



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 162: Sudden Cardiac Arrest Education/Students

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12, if favorable, Health	Date:	April 21, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Carney, Horn, McGrady, Glazier	Prepared by:	Denise Adams
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H162-CSTB-13		Legislative Analyst

SUMMARY: House Bill 162 would (i) define certain terms related to student safety in athletics, (ii) require the State Board of Education (SBE) and local boards of education (local boards) to address sudden cardiac arrest prevention in student athletes, and (iii) recodify the statutory provisions on concussion safety and emergency action plans.

The PCS to House Bill 162 would make the above changes and (i) clarify the SBE and local boards must educate those involved in school athletic activities on sudden cardiac arrest awareness rather than prevention (ii) require certain educational materials, questionnaires, and training be provided to parents, student athletes, and coaches, and (iii) change the effective date.

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, the SBE is required to adopt rules governing interscholastic athletic activities conducted by local boards, including rules regarding concussion safety for student athletes and venue specific emergency action plans. Cardiac arrest awareness and education is not addressed in current law.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS to HB 162 would create a new article in Chapter 115C of the General Statutes entitled "Student Safety in Athletics". The new Article 29E would define the following terms: "athletic activity," "concussion," and "sudden cardiac arrest," and would direct the SBE to develop guidelines and educational materials to be used by local boards to inform students, coaches, and parents on the awareness, recognition, and management of sudden cardiac arrest. In developing these materials and guidelines, the SBE may utilize existing materials developed by heart health awareness organizations. The SBE must publish a list of approved providers of CPR training to be offered to coaches of athletic activities. Other new safety measures related to sudden cardiac arrest would include:

- The receipt and review of a sudden cardiac arrest information sheet, signed by the parent of a student athlete prior to the student's participation in an athletic activity.
- Completion of a heart history questionnaire as part of the pre-participation physical examination.
- All coaches of athletic activities to complete and maintain CPR certification.

The PCS would also recodify the current statutory provisions on concussion safety and emergency action plans into the new Article 29E.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The PCS would become effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

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