



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA  
Department of Education

May 31, 2013

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT: 2013 School Health Legislative Changes**

The purpose of this memo is to inform you of several changes in school health laws passed by the 2013 General Assembly. Eating disorders, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) requirements, and employees given authority to possess and administer epinephrine were all addressed in this session.

House Bill 1406 requires school divisions to provide information on eating disorders to parents/guardians of students in grades five through twelve, inclusive, on an annual basis. The Virginia Department of Education has been working with the Virginia Department of Health and other stakeholders to develop guidance and resources for local school divisions to implement this requirement. A Superintendent's Memo will be released by July 1, 2013, with greater detail. The language of this bill may be found at: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?131+ful+CHAP0715>.

Senate Bill 2028/HB 986 (identical bills), in part, amend the *Code of Virginia* § 22.1-274(E) by increasing the number of employees in each school that must be trained or certified in CPR and first aid from two(2) to three(3). In addition, Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training or certification has been added to the Code requirement. Additional information specific to teacher licensure addressed in this bill was provided in Superintendent's Memo #124-13, May 10, 2013. Senate bill 2028 may be found at: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?131+ful+CHAP0498>.

Finally, House Bill 1468 adds employees of local governing bodies and the local health department to those with the authority to possess and administer epinephrine according to local school board policy. As school divisions implemented the anaphylaxis/epinephrine bill passed by the 2012 General Assembly, it became apparent that certain groups of providers contracted to deliver health services in schools were not given the authority to possess and administer epinephrine in the school setting. House Bill 1468 addresses that omission. Exact wording of the bill may be found at: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?131+ful+CHAP0336>.

Should you have any further questions, please contact Tia Campbell, school health specialist, at 804-786-8671, or by e-mail at [tia.campbell@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:tia.campbell@doe.virginia.gov).

PIW/TC