

By: Huberty

H.B. No. 3476

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to cardiac assessments of high school participants in extracurricular athletic activities sponsored or sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.095 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.095. CARDIAC ASSESSMENTS OF HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES. (a) A school district must require a district student who is required under University Interscholastic League rule or policy to receive a physical examination before being allowed to participate in an athletic activity sponsored or sanctioned by the University Interscholastic League to also have administered to the student an electrocardiogram before being allowed to participate in the activity, including a practice for the activity, as follows:

(1) one time before the student's first year of participation at the ninth grade level or above; and

(2) another time before the student's third year of participation.

(b) This section does not create a cause of action or liability against an appropriately licensed or certified health care professional, a school district, or a district officer or employee for the injury or death of a student participating in or

1 practicing for an athletic activity sponsored or sanctioned by the
2 University Interscholastic League based on or in connection with
3 the administration or evaluation of or reliance on an
4 electrocardiogram or on an echocardiogram.

5 (c) The University Interscholastic League shall adopt rules
6 as necessary to administer this section.

7 (d) The rules adopted under Subsection (c) must include:

8 (1) criteria under which a school district may
9 demonstrate a hardship that allows the district to delay the
10 required electrocardiograms to students under this section; and

11 (2) provisions that allow for granting a waiver from
12 administration of an electrocardiogram under this section to a
13 student if, for any reason, the parent of or a person standing in
14 parental relation to the student submits a written request for the
15 waiver.

16 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2018-2019
17 school year.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.