



## National Association for Sport and Physical Education

*an association of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance*

**NASPE Sets the Standard**

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### **Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP)**

Since 2001, the Carol M. White Physical Education for Progress (PEP) is the only federal program that supports physical education, providing critical funding to initiate, expand and improve school physical education.

- PEP funding has been targeted for elimination in Spending Reduction legislation in Congress.
- The Department of Education has proposed collapsing PEP into the “Successful, Safe and Healthy Students” initiative, which would force competition for limited dollars among school climate areas.
- Only 10% of those who apply are awarded grants because of the lack of funding.
- Average expenditure per school on PE programs is only \$764 per year.
- PEP funded school-based fitness centers are often open to the community, demonstrating sustainability and greater return on investment.

#### Potential Objections:

1. The country is facing a major deficit problem and all programs must face reductions.

**Response:** PEP is a relatively low-cost program with big rewards.

- PEP accounts for only .002% of the federal education budget
- An investment of \$1 into the health of our nation reaps over \$3 in return in the long run
- Annual expenditures related to obesity are expected to top \$270 billion per year

2. Education is a local control issue.

**Response:** PEP establishes no new authority to the federal government in education.

- PEP funds programs to help students meet physical education standards
- PEP does not mandate PE nor require establishment of PE curriculum

3. Consolidation of small federal programs helps efficiency in government.

**Response:** Currently, PEP adds no burden to states and offers real help in the tangible form of professional development, innovative programs and equipment.

- Provides assistance to schools and districts that desire to increase PE but can't afford it
- No state or district is obligated to do anything
- Under SSHS, states would have the added burden of applying for grants and administering them to schools, districts and community organizations