AN ACT

Amending the act of May 30, 2012 (P.L.574, No.59), entitled "An act establishing standards for preventing sudden cardiac arrest and death in student athletes; assigning duties to the Department of Health and the Department of Education; and imposing penalties," further providing for sudden cardiac arrest.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 3 heading, (a) and (b) of the act of May 30, 2012 (P.L.574, No.59), known as the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act, are amended to read:

Section 3. Sudden cardiac arrest and electrocardiogram testing.

(a) Educational materials.--

(1) The department and the Department of Education shall develop and post on their publicly accessible Internet websites guidelines and other relevant materials to inform and educate students participating in or desiring to participate in an athletic activity, their parents and their coaches about [the]:

(i) The nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac
arrest, including the risks associated with continuing to play or practice after experiencing one or more symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest, including fainting, difficulty breathing, chest pains, dizziness and abnormal racing heart rate.

(ii) Information about electrocardiogram testing.

(iii) The option to request the administration of an electrocardiogram, in addition to the comprehensive initial preparticipation physical examination.

(2) In developing the guidelines and materials, the department and the Department of Education may utilize existing materials developed by organizations such as Parent Heart Watch and Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes.

(3) A student participating in or desiring to participate in an athletic activity and the student's parent or guardian shall, each school year and prior to participation by the student in an athletic activity, sign and return to the student's school an acknowledgment of receipt and review of a sudden cardiac arrest symptoms and warning signs information sheet that includes information about electrocardiogram testing developed under this subsection.

(b) Informational meeting.--A school entity may hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all ages of competitors regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest and information about electrocardiogram testing. In addition to students, parents, coaches and other school officials, informational meetings may include physicians, pediatric cardiologists and athletic trainers.
Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.