

HB290 INTRODUCED



1 HB290
2 47MC333-1
3 By Representatives Oliver, Sorrells, Smith, Wadsworth, Hurst,
4 Lipscomb, Shaw, Paschal, DuBose
5 RFD: Education Policy
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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law each student athlete and his or her parent must sign and return a form acknowledging the receipt and review of an information sheet about the warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest.

Also under existing law, each coach of an athletic activity must complete a training course about cardiac arrest, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

This bill would require each local board of education and governing body of a nonpublic school to develop and implement a cardiac emergency response plan.

This bill would require the plan to include appropriate AED placement within each school, staff training, and other recommendations of the American Heart Association or another similar group.

This bill would also authorize the State Board of Education to adopt rules relating to cardiac emergency response plans.



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29 A BILL
30 TO BE ENTITLED
31 AN ACT

32
33 Relating to sudden cardiac arrest; to require the
34 governing body of each public and nonpublic school to develop
35 and implement a cardiac emergency response plan; to provide
36 standards for a cardiac emergency response plan; and to
37 authorize the State Board of Education to adopt rules.

38 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

39 Section 1. For the purposes of this act, the following
40 terms have the following meanings:

41 (1) ATHLETIC ACTIVITY. The same meaning as Section
42 16-30D-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

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

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

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

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

55 b. A school that provides meals to all students through
56 the Community Eligibility Provision.



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57 c. A Title I school.

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

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

62 Section 2. (a) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school
63 year, each local board of education and governing body of a
64 nonpublic school shall develop and implement both of the
65 following:

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

70 (2) If the local board of education or the governing
71 body of a nonpublic school oversees a school with an athletic
72 department or organized athletic program, a cardiac emergency
73 response plan that addresses the appropriate use of personnel
74 to respond to incidents of sudden cardiac arrest or other
75 similar life-threatening emergencies that occur while an
76 individual attends or participates in any athletic activity on
77 school property.

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

80 (1) Recommendations relating to the development of a
81 cardiac emergency response plan by the American Heart
82 Association or another entity that provides nationally
83 recognized and evidence-based guidelines based on emergency
84 cardiovascular care.



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85 (2) The establishment of a cardiac emergency response
86 team.

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

90 (4) Procedures related to the activation of the cardiac
91 emergency response team in response to an incident of sudden
92 cardiac arrest.

93 (5) Appropriate AED placement on school property in
94 accordance with the guidelines set by the American Heart
95 Association or another entity that provides nationally
96 recognized and evidence-based guidelines based on emergency
97 cardiovascular care, including routine maintenance.

98 (6) Procedures to disseminate the cardiac emergency
99 response plan on school property.

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

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

104 (c) Appropriate school staff shall be trained in first
105 aid, CPR, and the use of an AED according to the guidelines
106 set forth by the American Heart Association or another entity
107 that provides nationally recognized and evidence-based
108 guidelines based on emergency cardiovascular care. The term
109 appropriate school staff shall be defined in each cardiac
110 emergency response plan and shall include, but not be limited
111 to, licensed coaches, school nurses, and athletic trainers.

112 (d) Each local board of education and governing body of



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113 a nonpublic school shall work directly with local emergency
114 services providers to develop the cardiac emergency response
115 plan and integrate it into the community's emergency medical
116 services responder protocols.

117 Section 3. The State Board of Education may adopt rules
118 establishing a procedure to monitor adherence to this act by
119 local boards of education and governing bodies of nonpublic
120 schools.

121 Section 4. This act shall become effective on October
122 1, 2024.