

Michael A. Vereb
*Republican Leadership
Caucus Secretary*



**150th Legislative
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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Mike Vereb
Date: May 26, 2011
Re: Proposed Legislation ~ Sudden Cardiac Arrest(SCA) Prevention Act

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is the leading cause of death in young athletes. It is estimated that as many as 300 high school athletes die from SCA in the United States each year. SCA often occurs with little warning, when the heart's electrical system stops working and the blood is no longer pumped throughout the body. While the trend toward survival is improving, because of increased access to external automatic defibrillators, it is also imperative that we ensure emergency plans are in place and related personnel are adequately trained to recognize the symptoms of SCA.

I will soon be introducing legislation that will require that if an athlete exhibits signs or symptoms of SCA while participating in an athletic activity or is known to have exhibited signs or symptoms of SCA prior to or following an athletic activity, the athlete will be removed from play until they provide written approval from an appropriate healthcare professional. In addition, this legislation will require the Departments of Health and Education to educate athletes, parents and coaches on SCA and to provide materials developed by organizations such as Parent Heart Watch and Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes.

I believe we must take the steps necessary to assure the health of our children. If you would like to cosponsor this piece of legislation, please contact Julianne Naccarato of my office via phone 705-7164 or email jnaccara@pahousegop.com.