Requires all students enrolled in grade eight to have certain physical examination that includes cardiac component.
AN ACT concerning physicals for certain students and supplemen
ting chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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

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

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

STATEMENT

Under current law, P.L.2013, c.71 (C.18A:40-41.6 et al.) and State Board of Education regulations at N.J.A.C.6A:16-2.2(h), a school district and nonpublic school require that prior to the participation of any student enrolled in grades six through 12 on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad, the student must have a physical examination using the “Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” form. The law specifies that the physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant who conducts the physical must have completed a Student-Athlete Cardiac Screening professional development module to increase the assessment skills of those health care practitioners. That training module emphasizes the ability to recognize and identify symptoms of cardiac disease and cardiac abnormalities among students.
This bill requires that every student enrolled in grade eight in a public or nonpublic school undergo a physical examination using the “Preparticipation Physical Evaluation” form. The licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant who performs the physical examination will sign the form’s certification statement attesting to the completion of the professional development module developed pursuant to current law. The school will retain the original signed statement to attest to the qualifications of the health care practitioner to perform the physical examination.