

SENATE No. 02110

Senate, January 23, 2012 – New draft of Senate, No. 218 reported from the committee on the Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Twelve

An Act relative to medical emergency response plans for schools.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 69 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 official edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 8 the following section:-

3 Section 8A. (a) Each school committee and commonwealth charter school board of
4 trustees shall ensure that every school under its jurisdiction has a written medical emergency
5 response plan to reduce the incidence of life-threatening emergencies and promote efficient
6 responses to such emergencies. The plan shall be in addition to the multihazard evacuation plan
7 required by section 363 of chapter 159 of the acts of 2000.

8 Each plan shall include:

9 (1) a method for establishing a rapid communication system linking all parts of
10 the school campus, including outdoor facilities and practice fields, to the emergency medical

11 services system and protocols to clarify when the emergency medical services system and other
12 emergency contact people shall be called;

13 (2) a determination of emergency medical service response time to any location
14 on campus;

15 (3) a list of relevant contacts and telephone numbers with a protocol indicating
16 when each person shall be called, including names of experts to help with post-event support;

17 (4) a method to efficiently direct emergency medical services personnel to any
18 location on campus, including to the location of available rescue equipment;

19 (5) safety precautions to prevent injuries in classrooms and on the facilities; and

20 (6) a method of providing access to training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and
21 first aid for teachers, athletic coaches and trainers and other school staff, which may include
22 training high school students in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

23 Plans shall be developed in consultation with the school nurse, school athletic team
24 physicians, coaches and trainers, and the local emergency medical services agency, as
25 appropriate. Schools shall practice the response sequence at the beginning of each school year
26 and periodically throughout the year and evaluate and modify the plan as needed. Plans shall be
27 submitted once every three years to the department of elementary and secondary education on or
28 before September 1, beginning in the school year immediately following the effective date of this
29 act. Plans must also be updated in the case of new construction or physical changes to the school
30 campus.

31 (b) The department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the
32 department of public health, shall develop a model medical emergency response plan in order to
33 promote best practices. In developing the model plan, the department shall refer to research
34 prepared by the American Heart Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and other
35 relevant organizations that indentifies the essential components of a medical emergency response
36 plan. The department shall biennially update the model plan and post the plan on its website.

37 SECTION 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall submit a
38 report to the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives who shall forward the same to
39 the chairs of the joint committee on education and the chairs of the senate and house committees
40 on ways and means on the implementation of this initiative, and the number of schools that opt
41 out of instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation as required by section 1 of chapter 71, on or
42 before July 1, 2013.