

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 SENATE BILL 239

By: Yen

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to students; creating the Chase
8 Morris Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act; defining
9 terms; directing development and posting of certain
10 information and materials; permitting the use of
11 certain existing materials; requiring certain
12 acknowledgement; authorizing certain informational
13 meetings; requiring removal of certain students in
14 specified situations; requiring certain evaluation
15 and clearance; permitting certain consultation;
16 requiring certain persons to complete specified
17 training course; providing certain penalties;
18 encouraging certain compliance; providing certain
19 interpretation; directing promulgation of rules;
20 providing for codification; providing an effective
21 date; and declaring an emergency.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
24 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-156 of Title 70, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Chase
Morris Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act".

B. As used in the Chase Morris Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention
Act:

1. "Athletic activity" means any of the following activities:

- 1 a. interscholastic athletics,
- 2 b. an athletic contest or competition, other than
- 3 interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or
- 4 associated with a school, including, but not limited
- 5 to, cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities,
- 6 and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated
- 7 organizations,
- 8 c. noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or
- 9 associated with a school, or
- 10 d. practices, interschool practices, and scrimmages for
- 11 all of the activities listed in subparagraphs a, b,
- 12 and c of this paragraph; and

13 2. "Interscholastic athletics" means any sport sanctioned and

14 offered by the school district.

15 C. The State Department of Health and the State Department of

16 Education shall jointly develop and post on their publicly

17 accessible websites guidelines and other relevant materials to

18 inform and educate students participating in or desiring to

19 participate in an athletic activity, their parents, and their

20 coaches about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest,

21 including the risks associated with continuing to play or practice

22 after experiencing one or more symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest,

23 including fainting, difficulty breathing, chest pains, dizziness,

24 and abnormal racing heart rate. In developing the guidelines and

1 materials, the State Department of Health and the State Department
2 of Education may utilize existing materials developed by other
3 entities or organizations.

4 D. A student participating in or desiring to participate in an
5 athletic activity and the student's parent or guardian shall, each
6 school year and prior to participation by the student in an athletic
7 activity, sign and return to the student's school an acknowledgement
8 of receipt and review of a sudden cardiac arrest symptoms and
9 warning signs information sheet jointly developed by the State
10 Department of Health and the State Department of Education.

11 E. A school may hold an informational meeting prior to the
12 start of each athletic season for all ages of competitors regarding
13 the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. In
14 addition to students, parents, coaches, and other school officials,
15 informational meetings may include physicians, pediatric
16 cardiologists, and athletic trainers.

17 F. A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from
18 the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician
19 or other official designated by the student's school, exhibits signs
20 or symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest while participating in an
21 athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation
22 at that time. If a student is known to have exhibited signs or
23 symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest at any time prior to or following
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1 an athletic activity, the student shall be prevented from
2 participating in an athletic activity.

3 G. A student removed or prevented from participating in an
4 athletic activity pursuant to subsection F of this section shall not
5 return to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared
6 for return to participation in writing by a licensed physician,
7 certified nurse practitioner or cardiologist. In order to help
8 determine whether a student is ready to return to play, the licensed
9 physician or certified nurse practitioner may consult other licensed
10 or certified medical professionals.

11 H. Once each year, a coach of an athletic activity shall
12 complete the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a
13 provider approved by the State Department of Health. A coach of an
14 athletic activity shall not coach the athletic activity until the
15 coach completes the training course required under this subsection.

16 I. Each school district board shall establish the following
17 minimum penalties for a coach found in violation of subsections F
18 and G of this section:

19 1. For a first violation, suspension from coaching any athletic
20 activity for the remainder of the season;

21 2. For a second violation, suspension from coaching any
22 athletic activity for the remainder of the season and for the next
23 season; and
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1 3. For a third violation, permanent suspension from coaching
2 any athletic activity.

3 J. The sponsors of youth athletic activities not associated
4 with a school are encouraged to follow the guidance stated in the
5 Chase Morris Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act.

6 K. Nothing in the Chase Morris Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention
7 Act shall be construed to create, establish, expand, reduce,
8 contract or eliminate any civil liability on the part of any school
9 or school employee.

10 L. The State Board of Health and the State Board of Education
11 shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this act.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2015.

13 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
14 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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