

By Senator Baxley

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to cardiopulmonary resuscitation
3 training in public schools; amending s. 1003.453,
4 F.S.; providing that school districts are encouraged
5 to provide basic training in first aid, including
6 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, in specified grades;
7 requiring school districts to provide basic training
8 in first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation,
9 in specified grades; revising requirements for
10 instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
11 providing an effective date.

12
13 WHEREAS, heart disease is the leading cause of death in the
14 United States and Florida, and

15 WHEREAS, sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of
16 death on school campuses and of student athletes, and

17 WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 25 United States schools will
18 have a sudden death on campus every year, and

19 WHEREAS, in 2019, there were approximately 356,000 sudden
20 cardiac arrests that occurred in the United States, including
21 7,037 children under the age of 18 who experienced sudden
22 cardiac arrest, and

23 WHEREAS, 70 out of 100 of sudden cardiac arrests happen at
24 home, and

25 WHEREAS, 9 out of 10 of all sudden cardiac arrests are
26 fatal, and

27 WHEREAS, only 1 in 10 victims survive a sudden cardiac
28 arrest, and

29 WHEREAS, only 8 in 100 victims survive a sudden cardiac

12-00084A-21

2021280__

30 arrest on school campuses in the United States, and

31 WHEREAS, the American Heart Association estimates that at
32 least 5 in 10 victims could survive if bystanders performed
33 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and used automated external
34 defibrillators (AEDs) immediately after a cardiac arrest event,
35 and

36 WHEREAS, African Americans and Latinos are at least two
37 times more likely to die from sudden cardiac arrest, African-
38 American children are 41 percent less likely to receive CPR, and
39 Floridians in poor areas are more likely to die due to lack of
40 CPR education, and

41 WHEREAS, a University of Washington study showed that 89 in
42 100 victims on school campuses would survive a sudden cardiac
43 arrest if a well-executed Cardiac Emergency Response Plan were
44 implemented at the school campus, and

45 WHEREAS, the chain of survival includes prompt recognition
46 of a sudden cardiac arrest event, notification of emergency
47 services, prompt CPR, AED defibrillation, and advanced cardiac
48 life support, and

49 WHEREAS, in Florida, there are over 40,000 heart disease
50 deaths every single year, and

51 WHEREAS, Florida is a leading state for heart disease,
52 drownings, lightning strikes, accidental deaths, and accidental
53 overdoses, all conditions for which the initial life-saving
54 measure is CPR, NOW, THEREFORE,

55
56 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

57
58 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 1003.453, Florida

12-00084A-21

2021280__

59 Statutes, is amended to read:

60 1003.453 School wellness and physical education policies;
61 nutrition guidelines.—

62 (3) School districts are encouraged to provide basic
63 training in first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation,
64 for all students, ~~beginning in grade 6 and grade 8 every 2 years~~
65 ~~thereafter.~~ School districts are required to provide basic
66 training in first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation,
67 for all students in grade 9 and grade 11. Instruction in the use
68 of basic, hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation must be based
69 on a one-hour, nationally recognized training program that uses
70 the most current evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care
71 guidelines. The instruction must allow students to practice the
72 psychomotor skills associated with performing cardiopulmonary
73 resuscitation and ~~use an automated external defibrillator when a~~
74 ~~school district has the equipment necessary to perform the~~
75 ~~instruction.~~ Private and public partnerships for providing
76 training or necessary funding are encouraged.

77 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.