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# SAFE PLAY Act 2020

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**Section 1:** Short title – “Supporting Athletes, Families, and Educators to Protect the Lives of Athletic Youth Act” or the “SAFE PLAY Act.”

**Section 2:** Amends the Public Health Service Act and directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to work with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address cardiac health issues in children. The purpose is to increase public education and awareness of cardiac conditions in children through the gathering of various educational materials.

- Resources include cardiac arrest and cardiomyopathy risk assessment worksheets and recommendations on how local educational agencies can develop cardiac emergency response plans.
- Materials circulate to educational faculty members, coaches, families, and other relevant entities.
- Establishes an advisory panel of individuals from patient advocacy groups, medical professional societies, and appropriate federal agencies, and relevant information is to be also disseminated to health departments and posted online.
- Authorizes grants for eligible local educational agencies and schools to purchase AEDs and implement CPR and AED training courses.
- Data is continuously collected on the effectiveness of the program, and there is a provision to include cardiac conditions in current CDC research.

**Section 3:** Addresses concussions in childhood athletes. It amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require local educational agencies to implement action plans on concussion safety.

- Requires schools to post information on detecting concussions, and it outlines appropriate action when a student is suspected to have sustained a concussion during a school-sponsored activity.
- Schools must also have a concussion management team that ensures students with concussions receive adequate academic support.

**Section 4:** Focuses on heat-related illnesses in youth athletes. It amends Part E of Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, calling on the Secretary of Education to consult with the Secretary of HHS and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration develop and disseminate public education and awareness materials to schools, faculty, coaches, and other relevant individuals.

- Resources include information on excessive heat or humidity health risks, recommendations on avoiding heat-related illnesses, and outlines for safe levels of athletic activity during times of excessive heat.
- Schools are required to develop and implement an “excessive heat action plan” for school-sponsored activities during times of excessive heat.

**Section 5:** Details developing guidelines on administering emergency action plans.

- Directs the CDC and the Department of Education to develop guidelines for emergency action plans for youth athletics including the identification of an emergency, procedures for such an emergency, and instructions for medical care.

**Section 6:** Outlines energy drink use by youth athletes and authorizes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to develop information and definitions on the ingredients in such drinks.

- Directs the FDA and CDC to develop and disseminate guidelines about ingredients used in energy drinks, side effects of consumption, and safe energy drink consumption for youth participating in athletic activities.

**Section 7:** Calls for an expansion of CDC research on the safety of youth athletes, later reported to Congress.

- Report will include:
  - Fatalities that occur while youths participate in athletic activity and the cause of death.
  - Number of catastrophic injuries while youths participate in athletic activity and the cause of injury.
  - Surveillance data on cardiac conditions, concussions, heat-related illness among youth athletes.
  - Effectiveness of CPR and AED use in cardiac emergencies among youth athletes.