

1-1 By: Allen, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Watson) H.B. No. 455
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 16, 2019;
1-3 April 29, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Education; May 14, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 11, Nays 0; May 14, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Taylor	X			
1-8 Lucio	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Campbell	X			
1-11 Fallon	X			
1-12 Hall	X			
1-13 Hughes	X			
1-14 Paxton	X			
1-15 Powell	X			
1-16 Watson	X			
1-17 West	X			
1-18				

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to policies on the recess period in public schools.
1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 28, Education Code, is
1-24 amended by adding Sections 28.0047 and 28.0048 to read as follows:
1-25 Sec. 28.0047. MODEL RECESS POLICIES. The Department of
1-26 State Health Services School Health Advisory Committee established
1-27 under Section 1001.0711, Health and Safety Code, shall develop
1-28 model policies for the recess period during the school day that
1-29 encourage constructive, age-appropriate outdoor playtime. The
1-30 model policies must include guidelines for outdoor equipment and
1-31 facilities on public school campuses that maximize the
1-32 effectiveness of outdoor physical activity.

1-33 Sec. 28.0048. RECESS POLICY. (a) The board of trustees of
1-34 each school district shall:

1-35 (1) after reviewing the model recess policies
1-36 developed under Section 28.0047 and the policy recommendations of
1-37 the local school health advisory council provided under Section
1-38 28.004(1), adopt a recess policy based on those model policies and
1-39 recommendations; and

1-40 (2) review and, if necessary, revise the recess policy
1-41 at least every five years.

1-42 (b) The recess policy must specify:

1-43 (1) the required number of minutes of weekly
1-44 unstructured playtime; and
1-45 (2) whether a student's recess time may be withheld as
1-46 a form of student discipline.

1-47 (c) Each school district campus subject to the district
1-48 recess policy adopted under Subsection (a) shall implement the
1-49 recess policy.

1-50 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than January 1, 2020, the
1-51 Department of State Health Services School Health Advisory
1-52 Committee shall develop model recess policies as required by
1-53 Section 28.0047, Education Code, as added by this Act.

1-54 (b) Not later than May 1, 2020, the board of trustees of each
1-55 school district shall adopt a recess policy as required by Section
1-56 28.0048, Education Code, as added by this Act.

1-57 (c) Not later than the beginning of the 2020-2021 school
1-58 year, each school district campus subject to a school district
1-59 recess policy adopted under Section 28.0048, Education Code, as
1-60 added by this Act, shall implement the adopted policy.

1-61 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

2-1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-4 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

2-5

* * * * *