

# SENATE, No. 631

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ROBERT M. GORDON**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires all students enrolled in grade eight to have certain physical examination that includes cardiac component.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning physicals for certain students and  
2 supplementing chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. a. The board of education of a public school district and the  
9 governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school  
10 shall require that each student enrolled in grade 8 have a physical  
11 examination using the “Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” form  
12 developed pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2013, c.71  
13 (C.18A:40-41.7). The licensed physician, advanced practice nurse,  
14 or physician assistant who performs the physical examination shall  
15 sign the form’s certification statement attesting to the completion of  
16 the professional development module developed pursuant to  
17 subsection a. of section 3 of P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41d). The  
18 board of education of a public school district and the governing  
19 board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall  
20 retain the original signed statement to attest to the qualifications of  
21 the health care practitioner to perform the physical examination  
22 required pursuant to this subsection.

23 b. A student enrolled in grade 8 who participates on a school-  
24 sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad shall  
25 satisfy the requirements of subsection a. of this section in  
26 accordance with the provisions of the “Scholastic Student-Athlete  
27 Safety Act,” P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.6 et seq.).

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29 2. This act shall take effect in the first full school year  
30 following the enactment of this act.

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STATEMENT

35 Under current law, P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.6 et al.) and  
36 State Board of Education regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:16-2.2(h), a  
37 school district and nonpublic school require that prior to the  
38 participation of any student enrolled in grades six through 12 on a  
39 school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or  
40 squad, the student must have a physical examination using the  
41 “Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” form. The law specifies that  
42 the physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant who  
43 conducts the physical must have completed a Student-Athlete  
44 Cardiac Screening professional development module to increase the  
45 assessment skills of those health care practitioners. That training  
46 module emphasizes the ability to recognize and identify symptoms  
47 of cardiac disease and cardiac abnormalities among students.

**S631 GORDON**

1       This bill requires that every student enrolled in grade eight in a  
2 public or nonpublic school undergo a physical examination using  
3 the “Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” form. The licensed  
4 physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant who  
5 performs the physical examination will sign the form’s certification  
6 statement attesting to the completion of the professional  
7 development module developed pursuant to current law. The  
8 school will retain the original signed statement to attest to the  
9 qualifications of the health care practitioner to perform the physical  
10 examination.