooper Institute; April Brumfield, American Heart Association; Brooks Ballard, CATCH Global Foundation, Partnership for a Healthy Texas; Jenny Eyer, Children at Risk; Chris Masey, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Lisa Lauter and Rocaille Roberts, Healthy Living Matters; Christine Yanas, Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas; Adriana Kohler, Texans Care for Children; Marshall Kenderdine, Texas Academy of Family Physicians; Paige Williams, Texas Classroom Teachers Association; Troy Alexander, Texas Medical Association; Clayton Travis, Texas Pediatric Society; Kyle Ward, Texas PTA; Michele Rusnak, Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (TAHPERD))
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kara Belew, Monica Martinez, and Shelly Ramos, Texas Education Agency; Harold Kohl)
- BACKGROUND:** Under Education Code, sec. 38.0141, each public school district is required to provide to the Texas Education Agency information relating to student health and physical activity. The information is provided for the district as a whole and for each school campus in the district. Some have suggested making information on student participation in physical education classes available to the public.

DIGEST: CSHB 3606 would require that, within one year of receiving the information submitted under Education Code, sec. 38.0141, the Commissioner of Education be required to complete a report on physical education (PE) provided by each school district and publish it on TEA's website.

The report would include:

- the number of PE classes offered at each campus in the district and the number of days, classes, and minutes offered weekly;
- the ratio of students enrolled in PE classes in the district compared to the overall enrollment;
- the average PE class size at each campus in the district;
- the number of PE teachers in the district who were licensed, certified, or endorsed by an accredited teacher preparation program to teach PE;
- whether each campus had the appropriate equipment and adequate facilities for students to engage in the amount and intensity of physical activity required under state curriculum standards;
- whether the district allowed accommodations for PE courses to meet the needs of students with disabilities; and
- whether the district had a policy allowing teachers or administrators to withhold physical activity from a student as punishment.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2017.

NOTES: A companion bill, SB 1873 by Hinojosa, was approved by the Senate on May 9.