

**SB52 INTRODUCED**



1 HGMT38-1  
2 By Senator Orr  
3 RFD: Education Policy  
4 First Read: 07-Mar-23  
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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the Alabama Safe at Schools Act provides that certain school personnel may be trained to administer injectable medication to a student with diabetes.

This bill would amend the Alabama Safe at Schools Act to apply to students with an adrenal insufficiency.

This bill would allow certain school personnel to be trained to administer injectable medication to a student with an adrenal insufficiency.

This bill would require the State Board of Education to develop guidelines for the training of school employees in the care needed to treat students with an adrenal insufficiency, and would require local boards of education to provide that training.

This bill would also prohibit a student with an adrenal insufficiency from being excluded from public school or extra-curricular activities because of his or her medical condition.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT



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30           Relating to the Alabama Safe at Schools Act; to add  
31 Section 16-30A-3.1 to the Code of Alabama 1975 and to amend  
32 Sections 16-30A-5 and 16-30A-7, Code of Alabama 1975; to  
33 include adrenal insufficiency as a condition for which the  
34 State Board of Education is required to develop guidelines to  
35 train school employees under the act; to authorize certain  
36 school employees to administer injectable medications to  
37 students with an adrenal insufficiency; and to require local  
38 boards of education to ensure that students with an adrenal  
39 insufficiency have their medical needs met and are not  
40 excluded from certain activities.

41 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

42           Section 1. Section 16-30A-3.1 is added to the Code of  
43 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

44           §16-30A-3.1

45           (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "adrenal  
46 insufficiency" means a hormonal disorder that occurs when the  
47 adrenal glands do not produce enough hormones.

48           (b) No later than the beginning of the 2024-2025 school  
49 year, the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
50 Alabama Board of Nursing, shall develop guidelines for the  
51 training of school employees in the necessary care for  
52 students with medical needs related to an adrenal  
53 insufficiency according to the student's Individual Health  
54 Plan. The medical authorizations earned from the training



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55 shall be limited to permitting the administration of  
56 injectable medications specific to the adrenal insufficiency  
57 of the student. The guidelines shall be developed in  
58 consideration of the recommendations of the American Academy  
59 of Pediatrics and other appropriate published medical  
60 guidelines relating to adrenal insufficiency, as approved by  
61 the State Board of Education and the Board of Nursing. Each  
62 local board of education shall ensure that adrenal  
63 insufficiency training programs are provided for all school  
64 nurses and unlicensed medication assistants at schools under  
65 its jurisdiction.

66 (c) (1) The lead nurse of a school system, in  
67 consultation with the local superintendent of education, may  
68 recommend that school nurses be placed at particular schools  
69 based on the Individual Health Plans of students with adrenal  
70 insufficiency and the overall health needs of students.

71 (2) Each local board of education shall ensure that  
72 each student in the school system with an adrenal  
73 insufficiency receives appropriate care as specified in his or  
74 her Individual Health Plan.

75 (d) No school employee shall be required to serve as an  
76 unlicensed medication assistant or be subject to any penalty  
77 or disciplinary action for refusing to serve as an unlicensed  
78 medication assistant. The decision of a school employee to



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79     serve or not to serve as an unlicensed medication assistant  
80     may not be considered in any employment decision including,  
81     but not limited to, termination, non-renewal of contract,  
82     reduction-in-force, or transfer. No school administrator or  
83     supervisor shall threaten, harass, or otherwise coerce a  
84     school employee into serving as an unlicensed medication  
85     assistant.

86             (e) The parent or guardian of each student who is  
87     identified as having an adrenal insufficiency shall submit an  
88     order to be considered in the development of the student's  
89     Individual Health Plan pursuant to Section 16-30A-4.

90             (f) A private K-12 school may provide training for  
91     employees and care for students who have an adrenal  
92     insufficiency in accordance with this chapter.

93             Section 2. Sections 16-30A-5 and 16-30A-7, Code of  
94     Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

95             "§16-30A-5

96             (a) The local board of education shall ensure that each  
97     student in the school or system with a diabetic condition or  
98     an adrenal insufficiency receives appropriate care as  
99     specified in his or her Individual Health Plan.

100            (b) The school nurse or a trained unlicensed medication  
101     assistant, to the extent required by the student's Individual  
102     Health Plan, shall be on site and available to provide care to



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103 each student with diabetes or an adrenal insufficiency during  
104 regular school hours and school-sponsored before school and  
105 after school care programs, during field trips, extended  
106 off-site excursions, extracurricular activities in which the  
107 student is a direct participant, and on buses when the bus  
108 driver is not a trained unlicensed medication assistant."

109 "§16-30A-7

110 (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "medical  
111 condition" refers to a diabetic condition or an adrenal  
112 insufficiency.

113 (b) A student with ~~diabetes~~ a medical condition in  
114 public school may attend the school the student would  
115 otherwise attend if the student did not have ~~diabetes~~ that  
116 medical condition, and the ~~diabetes~~ medical care specified in  
117 Section 16-30A-5 shall be provided at the school. A school  
118 system may not restrict a student who has ~~diabetes~~ a medical  
119 condition from attending any school on the basis ~~that the~~  
120 ~~student has diabetes~~ of that medical condition, that the  
121 school does not have a full-time school nurse, or that the  
122 school does not have trained unlicensed medication assistants.  
123 A student with ~~diabetes~~ a medical condition may participate in  
124 extracurricular and co-curricular activities to the same  
125 extent as a student without ~~diabetes~~ a medical condition. In  
126 addition, a school shall not require or pressure parents or



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127 guardians to provide care for a student with ~~diabetes~~ a  
128 medical condition at school or at school-sponsored activities  
129 in which the student is a direct participant as set forth in  
130 Section 16-30A-5. However, if the parent or guardian of a  
131 student with ~~diabetes~~ a medical condition does not supply the  
132 medication, the order from a physician, certified registered  
133 nurse practitioner operating under a valid collaborative  
134 agreement, or physician assistant operating under a valid  
135 supervisory agreement, supplies, or a signed parental and  
136 prescriber authorization, the parent or guardian shall be  
137 responsible for providing ~~diabetic~~ medical care to the student  
138 at school or at school-sponsored activities in which the  
139 student is a direct participant."

140 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the first  
141 day of the third month following its passage and approval by  
142 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.