Wisconsin Legislative Council AMENDMENT MEMO



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2021 Assembly Bill 82

Assembly Amendment 4

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 82

Assembly Bill 82 requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to develop an information sheet, in consultation with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), to educate coaches, athletes, and parents about the nature and risk of sudden cardiac arrest during athletic activities. The sheet must contain certain specified information regarding electrocardiogram testing and the risks of continued participation after experiencing symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest.

Under the bill, any person operating a youth athletic activity must distribute the sudden cardiac arrest information sheet to each coach and youth athlete, and no athlete may participate unless he or she returns the information sheet signed by his or her parent or guardian, if the athlete is under age 19, or signed by the athlete himself or herself, if the athlete is 19 or older.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 4

Current law requires youth athletic activities to distribute information about concussions and head injuries to each coach and athlete, and requires each athlete to return a signed information sheet prior to participating. Assembly Amendment 4 requires that information about sudden cardiac arrest be included in the concussion information sheet, rather than requiring a separate information sheet regarding sudden cardiac arrest.

Assembly Amendment 4 also changes the requirement for distributing sudden cardiac arrest information so that it applies only to youth athletic activities for individuals who are 12 years of age or older. Additionally, the amendment requires DPI to consult with two pediatric cardiologists in developing the sudden cardiac arrest information, one of whom is employed by the Medical College of Wisconsin and one of whom is employed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School, in addition to consulting with the WIAA. Finally, the amendment sunsets the requirement for distributing sudden cardiac arrest information to youth athletes so that it does not apply after June 30, 2032.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Amendment 4 was offered by Representative Allen on February 7, 2022. On February 9, 2022, the Assembly Committee on Education adopted the amendment, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0.

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