

House Resolution 1564

By: Representatives Clark of the 98th, Kelley of the 16th, Jackson of the 128th, Clark of the 101st, Thomas of the 39th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging each local board of education, governing body of a nonpublic school, and
 2 governing body of a charter school to adopt and implement a sudden cardiac arrest and return
 3 to play policy and encouraging the Department of Public Health to endorse one or more
 4 sudden cardiac arrest prevention education courses; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, thousands of young people each year participate in athletics in Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, youth athletes, including Adam Smith, Jeremy Nelson, and others lost too
 7 young, have died from sudden cardiac arrest while participating in youth athletic activities
 8 in Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, schools that organize youth athletics should protect the health and safety of our
 10 youth athletes through the employment of certain principles.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
 12 the members of this body join together to encourage each local board of education, governing
 13 body of a nonpublic school, and governing body of a charter school to adopt and implement
 14 a sudden cardiac arrest and return to play policy comprising not less than the following
 15 components:

16 (1) Prior to the beginning of each athletic season of a sport, an information sheet should
 17 be provided by the school to all students' parents or legal guardians which informs them
 18 of the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest, including the risks associated
 19 with continuing to play or practice after experiencing the following symptoms: fainting
 20 or seizures during exercise, unexplained shortness of breath, chest pains, dizziness, racing
 21 heart rate, or extreme fatigue;

22 (2) If a student participating in an athletic activity exhibits the symptoms of sudden
 23 cardiac arrest, such student should be removed from the game, competition, tryout, or
 24 practice and be evaluated by a health care provider; and

25 (3) If a student is deemed by a health care provider to have experienced the symptoms
26 of sudden cardiac arrest, the coach or other designated personnel should not permit such
27 student to return to play until such student receives clearance from a health care provider
28 for a full or graduated return to play.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body join together to encourage the
30 Department of Public Health to endorse one or more sudden cardiac arrest prevention
31 education courses to inform Georgia citizens of the nature and risk of sudden cardiac arrest
32 in youth athletics, at least one of which should be made available online, and such course or
33 courses should include education and training materials made available, at no charge, by the
34 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or other training materials substantively
35 and substantially similar to such materials.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
38 Department of Education, Department of Public Health, and Georgia High School
39 Association.