

House Bill 1031

By: Representatives Hembree of the 67<sup>th</sup>, England of the 108<sup>th</sup>, Dickson of the 6<sup>th</sup>, Maxwell of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Carter of the 175<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require  
3 each public high school in this state which has an interscholastic athletics program to have  
4 at least one functional automated external defibrillator on site at such school at all times for  
5 use during emergencies; to provide for legislative findings; to define a term; to provide for  
6 requirements on maintaining and using the defibrillator; to provide for state funding; to  
7 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 The General Assembly finds that, although rare, sudden death in teenagers does occur. The  
11 General Assembly further finds that in recent years, there have been instances of cardiac  
12 arrest in high school students participating in interscholastic athletic events and practices.  
13 In instances of cardiac arrest, time is critical, and even with quick response from emergency  
14 personnel, it may not be fast enough for successful cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The  
15 General Assembly finds that automated external defibrillators are inexpensive and are not  
16 difficult to operate by lay persons as well as trained emergency personnel.

17 **SECTION 2.**

18 Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
19 relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, is amended by adding a  
20 new Code section to read as follows:

21 "20-2-775.

22 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'automated external defibrillator' means a  
23 defibrillator which:

24 (1) Is capable of cardiac rhythm analysis;

- 1 (2) Will charge and be capable of being activated to deliver a countershock after  
2 electrically detecting the presence of certain cardiac dysrhythmias; and
- 3 (3) Is capable of continuously recording cardiac dysrhythmia at the scene with a  
4 mechanism for transfer and storage or for printing for review subsequent to use.
- 5 (b) No later than July 1, 2008, each public high school in this state which has an  
6 interscholastic athletics program shall have at least one functional automated external  
7 defibrillator on site at such school at all times for use during emergencies.
- 8 (c) Each high school possessing and maintaining an automated external defibrillator shall:
- 9 (1) Ensure that expected users of the automated external defibrillator receive American  
10 Heart Association or American Red Cross training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and  
11 automated external defibrillator use or complete an equivalent nationally recognized  
12 course;
- 13 (2) Notify the appropriate emergency medical services system of the existence and  
14 location of the automated external defibrillator prior to said automated external  
15 defibrillator being placed in use;
- 16 (3) Ensure that the automated external defibrillator is maintained and tested according  
17 to the manufacturer's operational guidelines;
- 18 (4) Ensure that there is involvement of a licensed physician or other person authorized  
19 by the composite board in the site's automated external defibrillator program to ensure  
20 compliance with requirements for training, notification, and maintenance; and
- 21 (5) Ensure that designated personnel activate the emergency medical services system as  
22 soon as reasonably possible after any person renders emergency care or treatment to a  
23 person in cardiac arrest by using an automated external defibrillator and reports any  
24 clinical use of the automated external defibrillator to the licensed physician or other  
25 person authorized by the composite board who is supervising the program.
- 26 (d) Subject to appropriations by the General Assembly, the Department of Education shall  
27 provide funds to local school systems to assist in the purchase of automated external  
28 defibrillators pursuant to this Code section."

29

**SECTION 3.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.