

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Education

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BILL: SB 280

INTRODUCER: Senator Baxley and others

SUBJECT: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training in Public Schools

DATE: February 15, 2021

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Jahnke	Bouck	ED	<b>Pre-meeting</b>
2.			AED	
3.			AP	

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**I. Summary:**

SB 280 modifies the provision by school districts to provide basic training in first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and the use of an automated external defibrillator during the instruction. Specifically the bill:

- Alters the encouragement for school districts to provide basic training in first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation, for all students beginning in grade 6 and every 2 years thereafter to specify such instruction for students in grade 6 and grade 8.
- Requires school districts to provide basic training in first aid, including CPR, for all students in grade 9 and grade 11.
- Specifies the use of basic, hands-only CPR instruction. This instruction must be based on a one-hour, nationally recognized training program that uses the most current evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines.
- Removes requirement to use an automated external defibrillator in instructional practice when a school district has the equipment necessary to perform the instruction.

The bill may have an impact on school district costs. See Section V.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2021.

## II. Present Situation:

### Cardiac Arrest

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States.<sup>1</sup> Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death for student athletes.<sup>2</sup>

Cardiac arrest is the abrupt loss of heart function in a person who may or may not have been diagnosed with heart disease. It can come on suddenly or in the wake of other symptoms. Cardiac arrest is often fatal if appropriate steps aren't taken immediately.<sup>3</sup>

More than 356,000 cardiac arrests occur outside a hospital in the United States each year.<sup>4</sup> Among those cardiac arrests, 7,037 children experience cardiac arrest outside a hospital.<sup>5</sup>

Though the vast majority of cardiac arrests occur at home, about 19 percent in adults and 13 percent in children happen in public. Bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can double or triple a person's chances of survival if started immediately.<sup>6</sup>

One major barrier to bystanders providing lifesaving care for cardiac arrest victims is a lack of training, especially in how to perform CPR.<sup>7</sup>

Certain people, including people in low-income, Black, and Hispanic neighborhoods, are less likely to receive CPR from bystanders than people in high-income white neighborhoods.<sup>8</sup> Research has indicated that older age, lesser education, and lower income were associated with reduced likelihood of CPR training. These findings illustrate important gaps in CPR education in the United States and suggest the need to develop tailored CPR training efforts to address this variability.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Center for Disease Control and Prevention, *Heart Disease*, <https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/facts.htm> (last visited Feb. 5, 2021).

<sup>2</sup> Mayo Clinic, *Sudden death in young people: Heart problems often blamed*, <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/sudden-cardiac-arrest/in-depth/sudden-death/art-20047571> (last visited Feb. 5, 2021). Section 1006.165(1)(b), F.S. requires a school employee or volunteer with current training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of a defibrillator to be present at each athletic event during and outside of the school year, including athletic contests, practices, workouts, and conditioning sessions. The training must include completion of a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation or a basic first aid course that includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation training, and demonstrated proficiency in the use of a defibrillator. Each employee or volunteer who is reasonably expected to use a defibrillator must complete this training.

<sup>3</sup> American Heart Association, *About Cardiac Arrest*, <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/cardiac-arrest/about-cardiac-arrest> (Last visited Feb. 8, 2021).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> American Academy of Pediatrics, *Advocating for Life Support training of Children, Parents, Caregivers, School Personnel, and the Public*, <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/141/6/e20180705#ref-1> (last visited Feb. 8, 2021).

<sup>6</sup> American Heart Association, *Why Women fear performing CPR on women – and what to do about it*, <https://www.heart.org/en/news/2020/11/23/why-people-fear-performing-cpr-on-women-and-what-to-do-about-it> (last visited Feb. 8, 2021).

<sup>7</sup> University of Virginia Health, *Bystanders can Help More Cardiac Arrest Victims Survive*, <https://newsroom.uvahealth.com/2019/12/11/bystanders-save-cardiac-arrest-patients/> (last visited Feb. 8, 2021).

<sup>8</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Three Things You May Not Know About CPR*, <https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/cpr.htm> (last visited Feb. 8, 2021).

<sup>9</sup> Journal of the American Heart Association, *Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training Disparities in the United States*, <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/JAHA.117.006124> (last visited Feb. 12, 2021).

