

## CHAPTER 2025-183

### Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1070

An act relating to electrocardiograms for student athletes; providing a short title; amending s. 1002.20, F.S.; making technical changes; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; authorizing certain out-of-state licensed practitioners to conduct medical evaluations; requiring certain electrocardiograms to be administered in accordance with specified standards; providing that specified electrocardiograms satisfy certain requirements; requiring certain students to complete at least one electrocardiogram screening to participate in interscholastic athletic competition beginning in a specified school year; providing an exemption from such requirements; requiring the Florida High School Athletic Association to adopt bylaws and policies prohibiting students with abnormal electrocardiograms from participating in interscholastic athletic competition until a written medical clearance is submitted to the school; providing requirements for such written medical clearance; providing immunity from liability; amending s. 1006.165, F.S.; requiring school districts to pursue specified public and private partnerships for the provision of electrocardiograms to students; providing an exemption for students from such procedures under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be cited as the “Second Chance Act.”

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public school students must receive accurate and timely information regarding their child’s academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

(17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

(b) Medical evaluation and electrocardiogram.—Before participating in athletics, students must:

1. Satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year before participating in athletics, unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets or practices, in accordance with the provisions of s. 1006.20(2)(d); and

2. As applicable under s. 1006.20, receive an electrocardiogram, unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets or practices or secures

a certificate of medical exception in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(d) or the school district is unable to obtain a public or private partnership for the provision of an electrocardiogram pursuant to s. 1006.165.

Section 3. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (n) is added to that subsection, to read:

1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

(2) ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, POLICIES, OR GUIDELINES.—

(c)1. The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that require all students participating in interscholastic athletic competition or who are candidates for an interscholastic athletic team to satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year before participating in interscholastic athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout, workout, conditioning, or other physical activity associated with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team, including activities that occur outside of the school year. Such medical evaluation may be administered only by a practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, or s. 464.012 or registered under s. 464.0123, or a practitioner who holds an active equivalent licensure issued by the state in which the medical evaluation is performed, and in good standing with the practitioner's regulatory board. The electrocardiogram required under subparagraph 4. shall be administered in accordance with standards established by the FHSAA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. An electrocardiogram completed up to 2 years prior to the 2026-2027 school year satisfies this requirement.

2. The FHSAA bylaws must ~~shall~~ establish requirements for eliciting a student's medical history and performing the medical evaluation and electrocardiogram required under this paragraph, which shall include a physical assessment of the student's physical capabilities to participate in interscholastic athletic competition as contained in a uniform preparticipation physical evaluation and history form. The evaluation form must: ~~shall~~

a. Incorporate the recommendations of the American Heart Association for participation cardiovascular screening.

b. ~~and shall~~ Provide a place for the signature of the practitioner performing the evaluation with an attestation that each examination procedure listed on the form was performed by the practitioner or by someone under the direct supervision of the practitioner. The form must ~~shall~~ also contain a place for the practitioner to indicate whether if a referral to another practitioner was made in lieu of completion of a certain examination procedure. The form must ~~shall~~ provide a place for the practitioner to whom the student was referred to complete the remaining sections and attest to that portion of the examination.

~~c. The preparticipation physical evaluation form shall~~ Advise students to complete a cardiovascular assessment and electrocardiogram, shall include information concerning alternative cardiovascular evaluation and diagnostic tests, and require the results of such medical evaluation to ~~must~~ be provided to the school.

~~3.~~ A student is not eligible to participate, as provided in s. 1006.15(3), in any interscholastic athletic competition or engage in any practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associated with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team until the results of the medical evaluation have been received and approved by the school.

~~4. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and thereafter, the first time a student who is in grades 9 through 12 participates in an interscholastic athletic competition or is a candidate for an interscholastic athletic team, he or she shall complete at least one electrocardiogram screening that meets the requirements of s. 1006.165.~~

(d) Notwithstanding the ~~provisions of paragraph (c), a student shall be granted an exception to the electrocardiogram requirement if the parent of the student objects in writing to the student receiving an electrocardiogram because the electrocardiogram is contrary to his or her religious tenets or practices or if a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 in good standing with the Board of Medicine or Board of Osteopathic Medicine, as applicable, provides a certificate of medical exception. A student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition or be a candidate for an interscholastic athletic team if the parent of the student objects in writing to the student undergoing a medical evaluation because such evaluation is contrary to his or her religious tenets or practices. However, in such case of~~ any such exception or objection, there shall be no liability on the part of any person or entity in a position to otherwise rely on the results of such medical evaluation or electrocardiogram for any damages resulting from the student's injury or death arising directly from the student's participation in interscholastic athletics where an undisclosed medical condition that would have been revealed in the medical evaluation or electrocardiogram is a proximate cause of the injury or death.

(n) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws or policies that prohibit a student athlete who receives an abnormal electrocardiogram result from participating in tryouts, practice, or competition until the student submits to the school a written medical clearance to participate. Medical clearance must be authorized by an appropriate health care practitioner listed in subparagraph (c)1. who is trained in the diagnosis, evaluation, and management of electrocardiograms. There shall be no liability on the part of a school district in a position to otherwise rely on the results of the electrocardiogram and medical clearance for any damages resulting from the student's injury or death arising from a cardiac event due to the student's participation in interscholastic athletics.

Section 4. Subsection (3) is added to section 1006.165, Florida Statutes, to read:

1006.165 Well-being of students participating in extracurricular activities; training.—

(3) Each school district must pursue public and private partnerships to provide low-cost electrocardiograms to the student. A student athlete is exempt from the requirement in s. 1006.20(2)(c)4. if he or she resides in a school district that is unable to obtain a public or private partnership to provide an electrocardiogram at a rate of less than \$50 per student.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor June 25, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 25, 2025.