

(H.B. 1380)

(No. 100)

(Approved May 19, 2006)

AN ACT

To amend Section 3.04 of Act No. 149 of July 15, 1999, as amended, known as the “Organic Act for the Department of Education of Puerto Rico” in order to include the integral use of modern technological instruments to provide information on physical education to the students of the public schools of Puerto Rico.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Section 5 of Article II of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico consecrates the right of all persons to an education that propitiates the full development of their personality and strengthens the respect for the rights and fundamental liberties of human beings. In accordance to these parameters, Act No. 149 of July 15, 1999, as amended, known as the “Organic Act for the Department of Education of Puerto Rico was approved, in which students are the *raison d’être* of the education system and teachers its main resource.

Likewise, schools are bound to instill in students the importance of a good physical condition and emphasized the importance of health in the physical, mental, and spiritual aspects. The study programs offered in schools shall be harmonized with the needs and experiences of students. Directors, teachers, and school counselors are responsible for ensuring that the courses include physical education integrated into the curriculum and that students are able to use electronic means to search for information on physical education.

The Secretary of Education, in his/her function as Academic Director of the Public Education System of Puerto Rico, has the responsibility to ensure that the

basic curriculum offered to students complies with the public policy set forth in Act No. 149, *supra*. This Legislature deems it necessary and convenient to include in the basic curriculum the integral use of modern technology instruments to provide relevant information on physical education and on the more significant fields of study and interest to students of public schools of Puerto Rico.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- Section 3.04 of Act No. 149 of July 15, 1999, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 3.04.- Physical Education.-

Schools shall provide all students a minimum of three (3) weekly hours on physical education. All schools shall be guaranteed a physical education teacher. In the case of schools with a registration of over two hundred and fifty (250) students, additional teachers shall be appointed for every two hundred and fifty (250) students or fraction thereof. It is further provided, that the integration of modern technology instruments shall be included to provide students information on physical education. Computers, communications, and audio-visual equipment shall be understood to be modern technology instruments.”

Section 2.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No.100 (H.B.1380) of the 3rd Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT amend Section 3.04 of Act No. 149 of July 15, 1999, as amended, known as the “Organic Act for the Department of Education of Puerto Rico” in order to include the integral use of modern technological instruments to provide information on physical education to the students of the public schools of Puerto Rico,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 16th of August of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director