## State Required Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training

According to the American Heart Association, 38 states and Washington D.C. have passed laws or adopted curriculum requiring hands-on, guidelines-based CPR training for students to graduate high school.<sup>10</sup>

Currently Florida school districts are encouraged, but not required, to provide basic training in first aid, including CPR for all students beginning in grade 6 and every two years thereafter. Private and public partnerships for providing training or necessary funding are also encouraged.<sup>11</sup>

### *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*

There is currently one benchmark related to CPR within the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Physical Education, which requires students to demonstrate basic CPR procedures.<sup>12</sup> There are multiple courses at the high school level that incorporate instruction in basic first aid and CPR procedures, including:<sup>13</sup>

- Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE);
- First Aid and Safety;
- Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries;
- Water Safety;
- Personal Fitness Trainer;
- Access Health Opportunities Through Physical Education;
- Florida's Preinternational Baccalaureate Personal Fitness; and
- United States Coast Guard Leadership and Operations.

Although not a requirement, districts currently providing instruction offer hands-only CPR through HOPE and other physical education courses.<sup>14</sup> According to the Florida Department of Education, most districts providing this instruction partner with the American Heart Association in their area, for both the instructors and necessary equipment. A program offered by the American Heart Association<sup>15</sup> is an example of a nationally recognized training program using the most current evidence-based<sup>16</sup> emergency cardiovascular care guidelines.

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<sup>10</sup> American Heart Association, *CPR training at school now required in 38 states*, <https://www.heart.org/en/news/2018/08/22/cpr-training-at-school-now-required-in-38-states> (last visited Feb. 5, 2021).

<sup>11</sup> Section 1003.453(3), F.S.

<sup>12</sup> CPALMS, Standards, *Physical Education, PE.912.M.1.17, Benchmark Information*, <https://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewStandard/Preview/8022> (last visited Feb. 12, 2021).

<sup>13</sup> CPALMS, Standards, *Physical Education, PE.912.M.1.17, Related Courses*, <https://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewStandard/Preview/8022> (last visited Feb. 12, 2021). CPALMS, Course, *First Aid and Safety (#0800320)*, <https://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/4688> (last visited Feb. 12, 2021).

<sup>14</sup> Email, Florida Department of Education, Legislative Affairs (Feb. 9, 2021).

<sup>15</sup> American Heart Association, *CPR in Schools*, <https://cpr.heart.org/en/training-programs/community-programs/cpr-in-schools> (last visited Feb. 9, 2021).

<sup>16</sup> "Evidence-based" implies sufficient clinical trial evidence to document the impact and need for each element of a specific guideline. National Center for Biotechnology Information, *Resuscitation Research and Continuous Quality Improvement* [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK321500/#sec\\_000159](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK321500/#sec_000159) (last visited Feb. 12, 2021).

### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 280 amends s. 1003.453(3), F.S., to specify that the encouragement for school districts to provide basic training in first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) applies to students in grade 6 and grade 8.

The bill requires school districts to provide basic training in first aid, including CPR, for all students in grade 9 and grade 11.

The bill clarifies instruction in CPR as basic, hands-only. The bill retains the requirement that a training program must use the most current evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines, but specifies that the instruction must be based on a one-hour nationally recognized training program. The bill does not specify a particular training program. Also, it is unclear if such instruction must be limited to one hour.

Hands-only CPR involves chest compressions only and does not require mouth-to-mouth breathing.<sup>17</sup> Being trained in hands-only CPR increases the chances of a bystander taking action in a cardiac emergency.<sup>18</sup> Requiring instruction in first aid and CPR may help a student prevent or mitigate a potentially life threatening situation.

Additionally, the bill removes the requirement to use an automated external defibrillator in instructional practice when a school district has the equipment necessary to perform the instruction.

This bill takes effect July 1, 2021.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

#### B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

#### C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

#### D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

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<sup>17</sup> American Heart Association, *Hands-Only CPR*, <https://cpr.heart.org/en/cpr-courses-and-kits/hands-only-cpr> (Last visited Feb. 8, 2021).

<sup>18</sup> American Heart Association, *FAQ: Hands-Only CPR*, available at [https://cpr.heart.org/-/media/cpr-files/courses-and-kits/hands-only-cpr/handsonly-cpr-faqs-ucm\\_494175.pdf?la=en](https://cpr.heart.org/-/media/cpr-files/courses-and-kits/hands-only-cpr/handsonly-cpr-faqs-ucm_494175.pdf?la=en).

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

A school district that does not already provide instruction in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation may experience increased costs associated with the requirements of the bill. However, no new state funds are specifically appropriated for the implementation of these requirements.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill substantially amends section 1003.453 of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:**

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.