

H. B. 3017

(BY DELEGATE(S) PASDON, PERDUE,
PERRY, ROHRBACH, ROWAN, DUKE, CAMPBELL, MOYE,
AMBLER AND UPSON)

(Originating in the House Committee on Education)
[February 27, 2015]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-2-25b, relating to addressing sudden cardiac arrest in interscholastic athletes; requiring promulgation and minimum contents of rules by West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission; defining interscholastic athletes; providing guidelines and information about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest and the risks; requiring signature and return of information by athlete and parent or guardian prior to practice or competition; requiring head

coach complete a commission-approved sudden cardiac arrest recognition and return-to-play protocol course annually; requiring head coach receive instruction on proper administration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation including use of hands-on practicing to support cognitive learning; and listing available sources for potential use in program development.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-2-25b, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-25b. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Protection Act (Leland’s Law).

- 1 (a) This section may be cited as the Leland’s Law.
- 2 (b) The West Virginia Secondary School Activities
- 3 Commission shall promulgate rules pursuant to section
- 4 twenty-five of this article that address in accordance with this
- 5 section sudden cardiac arrest in interscholastic athletes.
- 6 (c) For the purposes of this section, “interscholastic athlete”
- 7 means any athlete who is participating in interscholastic athletics
- 8 at a high school or middle school that is a member of the West
- 9 Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

10 (d) The rules required by this section shall include, but are
11 not limited to, the following:

12 (1) Guidelines and other pertinent information to inform and
13 educate appropriate school administrators, coaches,
14 interscholastic athletes and their parents or guardians about the
15 nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest and the risks
16 associated with continuing to play or practice after experiencing
17 one or more symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest, including but
18 not limited to, fainting, difficulty breathing, chest pains,
19 dizziness and abnormal racing heart rate;

20 (2) A sudden cardiac arrest symptoms and warning signs
21 information sheet that shall be signed and returned by the
22 interscholastic athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian on an
23 annual basis before the interscholastic athlete begins practice or
24 competition;

25 (3) A requirement that each head coach of an interscholastic
26 sport at a high school or middle school who is a member of the
27 West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission
28 complete a commission-approved sudden cardiac arrest
29 recognition and return-to-play protocol course annually; and

30 (4) A requirement that each head coach receive instruction
31 on the proper administration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation
32 (CPR) that includes hands-on practicing. The CPR instruction
33 must be based on an instructional program established by the
34 American Heart Association or the American Red Cross or
35 another program which is nationally recognized and uses the
36 most current national evidence-based Emergency
37 Cardiovascular Care guidelines and incorporates psychomotor
38 skills development into the instruction.

39 (e) In developing the guidelines and materials, the West
40 Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission may use
41 existing materials developed by organizations such as the
42 American College of Cardiology, The American Heart
43 Association, Parent Heart Watch and Sudden Arrhythmia Death
44 Syndromes or other program which is nationally recognized and
45 uses the most current national evidence-based Emergency
46 Cardiovascular Care guidelines.