

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

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S3/27/17  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 549

By: Senators G. Stubblefield, *Elliott*

### **For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE AMOUNT OF RECESS TIME REQUIRED FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS; TO AMEND THE AMOUNT OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME REQUIRED FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN A SCHOOL DAY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### **Subtitle**

TO EXTEND THE AMOUNT OF RECESS TIME REQUIRED FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS; AND TO AMEND THE AMOUNT OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME REQUIRED FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN A SCHOOL DAY.

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

*SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. (a)(1) For the 2018-2019 school year, the Department of Education shall seek to identify at least two (2) schools within the service area of each education service cooperative and two (2) schools that are not within the service area of an education service cooperative to voluntarily participate in a one-year pilot program that provides students in:*

*(A) Kindergarten through grade four (K-4), three hundred forty (340) minutes of physical activity each calendar week of the school year, which shall include without limitation:*

*(i) Physical education training and instruction; and*  
*(ii) Unstructured and undirected play; and*

*(B) Grades five (5) and six (6), two hundred sixty-five (265) minutes of physical activity each calendar week of the school year,*



which shall include without limitation:

(i) Physical education training and instruction; and

(ii) Unstructured and undirected play.

(2) In fulfilling the requirements under subdivision (a)(1) of this section, students shall participate in unstructured and undirected play for the following amounts of time each day of the school year:

(A) For students in kindergarten through grade four (K-4), at least sixty (60) minutes; and

(B) For students in grades five and six (5-6), at least forty-five (45) minutes.

(b) The department shall seek to identify schools to participate in the pilot program that:

(1) Submit academically sound plans; and

(2) As a whole are representative of the geographic, socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and academically challenged demographics of Arkansas.

(c)(1) A school that participates in the pilot program shall file a report with the department regarding the outcome of the pilot program in the school.

(2) The department shall file a report with the Legislative Council regarding the outcome of the pilot program for all schools participating in the pilot program.

(d)(1) The department may promulgate rules to implement the pilot program.

(2) With the exception of setting deadlines for submissions, the department may allow schools to develop their academically sound plans solely consistent with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and without the rules promulgated by the department under subdivision (d)(1) of this section in order to explore a variety of methodologies and to encourage innovation.

(e) The Commissioner of Education may extend the pilot program for an additional year if he or she deems an extension appropriate.

/s/G. Stubblefield