

AB 310 – Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act

SUMMARY

Assembly Bill 310 (AB 310) removes confusion from the Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act (AB 1467, 2023) where the language suggests that only certified individuals are allowed to administer an automated external defibrillator (AED). Existing law does not limit who can use an AED in a sudden cardiac arrest emergency. AB 310 builds upon both AB 2887 (2024) and AB 2009 (2019) by extending school safety plans to youth sports organizations. Youth sports organizations would be required to have a written emergency response plan put in place that includes the location of an AED and outlines standard procedures in the event of a cardiac emergency. The bill would also require that youth sports organizations properly maintain and test their AED(s) and that coaches are provided sufficient opportunity for training in the use of AED(s).

EXISTING LAW

AB 1467 (Alanis, 2023) also known as the Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act was introduced to address the increasing number of youth athletes experiencing sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). SCA can often be life threatening if not treated immediately. Under existing law, the Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act requires youth sports organizations to provide access to an AED during practices or matches.

WHY THIS BILL MATTERS

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is the number one killer of student athletes. When sudden cardiac events take place, timely intervention is critical. While AEDs have been proven to save lives, their effectiveness is tied to organizations being properly prepared and the timeliness of a response. By requiring a written

emergency response plan, youth sports organizations will be better prepared as there will be a developed plan of action in the time of an emergency. Proper AED maintenance will further strengthen the safety infrastructure for youth athletes as organizations can be sure the devices being used are in good condition.

Additionally, AEDs were specifically designed for anyone to use by following audio/visual prompts to rescue a SCA victim. Familiarity with an AED is crucial in the willingness of an individual to deploy this life saving equipment. AB 310 aims to establish a minimum level of training to use this life saving equipment thus offering families a greater sense of safety and confidence in the programs that their children participate in.

IF ENACTED INTO LAW

AB 310 builds upon the success of the Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act to further California's commitment to providing safe and fun access to youth sports programs. This bill will also create parity between private and interscholastic youth sports organizations by ensuring that all programs are equipped with emergency response plans and properly certified staff.

Sponsor

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation

CONTACT:

Matthew Kahn (916) 319-2022 matthew.kahn@asm.ca.gov