

By the Committees on Health Policy; and Education Pre-K - 12;  
and Senator Simon

588-02572-25

20251070c2

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to electrocardiograms for student  
3       athletes; providing a short title; amending s.  
4       1002.20, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
5       by the act; amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; requiring  
6       certain students to receive an electrocardiogram to  
7       participate in athletics, beginning on a specified  
8       date; requiring the Florida High School Athletic  
9       Association (FHSAA) to adopt a schedule requiring  
10      that, by a specified date, certain students receive,  
11      before competing, at least one electrocardiogram as a  
12      part of their medical evaluation; requiring that the  
13      FHSAA bylaws include the criteria used to determine  
14      the students required to receive an electrocardiogram;  
15      revising provisions related to parental objections to  
16      requirements for participation in athletics to include  
17      objection to electrocardiograms; requiring that  
18      parents who object to an electrocardiogram provide a  
19      specified release from liability; requiring the FHSAA  
20      to develop a standard form to document exceptions;  
21      providing an effective date.

22  
23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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25       Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Second Chance  
26 Act."

27       Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section  
28 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

29       1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public

588-02572-25

20251070c2

30 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
31 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
32 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
33 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
34 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

35 (17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

36 (b) *Medical evaluation and electrocardiogram*.—Students must  
37 satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year and, as  
38 applicable under s. 1006.20, receive an electrocardiogram before  
39 participating in athletics, unless the parent objects in writing  
40 based on religious tenets or practices or provides a written  
41 statement from a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter  
42 459 that the student does not require an electrocardiogram, in  
43 accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 1006.20(2)(d).

44 Section 3. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2) of  
45 section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

46 1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

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

48 (c) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that require the  
49 following:

50 1. Require All students participating in interscholastic  
51 athletic competition or who are candidates for an  
52 interscholastic athletic team to satisfactorily pass a medical  
53 evaluation each year before participating in interscholastic  
54 athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout,  
55 workout, conditioning, or other physical activity associated  
56 with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic  
57 team, including activities that occur outside of the school  
58 year. Such medical evaluation may be administered only by a

588-02572-25

20251070c2

59 practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter  
60 460, or s. 464.012 or registered under s. 464.0123 and in good  
61 standing with the practitioner's regulatory board. The bylaws  
62 shall establish requirements for eliciting a student's medical  
63 history and performing the medical evaluation required under  
64 this paragraph, which shall include a physical assessment of the  
65 student's physical capabilities to participate in  
66 interscholastic athletic competition as contained in a uniform  
67 preparticipation physical evaluation and history form. The  
68 evaluation form must ~~shall~~ incorporate the recommendations of  
69 the American Heart Association for participation cardiovascular  
70 screening and must ~~shall~~ provide a place for the signature of  
71 the practitioner performing the evaluation with an attestation  
72 that each examination procedure listed on the form was performed  
73 by the practitioner or by someone under the direct supervision  
74 of the practitioner. The form must ~~shall~~ also contain a place  
75 for the practitioner to indicate if a referral to another  
76 practitioner was made in lieu of completion of a certain  
77 examination procedure. The form must ~~shall~~ provide a place for  
78 the practitioner to whom the student was referred to complete  
79 the remaining sections and attest to that portion of the  
80 examination. The preparticipation physical evaluation form must  
81 ~~shall~~ advise students to complete a cardiovascular assessment  
82 and must ~~shall~~ include information concerning alternative  
83 cardiovascular evaluation and diagnostic tests. Results of such  
84 medical evaluation must be provided to the school. A student is  
85 not eligible to participate, as provided in s. 1006.15(3), in  
86 any interscholastic athletic competition or engage in any  
87 practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associated

588-02572-25

20251070c2

88 with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic  
89 team until the results of the medical evaluation have been  
90 received and approved by the school.

91 2. Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, students  
92 identified by the FHSAA who participate in interscholastic  
93 athletic competition or are candidates for an interscholastic  
94 athletic team to receive an electrocardiogram as a part of the  
95 student's medical evaluation. The FHSAA shall adopt a schedule  
96 to require that, by the 2028-2029 school year, each student who  
97 participates in interscholastic athletic competition or is a  
98 candidate for an interscholastic athletic team has received at  
99 least one electrocardiogram as a part of the student's medical  
100 evaluation before participation. The FHSAA bylaws must include  
101 the criteria used to determine the students required to receive  
102 an electrocardiogram in the 2029-2030 school year and  
103 thereafter.

104 (d)1. Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (c), a  
105 student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition  
106 or be a candidate for an interscholastic athletic team if the  
107 parent of the student objects in writing to the student  
108 undergoing a medical evaluation or receiving an  
109 electrocardiogram because such evaluation or electrocardiogram  
110 is contrary to his or her religious tenets or practices.  
111 However, in such case, there shall be no liability on the part  
112 of any person or entity in a position to otherwise rely on the  
113 results of such medical evaluation or electrocardiogram for any  
114 damages resulting from the student's injury or death arising  
115 directly from the student's participation in interscholastic  
116 athletics when ~~where~~ an undisclosed medical condition that would

588-02572-25

20251070c2

117 have been revealed in the medical evaluation or  
118 electrocardiogram is a proximate cause of the injury or death.  
119 If a parent of a student objects in writing to the student  
120 receiving an electrocardiogram on the grounds that it is  
121 contrary to the parent's or student's religious tenets or  
122 practices, the parent must provide a written release of  
123 liability prepared by an attorney in good standing with The  
124 Florida Bar. Alternatively, a parent may provide a written  
125 statement from a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter  
126 459 and in good standing with the applicable regulatory board  
127 that the student does not require an electrocardiogram.

128 2. The FHSAA shall develop a standard form to document  
129 exceptions granted under this paragraph.

130 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.