

P.L.2012, CHAPTER 51, *approved September 19, 2012*
Assembly Committee Substitute for
Assembly, No. 1608

1 **AN ACT** concerning sudden cardiac events and schools and
2 supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law, rule, or
8 regulation to the contrary, beginning on September 1, 2014, the
9 board of education of a public school district and the governing
10 board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school that
11 includes any of the grades kindergarten through 12 shall ensure
12 that:

13 (1) each public or nonpublic school has an automated external
14 defibrillator, as defined in section 2 of P.L.1999, c.34 (C.2A:62A-
15 24), which is made available in an unlocked location on school
16 property with an appropriate identifying sign. The defibrillator
17 shall be accessible during the school day and any other time when a
18 school-sponsored athletic event or team practice is taking place in
19 which pupils of the district or nonpublic school are participating.
20 The defibrillator shall be within reasonable proximity of the school
21 athletic field or gymnasium, as applicable;

22 (2) a team coach, licensed athletic trainer, or other designated
23 staff member if there is no coach or licensed athletic trainer, who is
24 present during the athletic event or team practice, is trained in
25 cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use of the defibrillator in
26 accordance with the provisions of section 3 of P.L.1999, c.34
27 (C.2A:62A-25). A school district or nonpublic school shall be
28 deemed to be in compliance with this requirement if a State-
29 certified emergency services provider or other certified first
30 responder is on site at the event or practice; and

31 (3) each defibrillator is tested and maintained according to the
32 manufacturer's operational guidelines and notification is provided to
33 the appropriate first aid, ambulance, or rescue squad or other
34 appropriate emergency medical services provider regarding the
35 defibrillator, the type acquired, and its location in accordance with
36 section 3 of P.L.1999, c.34 (C.2A:62A-25).

37 b. A school district or nonpublic school and its employees shall
38 be immune from civil liability in the acquisition and use of
39 defibrillators pursuant to the provisions of section 5 of P.L.1999,
40 c.34 (C.2A:62A-27).

1 2. a. The board of education of a public school district and the
2 governing body or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school
3 that includes any of the grades kindergarten through 12 shall
4 establish and implement an emergency action plan for responding to
5 a sudden cardiac event including, but not limited to, an event in
6 which the use of an automated external defibrillator may be
7 necessary.

8 b. The emergency action plan shall be consistent with the
9 provisions of section 1 of this act and also, at minimum, include the
10 following:

11 (1) a list of no less than five school employees, team coaches, or
12 licensed athletic trainers who hold current certifications from the
13 American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or other training
14 program recognized by the Department of Health and Senior
15 Services, in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and in the use of a
16 defibrillator. The list shall be updated, as necessary, at least once in
17 each semester of the school year; and

18 (2) detailed procedures on responding to a sudden cardiac event
19 including, but not limited to, the identification of the persons in the
20 school who will be responsible for: responding to the person
21 experiencing the sudden cardiac event, calling 911, starting cardio-
22 pulmonary resuscitation, retrieving and using the defibrillator, and
23 assisting emergency responders in getting to the individual
24 experiencing the sudden cardiac event.

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26 3. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
27 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, and in accordance
28 with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410
29 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations as may be
30 necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

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32 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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37 "Janet's Law"; requires public and nonpublic schools to have
38 automated external defibrillators and to establish emergency action
39 plans for responding to sudden cardiac events.