



SPONSOR: Sen. S. McBride & Rep. Harris
Sens. Hansen, Hoffner, Huxtable, Mantzavinos, Poore,
Sturgeon, Townsend; Reps. Baumbach, Griffith,
K. Johnson, Neal, D. Short

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL NO. 322

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO STUDENT ATHLETES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 Section 1. Amend § 303, Title 14 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and
2 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

3 (e) The Board shall adopt regulations applicable to a member school regarding student athletes and awareness,
4 recognition, and management of sudden cardiac arrest. The Board shall, through either regulation or policy adopted under
5 regulation, do at least all of the following:

6 (1) Develop and make publicly available a sudden cardiac arrest information sheet that includes
7 information regarding the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest.

8 (2) Prior to participating in practice or competition, require each student athlete and the athlete's parent or
9 guardian sign and return a sudden cardiac arrest information sheet that the Board designs.

10 (3) Require each student athlete to complete a heart history questionnaire as part of the preparticipation
11 physical examination.

12 ~~(4) Hold a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") certification for each school-appointed head~~
13 ~~coach. The certification must include training on the use of an automated external defibrillator.~~

14 ~~(5) (4) Present to each coach and official sudden cardiac arrest awareness information.~~

15 (5) Require each member school has an athletic emergency action plan ("AEAP") that is venue specific,
16 widely distributed, posted, rehearsed, and updated at least once every two years.

17 (6) Require each member school has a clearly marked automated external defibrillator ("AED") within
18 less than 3 minutes of each venue where high school practices and competitions are held.

19 (7) Require all coaches, physical education teachers, referees, health teachers, and at least one staff
20 member delivering student behavioral health services or at least one school administrator per school to be
21 cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") and automated external defibrillator ("AED") trained and encourage
22 school administration and staff to become CPR and AED trained.

- 23 (8) Require routine checks and maintenance of AEDs as recommended by the AED manufacturer.
- 24 (9) Require every member school to develop a cardiac emergency response plan (“CERP”) and
25 administer Stop the Bleed training to staff once every year.
- 26 (10) Develop a survey, in consultation with the Department, the Office of Emergency Medical Services
27 (“OEMS”), and community stakeholders, regarding the condition, placement, usage, and staff training of AED
28 systems to be distributed to all members schools once every two years. The Department shall collect the surveys
29 and share the responses with OEMS to determine if member schools are in compliance with having an AEAP and
30 a CERP.

SYNOPSIS

This Act updates the Grace Firestone Act to strengthen regulations for member schools regarding sudden cardiac arrest. The Act requires member schools to develop an athletic emergency action plan and have an automated external defibrillator (“AED”) less than 3 minutes from any venue where practices and competitions are held. It further requires all coaches, physical education teachers, referees, health teachers and at least one staff member delivering student behavioral health services or at least one school administrator per school to be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and trained in the use of an automated external defibrillator. The Act requires regular maintenance checks of AED equipment to follow the manufacturer’s guidelines for routine checks. The Act mandates all member schools to establish a cardiac emergency response plan and provide Stop the Bleed training to staff once every year.

The Act requires the Department of Education and the Office of Emergency Medical Services to develop a survey that member schools must complete every two years to ensure compliance with these regulations.

Author: Senator S. McBride