



# ACT #2023 - 235

- 1 TBNP55-3
- 2 By Representative Gray
- 3 RFD: Children and Senior Advocacy
- 4 First Read: 07-Mar-23
- 5 PFD: 23-Feb-23
- 6 2023 Regular Session





## HB45 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 Relating to K-12 school sports; to create the **Tyrell**  
5 **Spencer Act**; to require coaches to undergo training and follow  
6 all health and safety guidelines related to sudden cardiac  
7 arrest; to require the training to be coordinated with  
8 existing training requirements related to CPR and automated  
9 external defibrillators (AEDs); to require the State Board of  
10 Education to approve training requirements and adopt  
11 guidelines and information sheets regarding sudden cardiac  
12 arrest and distribute those information sheets to student  
13 athletes, parents, and coaches; to authorize the Alabama High  
14 School Athletic Association and the Alabama Independent School  
15 Association to provide the training; to allow for the removal  
16 from play of student athletes who exhibit symptoms of sudden  
17 cardiac arrest; to require student athletes and parents to  
18 acknowledge receipt of informational materials related to  
19 sudden cardiac arrest; and to encourage AED availability.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

21 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
22 the Tyrell Spencer Act.

23 Section 2. For the purposes of this act, the following  
24 terms have the following meanings:

25 (1) AHSAA. The Alabama High School Athletic  
26 Association.

27 (2) AISA. The Alabama Independent School Association.

28 (3) ATHLETIC ACTIVITY.



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29 a. This term includes any of the following activities:

30 1. Interscholastic athletics at any school.

31 2. Any athletic contest or competition other than  
32 interscholastic athletics that is sponsored by or associated  
33 with a school, including club-sponsored sports activities.

34 3. Competitive or noncompetitive cheerleading that is  
35 sponsored by or associated with a school.

36 4. Any practices, including interscholastic practices  
37 or scrimmages for any activities listed in this subdivision.

38 b. This term does not include any recreational sports  
39 activity that is not associated with a school, including a  
40 city or county recreational youth sports league.

41 (4) BOARD. The State Board of Education.

42 (5) SCHOOL. Any public or private K-12 school.

43 (6) STUDENT ATHLETE. A student who is enrolled in a  
44 K-12 school and participates in any athletic activity.

45 Section 3. (a) The board shall adopt guidelines to  
46 inform and educate student athletes, parents, and coaches  
47 about the nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest,  
48 including the risks associated with continuing to participate  
49 in or practice an athletic activity after experiencing  
50 symptoms, as outlined by the required training.

51 (b) The board shall develop a cardiac arrest symptoms  
52 and warning signs information sheet to be provided to each  
53 student athlete participating in an athletic activity.  
54 Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, before any student  
55 athlete may participate in any athletic activity, the student  
56 athlete and his or her parent or guardian shall sign and



57 return to the student athlete's school an acknowledgement form  
58 acknowledging their receipt and review of the information  
59 sheet. The acknowledgment form shall be developed by the AHSAA  
60 for its member schools and the AISA for its member schools. As  
61 part of the student athlete's eligibility requirements, a new  
62 acknowledgment form shall be signed and returned to the  
63 applicable school at the beginning of each school year in  
64 which the student athlete intends to participate in an  
65 athletic activity. Each acknowledgment form shall be kept in  
66 the school's online eligibility software program.

67 (c) In developing guidelines and materials, the board  
68 may use educational materials created by Simon's Heart for the  
69 purpose of educating student athletes, parents, and coaches  
70 about sudden cardiac arrest.

71 (d) The board, the AHSAA, and the AISA shall post any  
72 guidelines or materials developed pursuant to this act on the  
73 publicly accessible website of the entity.

74 Section 4. Each local board of education may hold an  
75 informational meeting for student athletes, parents, coaches,  
76 and other school officials prior to the start of each athletic  
77 season regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden  
78 cardiac arrest. Informational meetings may include, but are  
79 not limited to, presentations from physicians, pediatric  
80 cardiologists, and athletic trainers.

81 Section 5. (a) (1) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school  
82 year, once every two years, each coach of any athletic  
83 activity shall complete a cardiac arrest training course  
84 provided by the AHSAA for its member schools and by the AISA



85 for its member schools. The training shall be approved by the  
86 board, and, if the board chooses, may include the course  
87 produced by Simon's Heart and made available through the  
88 National Federation of State High School Associations.

89 (2) The training shall be in correlation with any other  
90 training required by the relevant school association related  
91 to cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external  
92 defibrillators (AEDs).

93 (b) A coach of any athletic activity may not be  
94 eligible to coach in any practice or competition until he or  
95 she has completed the training course required under this  
96 section.

97 Section 6. (a) An athletic trainer, coach, or other  
98 responsible party may remove any student athlete who, during  
99 any athletic activity, exhibits any symptoms identifiable by  
100 the required training if the trainer, coach, or other  
101 responsible party reasonably believes that the student  
102 athlete's symptoms are cardiac related. If a student athlete  
103 is removed from an athletic activity for the reason described  
104 in this subsection, an athletic trainer, coach, or other  
105 responsible party who observed the student athlete exhibit the  
106 symptoms shall attempt to notify the student athlete's parent  
107 or guardian of those symptoms.

108 (b) A student athlete who is removed from participation  
109 in an athletic activity pursuant to this section may not be  
110 permitted to return to play until he or she has been evaluated  
111 by a licensed physician and receives written clearance to  
112 return to play from the licensed physician.



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113           Section 7. The sponsors of recreational youth athletic  
114 activities are encouraged, but not required, to follow the  
115 guidelines provided in this act.

116           Section 8. The Legislature encourages the availability  
117 of an automated external defibrillator (AED) **within three**  
118 **minutes retrieval time** at any athletic activity.

119           Section 9. This act shall become effective on the first  
120 day of the third month following its passage and approval by  
121 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



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*[Handwritten signature]*

Speaker of the House of Representatives

*[Handwritten signature]*

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 20-Apr-23 as amended.

John Treadwell  
Clerk

Senate 11-May-23 Passed

APPROVED 5-23-2023

TIME 4:57 pm

*[Handwritten signature: Kay Ivey]*  
GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary Of State

Act Num....: 2023-235  
Bill Num...: H-45

Recv'd 05/23/23 04:37pmSLF

DATE: 4-25 2023  
RD 1 RFD C-7A

This Bill was referred to the Standing Committee of the Senate on C+YN and was acted upon by such Committee in session and is by order of the Committee returned therefrom with a favorable report w/amend(s) 0 w/sub 0 by a vote of 7 yeas 0 nays 0 abstain 0 this 2nd day of MAY 2023  
[Signature], Chair

DATE: 5-3 2023  
RF RD 2 CAL

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
RE-REFERRED  RE-COMMITTED   
Committee \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, HB 45  
YEAS 34 NAYS 0  
PATRICK HARRIS,  
Secretary

FURTHER SENATE ACTION (OVER)

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE RESOLUTION AS REQUIRED IN SECTION C OF ACT NO. 81-889 WAS ADOPTED AND IS ATTACHED TO THE BILL, H.B. 45  
YEAS 102 NAYS 0  
JOHN TREADWELL, Clerk

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE NOTICE & PROOF IS ATTACHED TO THE BILL, H.B. \_\_\_\_\_ AS REQUIRED IN THE GENERAL ACTS OF ALABAMA, 1975 ACT NO. 919.  
JOHN TREADWELL, Clerk

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE  
House Conferees \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORS