



2024 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1236

HOUSE EDUCATION ENGROSSED

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

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

19 Each school district participating in the program shall designate the staff member
 20 responsible for administering the Rushmore State Athlete award within each school.

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