



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

***Raised Bill No. 194***

LCO No. 1159



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING CARDIAC SCREENING AND SUDDEN  
CARDIAC ARREST PREVENTION FOR CERTAIN STUDENT  
ATHLETES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-149f of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

3 (a) For purposes of this section and section 10-149g, (1) "intramural  
4 or interscholastic athletics" shall include any activity sponsored by a  
5 school or local education agency, as defined in section 10-15f, or an  
6 organization sanctioned by the local education agency that involves any  
7 athletic contest, practice, scrimmage, competition, demonstration,  
8 display or club activity, and (2) "high-intensity endurance or power  
9 sport" means football, basketball, soccer, hockey, lacrosse and a middle-  
10 distance or long-distance track event.

11 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year  
12 thereafter, the State Board of Education, in consultation with (1) the  
13 Commissioner of Public Health, (2) the governing authority for  
14 intramural and interscholastic athletics, (3) an appropriate organization

15 representing licensed athletic trainers, and (4) an organization  
16 representing national, state or local medical associations, shall develop  
17 or approve a sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program for  
18 use by local and regional boards of education. Such program shall be  
19 published on the State Board of Education's Internet web site and shall  
20 include: (A) The warning signs and symptoms associated with a sudden  
21 cardiac arrest, including, but not limited to, fainting, difficulty  
22 breathing, chest pain, dizziness and abnormal racing heart rate, (B) the  
23 risks associated with continuing to engage in intramural or  
24 interscholastic athletics after exhibiting such warning signs and  
25 symptoms, (C) the means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a  
26 person suspected of experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest, and (D) the  
27 proper method of allowing a student who has experienced a sudden  
28 cardiac arrest to return to intramural or interscholastic athletics. When  
29 developing or approving such program, the State Board of Education  
30 may utilize existing materials developed by organizations such as  
31 Simon's Fund.

32 (c) (1) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education, in  
33 consultation with the organizations described in subdivisions (1) to (4),  
34 inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section, shall develop and approve an  
35 informed consent form to distribute to the parents and legal guardians  
36 of students involved in intramural or interscholastic athletics regarding  
37 sudden cardiac arrest. Such informed consent form shall include, at a  
38 minimum, (A) a summary of the sudden cardiac arrest awareness  
39 education program described in subsection (b) of this section, and (B) a  
40 summary of the applicable local or regional board of education's policies  
41 regarding sudden cardiac arrests.

42 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year  
43 thereafter, any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the  
44 State Board of Education and is a coach of intramural or interscholastic  
45 athletics shall, prior to commencing the coaching assignment for the  
46 season of such school athletics, provide each participating student's  
47 parent or legal guardian with a copy of the informed consent form

48 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection and obtain such parent's  
49 or legal guardian's signature, attesting to the fact that such parent or  
50 legal guardian has received a copy of such form and authorizes the  
51 student to participate in the intramural or interscholastic athletics.

52 (d) (1) On or before July 1, 2027, the State Board of Education, in  
53 consultation with the organizations described in subdivisions (1) to (4),  
54 inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section, shall develop and approve a  
55 sudden cardiac arrest screening form to distribute to the parents and  
56 legal guardians of students involved in intramural athletics or  
57 interscholastic athletics in a high-intensity endurance or power sport.  
58 Such screening form shall include, at a minimum, a question asking  
59 whether the student has a history of chest pain with exertion,  
60 unexplained syncope or sudden cardiac arrest or a family history of  
61 sudden cardiac arrest or sudden cardiac death.

62 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2027, and each school year  
63 thereafter, any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the  
64 State Board of Education and is a coach of intramural or interscholastic  
65 athletics for a high-intensity endurance or power sport shall, prior to  
66 commencing the coaching assignment for the season of such sport, (A)  
67 provide each participating student's parent or legal guardian with a  
68 copy of the screening form described in subdivision (1) of this  
69 subsection, and (B) obtain the fully completed form, which shall include  
70 such parent's or legal guardian's signature.

71 (3) For the school year commencing July 1, 2027, and each school year  
72 thereafter, any participating student described in subdivision (2) of this  
73 subsection who reports a history of chest pain with exertion,  
74 unexplained syncope or sudden cardiac arrest or a family history of  
75 sudden cardiac arrest or sudden cardiac death on the screening form  
76 described in said subdivision shall be permitted to participate in the  
77 high-intensity endurance or power sport only after (A) receiving an  
78 electrocardiogram test from a health care provider who is licensed to  
79 administer such test, (B) receiving written clearance from a health care

80 provider who is licensed to provide such clearance, based on the results  
81 of such test, to participate in the high-intensity endurance or power  
82 sport, and (C) providing such written clearance to the coach of  
83 intramural or interscholastic athletics for such high-intensity endurance  
84 or power sport.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	10-149f

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require cardiac screening of certain student athletes to prevent sudden cardiac arrest in such athletes.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*