

By the Committees on Fiscal Policy; Health Policy; and Education
Pre-K - 12; and Senators Simon, Avila, and Arrington

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to electrocardiograms for student
athletes; providing a short title; amending s.
1002.20, F.S.; making technical changes; conforming
provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
1006.20, F.S.; requiring the Florida High School
Athletic Association (FHSA) to adopt bylaws requiring
all students to pass an electrocardiogram screening
before participating in certain activities; requiring
certain students to complete an electrocardiogram
screening; authorizing FHSA member schools to
collaborate with certain entities to offer low cost or
free electrocardiogram screenings; providing
requirements for the form for reporting
electrocardiogram results; providing requirements for
a student to be granted an exception to the
electrocardiogram requirement; requiring students
seeking an exception to submit a form developed by the
FHSA before they may participate in an
interscholastic activity; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public
school students must receive accurate and timely information

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

(17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

(b) *Medical evaluation.*—Before participating in athletics, students must:

1. Satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year
~~before participating in athletics,~~ unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets or practices, in accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 1006.20(2)(d); and

2. As applicable under s. 1006.20, receive an
electrocardiogram, unless the parent objects in writing based on
religious tenets or practices or secures a certificate of
medical exception in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(d).

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

1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

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

(c) 1. The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that require all students participating or seeking to participate in interscholastic athletic competition ~~or who are candidates for an interscholastic athletic team~~ to ~~satisfactorily~~ pass a medical evaluation each year before participating in interscholastic athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout, workout, conditioning, or other physical activity associated with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team, including activities that occur outside of the school year. Such medical evaluation may be

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administered only by a practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, or s. 464.012 or registered under s. 464.0123 and in good standing with the practitioner's regulatory board.

2. The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that require all students participating or seeking to participate in interscholastic athletic competition to pass an electrocardiogram screening before participating in interscholastic athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout, workout, conditioning, or other physical activity associated with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team, including activities that occur outside of the school year. The electrocardiogram screening must be conducted in accordance with standards established by the FHSAA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. Beginning in the 2028-2029 school year, every high school student participating or seeking to participate in interscholastic athletic competition for the first time must complete at least one electrocardiogram screening. FHSAA member schools may collaborate with public and private entities to offer low cost or free electrocardiogram screenings for this purpose.

3. The FHSAA bylaws must ~~shall~~ establish requirements for eliciting a student's medical history and performing the medical evaluation and electrocardiogram required under this paragraph, which shall include a physical assessment of the student's physical capabilities to participate in interscholastic athletic competition as contained in a uniform preparticipation physical evaluation and history form. The evaluation form must: ~~shall~~

a. Incorporate the recommendations of the American Heart

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88 Association for participation cardiovascular screening.

89 b. ~~and shall~~ Provide a place for the signature of the
90 practitioner performing the evaluation with an attestation that
91 each examination procedure listed on the form was performed by
92 the practitioner or by someone under the direct supervision of
93 the practitioner. The form must ~~shall~~ also contain a place for
94 the practitioner to indicate whether ~~if~~ a referral to another
95 practitioner was made in lieu of completion of a certain
96 examination procedure. The form must ~~shall~~ provide a place for
97 the practitioner to whom the student was referred to complete
98 the remaining sections and attest to that portion of the
99 examination.

100 c. ~~The preparticipation physical evaluation form shall~~
101 Advise students to complete a cardiovascular assessment and
102 electrocardiogram, ~~shall~~ include information concerning
103 alternative cardiovascular evaluation and diagnostic tests, and
104 require the- results of such medical evaluation to ~~must~~ be
105 provided to the school.

106 d. Include a section to record either a medical clearance
107 based on the results of the medical evaluation and
108 electrocardiogram required under this paragraph, allowing the
109 student to participate in interscholastic athletic competition,
110 or recommendations for follow-up treatment by an appropriate
111 health care practitioner trained in the diagnosis, evaluation,
112 and management of cardiovascular abnormalities in athletes as
113 defined by the FHSA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

114 4. A student is not eligible to participate, as provided in
115 s. 1006.15(3), in any interscholastic athletic competition or
116 engage in any practice, tryout, workout, or other physical

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

(d) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ paragraph (c), a student shall be granted an exception to the electrocardiogram requirement if the parent of the student objects in writing to the student receiving an electrocardiogram because the electrocardiogram is contrary to his or her religious tenets or practices or if a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 in good standing with the Board of Medicine or Board of Osteopathic Medicine, as applicable, provides a certificate of medical exception. A student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition or be a candidate for an interscholastic athletic team if the parent of the student objects in writing to the student undergoing a medical evaluation because such evaluation is contrary to his or her religious tenets or practices. However, in ~~such~~ case of any such exception or objection, there shall be no liability on the part of any person or entity in a position to otherwise rely on the results of such medical evaluation or electrocardiogram for any damages resulting from the student's injury or death arising directly from the student's participation in interscholastic athletics where an undisclosed medical condition that would have been revealed in the medical evaluation or electrocardiogram is a proximate cause of the injury or death. To exercise an exception or objection under this paragraph, a student must submit a standard form, developed by the FHSAA, to document exceptions granted under this paragraph which must be signed and notarized by a student's parent or legal guardian and received

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146 by the FHSA member school before a student may participate in
147 any interscholastic activity.

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