

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Bonamici, Kruse, Metsger, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: Morse

Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Education, to the extent that funds and personnel are available, to implement programs linking physical activity and academic achievement. Requires report to Legislative Assembly on programs funded, funding applied for, and information provided to school districts on direct funding opportunities. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Allocation of funding received
- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure but for the emergency clause.

BACKGROUND: In the past 10 to 15 years, a number of studies have been conducted on the connection in children between exercise and mental and intellectual performance. The research generally supports the proposition that exercise improves cognition in school children. Although it has not been established that exercising causes improvements in concentration and learning, a strong association between aerobic fitness and performance on standardized testing, grades, and other measures of cognitive performance has been demonstrated according to research conducted at the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign. A recent study from the Centers for Disease Control also showed that girls with the highest level of physical activity each week consistently scored higher on tests with the greatest impact showing in their math scores.