



2024 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1236

Introduced by: **Representative Jensen** (Kevin)

1 **An Act to recognize students as Rushmore State Athletes upon demonstrating**
2 **prescribed levels of physical fitness.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That chapter 13-33 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

5 Each school district, in implementing the physical education standards applicable
6 to students in kindergarten through grade twelve, must make available to students a
7 recognition program under which a student may request an annual evaluation of the
8 student's fitness level.

9 If a student demonstrates an outstanding level of fitness, by scoring at or above
10 eighty-five percent on at least five fitness tests, appropriate to the student's grade level
11 and physical ability, and administered by the student's school, the student must be named
12 a Rushmore State Athlete and receive a fitness award consisting of a year-specific
13 commemorative pin or certificate.

14 The Department of Education shall, by rule promulgated in accordance with chapter
15 1-26, set forth:

16 (1) The fitness tests to be administered;

17 (2) The time, place, and manner in which the tests must be administered; and

18 (3) The level of fitness to be demonstrated in order for a student to receive a fitness
19 award.

20 Each school district shall designate the staff member responsible for administering
21 the Rushmore State Athlete award within each school.

22 The department may accept and distribute privately donated commemorative pins
23 for purposes of this Act or provide certificates to students.