

By Senator Simon

3-01380-25

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to electrocardiograms for student  
3           athletes; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; conforming  
4           provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
5           1006.20, F.S.; requiring certain students to receive  
6           an electrocardiogram to participate in athletics;  
7           providing an exemption from such requirement;  
8           providing parental requirements for receiving the  
9           exemption; providing an effective date.

10  
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13           Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section  
14           1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15           1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
16           school students must receive accurate and timely information  
17           regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
18           of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
19           students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
20           rights including, but not limited to, the following:

21           (17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

22           (b) *Medical evaluation and electrocardiogram*.—Students must  
23           satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year and, if  
24           applicable, receive an electrocardiogram before participating in  
25           athletics, unless the parent objects in writing based on  
26           religious tenets or practices or, for an electrocardiogram only,  
27           provides a written statement from a physician that the student  
28           does not require an electrocardiogram, in accordance with ~~the~~  
29           ~~provisions of s. 1006.20(2)(d).~~

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30 Section 2. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2) of  
31 section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

32 1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

33 (2) ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, POLICIES, OR GUIDELINES.—

34 (c) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that require the  
35 following:

36 1. Require All students participating in interscholastic  
37 athletic competition or who are candidates for an  
38 interscholastic athletic team to satisfactorily pass a medical  
39 evaluation each year before participating in interscholastic  
40 athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout,  
41 workout, conditioning, or other physical activity associated  
42 with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic  
43 team, including activities that occur outside of the school  
44 year. Such medical evaluation may be administered only by a  
45 practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter  
46 460, or s. 464.012 or registered under s. 464.0123 and in good  
47 standing with the practitioner's regulatory board. The bylaws  
48 shall establish requirements for eliciting a student's medical  
49 history and performing the medical evaluation required under  
50 this paragraph, which shall include a physical assessment of the  
51 student's physical capabilities to participate in  
52 interscholastic athletic competition as contained in a uniform  
53 preparticipation physical evaluation and history form. The  
54 evaluation form must ~~shall~~ incorporate the recommendations of  
55 the American Heart Association for participation cardiovascular  
56 screening and must ~~shall~~ provide a place for the signature of  
57 the practitioner performing the evaluation with an attestation  
58 that each examination procedure listed on the form was performed

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59 by the practitioner or by someone under the direct supervision  
60 of the practitioner. The form must ~~shall~~ also contain a place  
61 for the practitioner to indicate if a referral to another  
62 practitioner was made in lieu of completion of a certain  
63 examination procedure. The form must ~~shall~~ provide a place for  
64 the practitioner to whom the student was referred to complete  
65 the remaining sections and attest to that portion of the  
66 examination. The preparticipation physical evaluation form must  
67 ~~shall~~ advise students to complete a cardiovascular assessment  
68 and must ~~shall~~ include information concerning alternative  
69 cardiovascular evaluation and diagnostic tests. Results of such  
70 medical evaluation must be provided to the school. A student is  
71 not eligible to participate, as provided in s. 1006.15(3), in  
72 any interscholastic athletic competition or engage in any  
73 practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associated  
74 with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic  
75 team until the results of the medical evaluation have been  
76 received and approved by the school.

77 2. That the following students receive an  
78 electrocardiogram:

79 a. For the 2026-2027 school year, each student who  
80 participates in interscholastic athletic competition or is a  
81 candidate for an interscholastic athletic team.

82 b. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and thereafter,  
83 each student in grades 6, 7, or 8 who for the first time  
84 participates in interscholastic athletic competition or is a  
85 candidate for an interscholastic athletic team.

86 c. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and thereafter,  
87 each student in grades 9 through 12 who for the first time since

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88 entering grade 9 participates in interscholastic athletic  
89 competition or is a candidate for an interscholastic athletic  
90 team.

91 (d) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (c), a  
92 student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition  
93 or be a candidate for an interscholastic athletic team if the  
94 parent of the student objects in writing to the student  
95 undergoing a medical evaluation or receiving an  
96 electrocardiogram because such evaluation or electrocardiogram  
97 is contrary to his or her religious tenets or practices.  
98 However, in such case, there shall be no liability on the part  
99 of any person or entity in a position to otherwise rely on the  
100 results of such medical evaluation or electrocardiogram for any  
101 damages resulting from the student's injury or death arising  
102 directly from the student's participation in interscholastic  
103 athletics when ~~where~~ an undisclosed medical condition that would  
104 have been revealed in the medical evaluation or  
105 electrocardiogram is a proximate cause of the injury or death.  
106 If a parent of a student objects in writing to the student  
107 receiving an electrocardiogram on the grounds that it is  
108 contrary to the parent's or student's religious tenets or  
109 practices, the parent must provide a written release of  
110 liability prepared by an attorney in good standing with The  
111 Florida Bar. Alternatively, a parent may provide a written  
112 statement from a practitioner licensed under chapter 458 or  
113 chapter 459 and in good standing with the practitioner's  
114 regulatory board that the student does not require an  
115 electrocardiogram.

116 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.