FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: CS/HB 723	**COMPANION BILL:** None
TITLE: Type 1 Diabetes Early Detection Program	**LINKED BILLS:** None
SPONSOR(S): Tant	**RELATED BILLS:** SB 958 (Bernard)

Committee References

Health Professions & Programs 18 Y, 0 N	➤	Education Administration 17 Y, 0 N, As CS	➤	Health Care Budget	➤	Health & Human Services

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill requires the Department of Health (DOH), in collaboration with school districts, to develop informational material regarding early detection of Type 1 diabetes for parents and guardians of students. The bill requires DOH to develop the material within 90 days after July 1, 2025, and to make the information available to each school district, school board, and charter school within the state through the agency's website. The bill also requires DOH to develop a standardize methodology for each school district, board, and charter school to notify parents and guardians of public school voluntary prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade students, by September 30, 2025, and annually thereafter, of the availability of Type 1 diabetes early detection materials.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

None

JUMP TO SUMMARY ANALYSIS RELEVANT INFORMATION BILL HISTORY

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

Current law requires public schools to provide various diabetic management services, but does not require schools to make available or provide parents and guardians with information related to the early detection signs for Type 1 diabetes in children. The bill requires the Department of Health (DOH), in collaboration with school districts throughout the state, to develop informational material regarding early detection of Type 1 diabetes for parents and guardians of students. DOH must develop the informational material within 90 days after July 1, 2025, and make the information available to every school district, school board, and charter school through the agency's website.

The bill requires DOH to develop a standardize methodology for each school district, school board, and charter school for notifying the parents and guardians of public school voluntary prekindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade students, by September 30, 2025, an annually thereafter, of the availability of the Type 1 diabetes early detection materials. The information provided to the parents and guardians must include, but is not limited to:

- A description of Type 1 diabetes;
- A description of the risk factors and warning signs associated with Type 1 diabetes;
- A description of the process for screening students for early detection of Type 1 diabetes using a blood autoantibody test; and
- A recommendation for further evaluation for students displaying warning signs associated with Type 1 diabetes or positive early detection screening results. (Section 1)

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2025. (Section 2)

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Diabetes

Diabetes occurs when blood glucose, also called blood sugar, is too high.[1] Blood glucose is the body's main source of energy and comes mainly from one's diet. Insulin, a hormone made by the pancreas, helps the glucose in the blood get into the cells to be used for energy. Another hormone, glucagon, works with insulin to control blood glucose levels. There are two primary types of diabetes, Type 1 and Type 2.

Type 1 Diabetes

In most people with Type 1 diabetes, the body's immune system, which normally fights infection, attacks and destroys the cells in the pancreas that make insulin.[2] As a result, the pancreas stops making insulin. Without insulin, glucose cannot get into the cells and blood glucose rises above normal.[3] People with Type 1 diabetes need to take insulin every day to stay alive.

Type 1 diabetes typically occurs in children and young adults, although it can appear at any age.[4] In children, Type 1 diabetes is most commonly diagnosed, between ages 4 to 7 and ages 10 to 14.[5] Having a parent or sibling with the disease may increase the chance of developing Type 1 diabetes. In the United States, about approximately 1.24 million people have Type 1 diabetes.[6] This number is expected to grow to five million by 2050.[7]

Symptoms of Type 1 diabetes are serious and usually happen quickly, over a few days to weeks, and can include:

- Increased thirst and urination
- Increased hunger
- Blurred vision
- Fatigue
- Unexplained weight loss[8]
- Irritability or behavioral changes[9]
- Fruity-smelling breath[10]

Sometimes the first symptoms of Type 1 diabetes are signs of a life-threatening condition called diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). The condition develops when the body cannot produce enough insulin.[11] Without enough insulin, the body begins to break down fat as fuel.[12] This causes a buildup of acids in the bloodstream called ketones; if left untreated, the buildup can lead to diabetic ketoacidosis.[13] Symptoms of DKA include, among others:

---

[1] Cleveland Clinic, *Diabetes*, available at https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/7104-diabetes, (last visited March 6, 2025).
[2] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, *Type 1 Diabetes*, available at https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/diabetes/overview/what-is-diabetes/type-1-diabetes/ (last visited March 6, 2025).
[3] Id.
[4] Id.
[5] Mayo Clinic, *Type 1 Diabetes*, available at https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/type-1-diabetes/symptoms-causes/syc-20353011#:~:text=Type%201%20diabetes%20can%20appear%20at%20any%20age%2C%20but%20it,10%20and%2014%20years%20old., and Cleveland Clinic, *Type 1 Diabetes*, available at https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/21500-type-1-diabetes, (last visited March 6, 2025).
[6] Cleveland Clinic, *Type 1 Diabetes*, available at https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/21500-type-1-diabetes, (last visited March 6, 2025).
[7] Id.
[8] Supra, FN 2.
[9] Mayo Clinic, *Type 1 Diabetes in Children*, available at https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/type-1-diabetes-in-children/symptoms-causes/syc-20355306, (last visited March 1, 2025).
[10] Id.
[11] Mayo Clinic, Patient Care & Health Information, Disease & Conditions, *Diabetic Ketoacidosis*, available at https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/diabetic-ketoacidosis/symptoms-causes/syc-20371551 (last visited on March 1, 2025).
[12] Id.
[13] Id.

