

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

November 19, 2012

Ms. Erica Azucena
32062 Arya Ct
Union City, California 94587

Dear Ms. Azucena:

I received your letter expressing your support for the "Promoting Health as Youth Skills In Classrooms and Life Act" (S. 392), or "PHYSICAL Act." I appreciate the time you took to write and welcome the opportunity to respond.

On February 17, 2011, Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) introduced the "PHYSICAL Act," which would designate physical education and health education as "core academic subjects" within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (P.L. 89-10). It would also create a new office within the Department of Education, called the Office of Safe and Healthy Kids, to promote physical education and nutritional literacy.

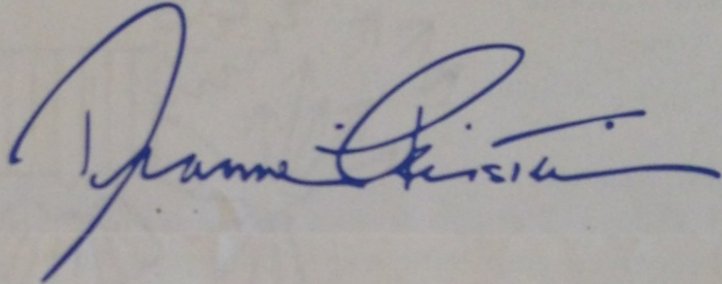
In addition, the bill would reauthorize the Carol M. White Physical Education program through fiscal year 2016. As you may know, this program provides grants to schools and community organizations to create and expand physical education programs for elementary and secondary students. The Carol M. White Physical Education program was provided \$79 million in fiscal year 2011. The "PHYSICAL Act" was referred to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, of which I am not a member.

Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled, and today, more than one in three children and adolescents in America are estimated to be overweight or obese. With the growing prevalence of diabetes, obesity and other chronic conditions, immediate action is necessary to address the roots of our Nation's increasing obesity rate.

Please be assured that I have noted your support and will keep your comments in mind should the full Senate consider the "PHYSICAL Act."

Again, thank you for writing. I hope you will continue to write to me on matters of importance to you. If you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to contact my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 224-3841, or on the Internet at <http://feinstein.senate.gov>. Best Regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

For information about my position on issues of concern to California and the Nation or to subscribe to electronic e-mail updates, please visit <http://feinstein.senate.gov>.

DF:jm