

HB290 ENROLLED



1 HB290

2 J6V1FYY-3

3 By Representatives Oliver, Sorrells, Smith, Wadsworth, Hurst,
4 Lipscomb, Shaw, Paschal, DuBose

5 RFD: Education Policy

6 First Read: 05-Mar-24



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2 Relating to sudden cardiac arrest; to require the
3 governing body of each public and nonpublic school to develop
4 and implement a cardiac emergency response plan; to provide
5 standards for a cardiac emergency response plan; and to
6 authorize the State Board of Education to adopt rules.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

8 Section 1. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited
9 as the John Wesley Foster Act.

10 (b) For the purposes of this act, the following terms
11 have the following meanings:

12 (1) ATHLETIC ACTIVITY. The same meaning as Section
13 16-30D-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

14 (2) AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR or AED. A
15 lightweight, portable device that delivers an electric shock
16 through the chest to the heart which can potentially stop an
17 irregular heartbeat and allow a normal rhythm to resume
18 following sudden cardiac arrest.

19 (3) CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN. A written document
20 that establishes the specific steps to reduce death from
21 cardiac arrest in a particular setting.

22 (4) HIGH-NEEDS SCHOOL. A school that meets at least one
23 of the following criteria:

24 a. A school where at least 50 percent of the students
25 are eligible to receive free and reduced priced meals.

26 b. A school that provides meals to all students through
27 the Community Eligibility Provision.

28 c. A Title I school.



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29 (5) SCHOOL. A public or nonpublic preK-12 school.

30 (6) SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST. A heart malfunction in which
31 the heart stops beating unexpectedly and, if left untreated,
32 may quickly result in death.

33 Section 2. (a) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school
34 year, each local board of education and governing body of a
35 nonpublic school shall develop and implement both of the
36 following:

37 (1) A cardiac emergency response plan that addresses
38 the appropriate use of personnel to respond to incidents of
39 sudden cardiac arrest or other similar life-threatening
40 emergencies that occur on school property.

41 (2) If the local board of education or the governing
42 body of a nonpublic school oversees a school with an athletic
43 department or organized athletic program, a cardiac emergency
44 response plan that addresses the appropriate use of personnel
45 to respond to incidents of sudden cardiac arrest or other
46 similar life-threatening emergencies that occur while an
47 individual attends or participates in any athletic activity on
48 school property.

49 (b) Each cardiac emergency response plan shall include,
50 but not be limited to, each of the following:

51 (1) Recommendations relating to the development of a
52 cardiac emergency response plan by the American Heart
53 Association or another entity that provides nationally
54 recognized and evidence-based guidelines based on emergency
55 cardiovascular care.

56 (2) The establishment of a cardiac emergency response



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57 team.

58 (3) The implementation and maintenance of ongoing staff
59 training related to cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and
60 the use of an AED, as provided in subsection (c).

61 (4) Procedures related to the activation of the cardiac
62 emergency response team in response to an incident of sudden
63 cardiac arrest.

64 (5) Appropriate AED placement on school property in
65 accordance with the guidelines set by the American Heart
66 Association or another entity that provides nationally
67 recognized and evidence-based guidelines based on emergency
68 cardiovascular care, including routine maintenance.

69 (6) Procedures to disseminate the cardiac emergency
70 response plan on school property.

71 (7) The creation of requirements relating to the
72 practice of an emergency response, including drills.

73 (8) Procedures and standards for the ongoing annual
74 review and evaluation of the cardiac emergency response plan.

75 (c) Appropriate school staff shall be trained in first
76 aid, CPR, and the use of an AED according to the guidelines
77 set forth by the American Heart Association or another entity
78 that provides nationally recognized and evidence-based
79 guidelines based on emergency cardiovascular care. The term
80 appropriate school staff shall be defined in each cardiac
81 emergency response plan and shall include, but not be limited
82 to, licensed coaches, school nurses, and athletic trainers.

83 (d) Each local board of education and governing body of
84 a nonpublic school shall work directly with local emergency



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85 services providers to develop the cardiac emergency response
86 plan and integrate it into the community's emergency medical
87 services responder protocols.

88 Section 3. The State Board of Education may adopt rules
89 establishing a procedure to monitor adherence to this act by
90 local boards of education and governing bodies of nonpublic
91 schools.

92 Section 4. This act shall become effective on October
93 1, 2024.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 16-Apr-24, as amended.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

08-May-24

Passed