

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1456

By: Representative C. Douglas

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO WAIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A STUDENT WHO PROVIDES PROOF OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY; TO EXEMPT A STUDENT WITH A PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO ALLOW A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO WAIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A STUDENT WHO PROVIDES PROOF OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY; AND TO EXEMPT A STUDENT WITH A PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-16-132(b)(4)(B), concerning the granting of a waiver from physical education requirements, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(B) The local school district board of directors may grant such a waiver based on the following criteria:

(i) The student must present a statement by the student's attending physician indicating that participation in physical education and physical activity will jeopardize the student's health and well-being; ~~or~~

(ii)(a) The parent and student must show that attending physical education classes will violate the student's religious



beliefs and would not be merely a matter of personal objection.

(b) The parent or student must be members of a recognized religious faith that objects to physical education as part of its official doctrine or creed; or

(iii)(a) The student's parent or legal guardian indicates in writing on a form prescribed by the school district that the student is participating outside the school day in physical activities that are equal to or in excess of the physical education standards developed by the State Board of Education.

(b) Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, a student in grades nine through twelve (9-12) who is granted a waiver under subdivision (b)(4)(B)(iii)(a) of this section shall be eligible to receive one-half (1/2) unit of physical education credit required for graduation.