

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 187

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BECK.

0742S.01H

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 167, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the care of students with epilepsy or seizure disorders, with an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 167, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 167.625, to read as follows:

167.625. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as "Will's Law".

2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Individualized emergency health care plan", a document developed by a school nurse, in consultation with a student's parent and other appropriate medical professionals, that is consistent with the recommendations of the student's health care providers, that describes procedural guidelines that provide specific directions about what to do in a particular emergency situation, and that is signed by the parent and the school nurse or the school administrator or the administrator's designee in the absence of the school nurse;

(2) "Individualized health care plan", a document developed by a school nurse, in consultation with a student's parent and other appropriate medical professionals who may be providing epilepsy or seizure disorder care to the student, that is consistent with the recommendations of

19 the student's health care providers, that describes the
20 health services needed by the student at school, and that is
21 signed by the parent and the school nurse or the school
22 administrator or the administrator's designee in the absence
23 of the school nurse;

24 (3) "Parent", a parent, guardian, or other person
25 having charge, control, or custody of a student;

26 (4) "School", any public elementary or secondary
27 school or charter school;

28 (5) "School employee", a person employed by a school;

29 (6) "Student", a student who has epilepsy or a seizure
30 disorder and who attends a school.

31 3. (1) The parent of a student who seeks epilepsy or
32 seizure disorder care while at school shall inform the
33 school nurse or the school administrator or the
34 administrator's designee in the absence of the school
35 nurse. The school nurse shall develop an individualized
36 health care plan and an individualized emergency health care
37 plan for the student. The parent of the student shall
38 annually provide to the school written authorization for the
39 provision of epilepsy or seizure disorder care as described
40 in the individualized plans.

41 (2) The individualized plans developed under
42 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be updated by the
43 school nurse before the beginning of each school year and as
44 necessary if there is a change in the health status of the
45 student.

46 (3) Each individualized health care plan shall, and
47 each individualized emergency health care plan may, include
48 but not be limited to the following information:

49 (a) A notice about the student's condition for all
50 school employees who interact with the student;

51 (b) Written orders from the student's physician or
52 advanced practice nurse describing the epilepsy or seizure
53 disorder care;

54 (c) The symptoms of the epilepsy or seizure disorder
55 for that particular student and recommended care;

56 (d) Whether the student may fully participate in
57 exercise and sports, and any contraindications to exercise
58 or accommodations that shall be made for that particular
59 student;

60 (e) Accommodations for school trips, after-school
61 activities, class parties, and other school-related
62 activities;

63 (f) Information for such school employees about how to
64 recognize and provide care for epilepsy and seizure
65 disorders, epilepsy and seizure disorder first aid training,
66 when to call for assistance, emergency contact information,
67 and parent contact information;

68 (g) Medical and treatment issues that may affect the
69 educational process of the student;

70 (h) The student's ability to manage, and the student's
71 level of understanding of, the student's epilepsy or seizure
72 disorder; and

73 (i) How to maintain communication with the student,
74 the student's parent and health care team, the school nurse
75 or the school administrator or the administrator's designee
76 in the absence of the school nurse, and the school employees.

77 4. (1) The school nurse assigned to a particular
78 school or the school administrator or the administrator's
79 designee in the absence of the school nurse shall coordinate
80 the provision of epilepsy and seizure disorder care at that
81 school and ensure that all school employees are trained
82 every two years in the care of students with epilepsy and

83 seizure disorders including, but not limited to, school
84 employees working with school-sponsored programs outside of
85 the regular school day, as provided in the student's
86 individualized plans.

87 (2) The training required under subdivision (1) of
88 this subsection shall include an online or in-person course
89 of instruction approved by the department of elementary and
90 secondary education that is provided by a reputable health
91 care organization or nonprofit national organization that
92 supports the welfare of individuals with epilepsy and
93 seizure disorders.

94 5. The school nurse or the school administrator or the
95 administrator's designee in the absence of the school nurse
96 shall obtain a release from a student's parent to authorize
97 the sharing of medical information between the student's
98 physician or advanced practice nurse and other health care
99 providers. The release shall also authorize the school
100 nurse or the school administrator or the administrator's
101 designee in the absence of the school nurse to share medical
102 information with other school employees in the school
103 district as necessary. No sharing of information under this
104 subsection shall be construed to be a violation of the
105 federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
106 of 1996 (HIPAA) (Pub. L. 104-191), as amended, if a
107 student's parent has provided a release under this
108 subsection.

109 6. No school employee including, but not limited to, a
110 school nurse, a school bus driver, a school bus aide, or any
111 other officer or agent of a school shall be held liable for
112 any good faith act or omission consistent with the
113 provisions of this section, nor shall an action before the
114 state board of nursing lie against a school nurse for any

115 such action taken by a school employee trained in good faith
116 by the school nurse under this section. "Good faith" shall
117 not be construed to include willful misconduct, gross
118 negligence, or recklessness.

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to
2 provide individualized care plans for students with epilepsy
3 or seizure disorders who attend public schools, section A of
4 this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation
5 of the public health, welfare, peace and safety, and is
6 hereby declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of
7 the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full
8 force and effect upon its passage and approval.

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