

Senate Bill 423

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Jackson of the 41st, Jones II of the 22nd, Dixon of the 45th, Butler of the 55th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to provide the maintenance and placement of one
3 or more automated external defibrillators in certain public schools in accordance with such
4 school's cardiac emergency response plan (CERP); to require public school safety plans to
5 include cardiac emergency response plans for the appropriate use of school personnel and
6 resources in response to incidents involving an individual experiencing a sudden cardiac
7 arrest or other loss of heart activity while on school property; to require such plans to
8 incorporate evidence based core elements and standards; to provide for guidelines to be
9 included in such plans; to provide for the involvement of local healthcare and emergency
10 management agencies; to provide for public schools to seek funding assistance for the
11 purchase of automated external defibrillators; to provide for related matters; to repeal
12 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

14 **SECTION 1.**

15 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
16 secondary education, is amended in Part 3 of Article 16, relating to student health, by

17 revising subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-775, relating to automated external defibrillator
18 required in high schools, requirements, and funding, as follows:

19 "(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, no ~~No~~ later than July 1,
20 2008, each public high school in this state which has an interscholastic athletics program
21 shall have at least one functional automated external defibrillator on site at such school
22 at all times and easily accessible during any school related function, including athletic
23 practices, athletic competitions, and other occasions where students and others will be
24 present, for use during emergencies.

25 (2) No later than July 1, 2025, each public high school in this state which has an
26 interscholastic athletics program shall provide for the maintenance and placement of one
27 or more automated external defibrillators as directed by such school's cardiac emergency
28 response plan (CERP), as provided for in Code Section 20-2-1186."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 Said chapter is further amended in Article 27, relating to loitering at or disrupting schools,
31 by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

32 "20-2-1186.

33 (a) No later than July 1, 2025, each public school safety plan required under Code Section
34 20-2-1185 shall include a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) for the appropriate use
35 of school personnel and resources in response to incidents involving an individual
36 experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest or other loss of heart activity while on school
37 property.

38 (b) Such cardiac emergency response plans shall:

39 (1) Incorporate evidence based core elements and standards, such as those recommended
40 by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or an equivalent nationally
41 recognized organization;

42 (2) At a minimum, provide guidelines for the following:

- 43 (A) Establishing a cardiac emergency response team;
44 (B) Activating such team in response to an individual experiencing a sudden cardiac
45 arrest or other loss of heart activity while on school property;
46 (C) The number, placement, and routine maintenance of automated external
47 defibrillators, as such term is defined in Code Section 20-2-775, on school property.
48 The placement of such of automated external defibrillators shall be determined in
49 accordance with guidelines set by the American Heart Association, the American Red
50 Cross, or an equivalent nationally recognized organization;
51 (D) Posting and maintaining a copy of the cardiac emergency response plan in
52 appropriate prominent locations throughout the school property;
53 (E) Training for school personnel and other appropriate individuals in cardiopulmonary
54 resuscitation (CPR) and the use of such automated external defibrillators that meets or
55 exceeds standards of the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or an
56 equivalent nationally recognized organization;
57 (F) Conducting drills with students, school administrators, teachers, and other school
58 personnel on the execution of the cardiac emergency response plan; and
59 (G) Involvement of and consultation with local healthcare and emergency management
60 agencies in developing and executing the school's cardiac emergency response plan;
61 and
62 (3) Be:
63 (A) Reviewed and, if necessary, updated annually; and
64 (B) Submitted to the local emergency management agency, the local law enforcement
65 agency, and the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency for
66 approval.
67 (c) Public school officials shall work directly with local healthcare and emergency
68 management agencies to facilitate incorporation of such school's cardiac emergency
69 response plan into local emergency management agency response protocols.

70 (d) A public school may request funding assistance from the state for facilities,
71 technology, or other safety improvements or initiatives, such as the purchase and
72 installation of health and safety equipment, including, but not limited to, automated
73 external defibrillators."

74 **SECTION 3.**

75 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.