
HOUSE BILL No. 1178

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-34-8; IC 34-30-2-85.6.

Synopsis: Sudden cardiac arrest. Requires the department of education, in consultation with specified persons, to disseminate guidelines, information sheets, and forms to school corporations and nonpublic schools to inform and educate coaches, student athletes, and parents of student athletes of the nature and risk of sudden cardiac arrest. Requires that a student athlete and the student athlete's parent must be given information concerning sudden cardiac arrest and return a form acknowledging receipt of the information to the student athlete's coach each year before beginning practice for an athletic activity. Requires that a student athlete who is suspected of experiencing a symptom of sudden cardiac arrest must be removed from play at the time the sudden cardiac arrest symptom is identified. Provides that the student athlete may not return to play until the student athlete has been evaluated and received written clearance from a licensed health care provider trained in evaluating sudden cardiac arrest. Provides that a health care provider who, as a volunteer in good faith and gratuitously, provides sudden cardiac arrest evaluations to student athletes has immunity from civil liability for acts or omissions arising from the evaluations, except for gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

Effective: July 1, 2013.

Bacon, Porter

January 10, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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First Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2013)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1178



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-34-8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
 2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 3 1, 2013]:
 4 **Chapter 8. Student Athletes: Sudden Cardiac Arrest**
 5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "association" means an**
 6 **organization that conducts, organizes, sanctions, or sponsors**
 7 **interscholastic athletic events as the organization's primary**
 8 **purpose.**
 9 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "athletic activity" includes the**
 10 **following:**
 11 **(1) An athletic contest or competition conducted between or**
 12 **among schools.**
 13 **(2) An intramural athletic contest or competition that is**
 14 **sponsored by or associated with the school.**
 15 **(3) Competitive and noncompetitive cheerleading that is**
 16 **sponsored by or associated with the school.**
 17 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "school" refers to a public school**



1 and nonpublic school.

2 **Sec. 4. (a) Before July 1, 2014, the department shall disseminate**
 3 **guidelines, information sheets, and forms to each nonpublic school**
 4 **and each school corporation for distribution to schools to inform**
 5 **and educate coaches, student athletes, and parents of student**
 6 **athletes of the nature and risk of sudden cardiac arrest to student**
 7 **athletes.**

8 **(b) The department:**

9 **(1) may consult with an association, medical professionals,**
 10 **and others with expertise in diagnosing and treating sudden**
 11 **cardiac arrest; and**

12 **(2) may request the assistance of an association in**
 13 **disseminating the guidelines, information sheets, and forms**
 14 **required under subsection (a).**

15 **(c) The department may disseminate the materials required**
 16 **under this section in an electronic format.**

17 **Sec. 5. Each year, before beginning practice for an athletic**
 18 **activity, a student athlete and the student athlete's parent:**

19 **(1) must be given the information sheet and form described in**
 20 **section 4 of this chapter; and**

21 **(2) shall sign and return the form acknowledging the receipt**
 22 **of the information to the student athlete's coach.**

23 **The coach shall maintain a file of the completed forms.**

24 **Sec. 6. A student athlete who is suspected of experiencing a**
 25 **symptom of sudden cardiac arrest, including fainting, difficulty**
 26 **breathing, chest pains, dizziness, or an abnormal racing heart, in**
 27 **a practice or game:**

28 **(1) shall be removed from play at the time that the symptom**
 29 **is identified; and**

30 **(2) may not return to play until the student athlete has**
 31 **received a written clearance under section 7(a) of this chapter.**

32 **Sec. 7. (a) A student athlete who has been removed from play**
 33 **under section 6 of this chapter may not return to play until the**
 34 **student athlete:**

35 **(1) is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in**
 36 **the evaluation and management of sudden cardiac arrest; and**

37 **(2) receives a written clearance to return to play from the**
 38 **health care provider who evaluated the student athlete.**

39 **(b) A licensed health care provider who evaluates a student**
 40 **athlete under subsection (a) may conduct the evaluation as a**
 41 **volunteer. A volunteer health care provider who in good faith and**
 42 **gratuitously authorizes a student athlete to return to play is not**

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1 **liable for civil damages resulting from an act or omission in the**
2 **rendering of an evaluation, except for acts or omissions that**
3 **constitute gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.**
4 SECTION 2. IC 34-30-2-85.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
5 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
6 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: **Sec. 85.6. IC 20-34-8-7 (Concerning**
7 **a licensed health care provider who volunteers to provide**
8 **evaluations of sudden cardiac arrest for student athletes).**

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