

1 **H. B. 3017**

2
3 (By Delegates Pasdon, Perdue, Perry, Rohrbach, Rowan, Duke,
4 Campbell, Moye, Ambler and Upson)

5
6 (Originating in the House Committee on Education)

7 [February 27, 2015]

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9
10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
11 designated §18-2-25b, relating to addressing sudden cardiac arrest in interscholastic
12 athletes; requiring promulgation and minimum contents of rules by West Virginia
13 Secondary School Activities Commission; defining interscholastic athletes; providing
14 guidelines and information about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest
15 and the risks; requiring signature and return of information by athlete and parent or
16 guardian prior to practice or competition; requiring head coach complete a commission-
17 approved sudden cardiac arrest recognition and return-to-play protocol course annually;
18 requiring head coach receive instruction on proper administration of cardiopulmonary
19 resuscitation including use of hands-on practicing to support cognitive learning; and
20 listing available sources for potential use in program development.

21 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

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

1 **ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

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

3 (a) This section may be cited as the Leland’s Law.

4 (b) The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall promulgate rules
5 pursuant to section twenty-five of this article that address in accordance with this section sudden
6 cardiac arrest in interscholastic athletes.

7 (c) For the purposes of this section, “interscholastic athlete” means any athlete who is
8 participating in interscholastic athletics at a high school or middle school that is a member of the
9 West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

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

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

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

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

23 (4) A requirement that each head coach receive instruction on the proper administration

1 of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) that includes hands-on practicing. The CPR instruction
2 must be based on an instructional program established by the American Heart Association or the
3 American Red Cross or another program which is nationally recognized and uses the most current
4 national evidence-based Emergency Cardiovascular Care guidelines and incorporates
5 psychomotor skills development into the instruction.

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