

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.