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HOUSE BILL 2664

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Buys, Robinson, Harris, Van Werven, Reykdal, Orwall, Fey, Moeller, Santos, Sells, Appleton, Moscoso, Klippert, S. Hunt, Goodman, Ormsby, and McBride

Read first time 01/18/16. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to eliminating the authority of school districts  
2 to waive, substitute, or exempt students from participation in  
3 physical education under certain circumstances; amending RCW  
4 28A.230.040 and 28A.230.050; and creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the  
7 effects of a sedentary lifestyle, which includes obesity, type 2  
8 diabetes, and cardiorespiratory diseases, can be avoided and reversed  
9 through participation in a comprehensive health and fitness program  
10 taught by a teacher certified or endorsed in physical education. It  
11 is understood that other content areas or activities do not suitably  
12 address the knowledge and skills needed to live a healthy lifestyle.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.230.040 and 2006 c 263 s 415 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 Every pupil attending grades one through eight of the public  
16 schools shall receive instruction in physical education as prescribed  
17 by rule of the superintendent of public instruction: PROVIDED, That  
18 individual pupils or students may be excused on account of physical  
19 disability((~~or~~)) or religious belief((~~or participation in directed~~  
20 athletics)).

1       **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.050 and 2006 c 263 s 416 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       All high schools of the state shall emphasize the work of  
4 physical education, and carry into effect all physical education  
5 requirements established by rule of the superintendent of public  
6 instruction: PROVIDED, That individual students may be excused from  
7 participating in physical education otherwise required under this  
8 section on account of physical disability(~~(, employment,)~~) or  
9 religious belief(~~(, or because of participation in directed athletics~~  
10 ~~or military science and tactics or for other good cause)~~).

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