

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 313

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1637, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS REGARDING SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 33-1637, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-1637. SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION. (1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Appropriate medical professional" means and includes any one (1) of the following who is trained in the evaluation and management of sudden cardiac arrest:

(i) A physician or physician assistant licensed under chapter 18, title 54, Idaho Code;

(ii) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed under section 54-1409, Idaho Code; or

(iii) A licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of sudden cardiac arrest who is supervised by a directing physician who is licensed under chapter 18, title 54, Idaho Code.

(b) "Athletic activity" means an athletic contest, competition, or practice that is sponsored by or associated with a school, including cheerleading, club sponsored sports activities, or sports activities sponsored by any organization affiliated with the school.

(c) "Coach" means any employee, contractor, or volunteer responsible for overseeing students participating in any athletic activity.

(d) "School" means all public school districts and public charter schools in the state of Idaho.

(e) "Sudden cardiac arrest symptoms" means symptoms that include but are not limited to:

(i) Fainting;

(ii) Seizures during exercise;

(iii) Dizziness;

(iv) Chest pain;

(v) Shortness of breath;

(vi) Racing heart rate; or

(vii) Unexplained fatigue during exercise or physical activity.

(2) (a) The state department of education shall collaborate with the Idaho high school activities association to develop guidelines and other relevant materials to inform and educate students participat-

1 ing in, or desiring to participate in, an athletic activity, as well  
2 as their parents, guardians, and coaches, about sudden cardiac arrest  
3 symptoms, including the risks associated with continuing to play or  
4 practice after experiencing sudden cardiac arrest symptoms. Such mate-  
5 rials shall include a sudden cardiac arrest symptom information sheet  
6 that shall include a list of the sudden cardiac arrest symptoms and an  
7 acknowledgment to be signed by both a student and such student's parent  
8 or guardian. In developing the guidelines and materials, the state de-  
9 partment of education may use, at no cost to the state, an educational  
10 video created by Simon's Heart for the purpose of educating coaches  
11 about sudden cardiac arrest. The state department of education shall  
12 include a link on its publicly accessible internet-based website to  
13 any such guidelines and materials that are adopted and published by the  
14 Idaho high school activities association.

15 (b) A student participating in, or desiring to participate in, an ath-  
16 letic activity and the student's parent or guardian shall, each school  
17 year and prior to participation by the student in an athletic activity,  
18 sign and return to the student's school an acknowledgment of receipt and  
19 review of the sudden cardiac arrest symptoms information sheet provided  
20 in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

21 (c) Schools may hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each  
22 athletic season for all ages of competitors regarding sudden cardiac  
23 arrest symptoms. In addition to students, parents, coaches and other  
24 school officials, informational meetings may include physicians, pedi-  
25 atric cardiologists, and athletic trainers.

26 (3) (a) A student who exhibits any of the sudden cardiac arrest symptoms  
27 provided in subsection (1) (e) of this section while participating in,  
28 or immediately following, an athletic activity, or who is known to have  
29 experienced any such symptoms while participating in or immediately  
30 following an athletic activity, may be removed from participation at  
31 that time by the coach overseeing the athletic activity if the coach  
32 reasonably believes that such symptoms are cardiac related. Coaches  
33 who observe such symptoms may notify the student's parent or legal  
34 guardian so that such parent or legal guardian can determine what treat-  
35 ment, if any, the student should seek.

36 (b) A student who is removed from play under the provisions of paragraph  
37 (a) of this subsection shall not be permitted to return to participa-  
38 tion in an athletic activity until the student is evaluated and cleared  
39 for return to participation in writing by an appropriate medical pro-  
40 fessional.

41 (4) Every coach shall complete the sudden cardiac arrest training  
42 course produced by Simon's Heart and made available through the national  
43 federation of state high school associations, or a comparable course pro-  
44 duced by another provider and approved by the state department of education,  
45 at least once each even-numbered school year. A coach shall not be eligible  
46 to coach an athletic activity until the coach completes the training course  
47 required under this subsection.

48 (5) No coach shall be subject to civil liability for such coach's ac-  
49 tions or inactions under the provisions of this section unless such coach is  
50 found to have acted unreasonably in a grossly negligent or reckless manner.

1       (6) The sponsors of youth athletic activities may, and are encouraged  
2 to, follow the guidance provided in this section.

3       SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
4 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after  
5 July 1, 2025.