- Breath that smells fruity
- Dry or flushed skin
- Nausea or vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Trouble breathing
- Trouble paying attention or feeling confused[14]

Over time, high blood glucose leads to problems such as:

- Heart disease
- Stroke
- Kidney disease
- Eye problems
- Dental disease
- Nerve damage
- Foot problems
- Depression
- Sleep apnea[15]

Type 1 diabetics must take insulin because the body no longer makes it on its own. Different types of insulin start to work at different speeds, and the effects of each last a different length of time. Insulin can be taken in several ways; common options include a needle and syringe, insulin pen, or insulin pump.[16]

People who have trouble reaching their blood glucose targets with insulin alone also may need to take another type of diabetes medicine that works in conjunction with insulin, such as pramlintide. Pramlintide, given by injection, helps keep blood glucose levels from going too high after eating.[17] Metformin is another diabetes medication that may help decrease the amount of insulin necessary.[18]

Type 1 diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases that affects children in the United States.[19] As of 2021, 352,000 children and adolescents younger than age 20 in the U.S. were diagnosed with diabetes, this includes 304,000 with Type 1 diabetes.[20]

Diabetic Management Services in Public Schools

In Florida, students with diabetes, with written consent from their healthcare provider and parent, are permitted to self-manage their medication, supplies, and equipment based on the student's diabetes medical management plan[21] without additional assistance or supervision.[22] Students may manage and care for their diabetes while in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to or from school or school sponsored activities to the extent authorized by the parent and physician.[23]

---

[14] Id.
[15] Id.
[16] Supra, FN 2.
[17] Id.
[18] Id.
[19] Cleveland Clinic, *Type 1 Diabetes*, available at https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/21500-type-1-diabetes, (last visited March 6, 2025).
[20] Florida Diabetes Advisory Council Legislative Report, January 2025, at 15, available at https://www.floridahealth.gov/%5C/provider-and-partner-resources/dac/_documents/2025-dac-report.pdf, (last visited March 6, 2025).
[21] A Diabetes Medical Management Plan is a medical authorization for diabetes treatment that includes medication orders from student's healthcare provider for routine and emergency care.
[22] Rule 6A-6.0253(3), F.A.C.
[23] S. 1002.20(3)(j), F.S.

School districts are required to have personnel, whether licensed nurses or trained school staff, assigned to each school a student with diabetes would otherwise attend if he or she did not have diabetes. These personnel must be available to provide necessary diabetes care throughout the school day and during school-sponsored activities.[24]

The Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health, is required to develop technical assistance regarding the care of students with diabetes. This includes identifying and providing sources to school districts for training school personnel to ensure proper management and care of diabetic students in schools.[25]

In Florida's public schools, 7,006 students were reported to have Type 1 diabetes during the 2020-2021 school year.[26] In 2022-2023, in a population of 2,851,846 pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students, there were 6,568 students with Type 1 diabetes (0.23 percent) in Florida public schools.[27]

OTHER RESOURCES:

Florida Department of Education School Health Services
Florida Department of Health

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee	18 Y, 0 N	3/5/2025	McElroy	Curry
Education Administration Subcommittee	17 Y, 0 N, As CS	3/11/2025	Sleap	Dixon
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	• Expanded the notifications of early detection materials to include the parents and guardians of public school voluntary prekindergarten and kindergarten students. • Revised notifications from first 30 days of school to by September 30, 2025, and annually thereafter.			
Health Care Budget Subcommittee				
Health & Human Services Committee				

THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

---

[24] Rule 6A-6.0253(2), F.A.C.
[25] Rule 6A-6.0253(4), F.A.C.
[26] Florida Diabetes Advisory Council, 2023 Florida Diabetes Report, at 17, available at https://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/dac/_documents/2023-dac-report.pdf, (last visited March 6, 2025).
[27] Florida Diabetes Advisory Council Legislative Report, January 2025, at 15, available at https://www.floridahealth.gov/%5C/provider-and-partner-resources/dac/_documents/2025-dac-report.pdf, (last visited March 6, 2025).