

**Senate File 111 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 111  
BY DRISCOLL

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to school personnel training, emergency care  
2 planning, authorizations for assisting, and limitations of  
3 liability concerning students with epilepsy or a seizure  
4 disorder.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **280.13D Seizure action plan and**  
2 **training requirements.**

3 1. For the purposes of this section, unless the context  
4 otherwise requires:

5 a. "*Individual health plan*" means the confidential, written,  
6 preplanned, and ongoing special health service developed for a  
7 student who requires such service to be incorporated with the  
8 student's educational program.

9 b. "*School nurse*" means a registered nurse holding current  
10 licensure recognized by the board of nursing who practices in  
11 the school setting to promote and protect the health of the  
12 school population by using knowledge from the nursing, social,  
13 and public health sciences.

14 c. "*School personnel*" means principals, guidance counselors,  
15 teachers, and other relevant employees who have direct contact  
16 with and supervise children, including school bus drivers and  
17 para-educators.

18 d. "*Seizure action plan*" means a written set of instructions  
19 designed to direct caregivers and staff to intervene in the event  
20 of a seizure occurrence and is considered a plan for emergencies  
21 as a part of an individual health plan.

22 2. a. Starting with the school year beginning July 1,  
23 2025, the board of directors of each school district and the  
24 authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school shall  
25 have at least one school employee at each school who has met the  
26 training requirements necessary to administer or assist with the  
27 self-administration of all of the following:

28 (1) A medication approved by the United States food and drug  
29 administration to treat seizure disorder symptoms or a medication  
30 approved by the United States food and drug administration as a  
31 seizure rescue medication.

32 (2) A manual dose of prescribed electrical stimulation using  
33 a vagus nerve stimulator magnet approved by the United States  
34 food and drug administration.

35 b. The presence of a school nurse employed full-time by

1 a school district or accredited nonpublic school who assumes  
2 responsibility for the administration of seizure medications and  
3 the administration oversight of vagus nerve stimulation shall  
4 fulfill the requirements of paragraph "a". This section shall  
5 not be construed to require school personnel, other than a school  
6 nurse, to administer a suppository to a student.

7 3. a. On or before December 31, 2026, each public school and  
8 each accredited nonpublic school shall provide training to all  
9 school personnel on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of  
10 seizures and the appropriate steps for seizure first aid.

11 b. Each public school and each accredited nonpublic school  
12 shall require school personnel responsible for the supervision  
13 or care of students to undergo seizure recognition and first aid  
14 training on a biennial basis.

15 4. Any training programs or guidelines adopted by a state  
16 agency for the training of school personnel in the health care  
17 needs of students diagnosed with a seizure disorder shall be  
18 consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the  
19 epilepsy foundation of America or any successor organization.

20 5. This section shall not be construed to limit the authority  
21 of a school district, an accredited nonpublic school, or the  
22 department of education to require additional seizure disorder  
23 training.

24 6. a. Prior to school personnel administering medication  
25 prescribed to treat a student's seizure disorder symptoms, a  
26 school or accredited nonpublic school shall obtain a signed and  
27 dated authorization from the student's parent or guardian that  
28 authorizes a person who meets the requirements of subsection 2 to  
29 administer medication in accordance with the school's policy and  
30 procedures.

31 b. Authorizations required pursuant to paragraph "a" shall  
32 be effective for the school year in which the authorization is  
33 granted and must be renewed each school year.

34 7. Upon the request of a student's parent or guardian, a  
35 school district or accredited nonpublic school shall collaborate

1 with the parent or guardian and relevant licensed health care  
2 professionals, including the school nurse or education team, in  
3 the development of an individual health plan, and a seizure  
4 action plan if appropriate, consistent with rules adopted by  
5 the state board of education. The individual health plan or  
6 seizure action plan shall be based on the student's needs and  
7 may include but is not limited to assessment, nursing diagnosis,  
8 outcomes, planning, interventions, student goals, and a plan for  
9 emergencies to provide direction in managing the student's health  
10 needs. The plan shall be updated consistent with timelines for  
11 individual health plans and with rules adopted by the state board  
12 of education.

13 8. a. Each school district and each accredited nonpublic  
14 school shall maintain all authorizations pursuant to subsection  
15 6, individual health plans, and seizure action plans for enrolled  
16 students on file in the office of the school nurse or school  
17 administrator.

18 b. Each school district and each accredited nonpublic school  
19 shall distribute information regarding a student's seizure action  
20 plan to any school personnel responsible for the supervision or  
21 care of the student.

22 9. The requirements of subsections 6, 7, and 8 shall only  
23 apply to a school district or accredited nonpublic school that  
24 has either of the following:

25 a. An enrolled student with a known diagnosis of epilepsy or  
26 seizure disorder.

27 b. An enrolled student who is known to currently be taking  
28 medication prescribed by a health care provider as that term is  
29 defined in section 10A.711, and approved by the United States  
30 food and drug administration to treat seizure disorder symptoms.

31 10. The state board of education shall adopt rules to  
32 establish a seizure education program for the purpose of  
33 providing school districts and accredited nonpublic schools an  
34 age-appropriate program on seizures and seizure disorders. The  
35 seizure education program shall be consistent with guidelines

1 published by the epilepsy foundation of America or any successor  
2 organization, and participation in the program shall be optional.

3 11. A school district or accredited nonpublic school, an  
4 employee of a school district or accredited nonpublic school,  
5 or an agent of a school district or accredited nonpublic  
6 school acting in good faith and in compliance with a student's  
7 individual health plan and seizure action plan shall not be  
8 liable for any claim for injuries or damages arising from actions  
9 taken to assist a student with the student's needs related to  
10 epilepsy or a seizure disorder.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill relates to school personnel training, emergency  
15 care planning, authorizations for assisting, and limitations  
16 of liability concerning students with epilepsy or a seizure  
17 disorder.

18 The bill creates definitions for "individual health plan",  
19 "school nurse", "school personnel", and "seizure action plan".

20 The bill requires by the start of the school year beginning  
21 July 1, 2025, for the board of directors of each school district  
22 and the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school  
23 to have at least one school employee at each school who has  
24 met the training requirements necessary to administer or assist  
25 with the self-administration of a seizure rescue medication or  
26 medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms and  
27 approved by the United States food and drug administration  
28 and a manual dose of prescribed electrical stimulation using  
29 a vagus nerve stimulator magnet approved by the United States  
30 food and drug administration. The presence of a school nurse  
31 employed full-time by a school who assumes responsibility for  
32 the administration of seizure medications and the administration  
33 oversight of vagus nerve stimulation fulfills such requirements.  
34 These requirements do not require school personnel, other than a  
35 school nurse, to administer a suppository to a student.

1 The bill requires by December 31, 2026, each public school  
2 and each accredited nonpublic school to provide training to all  
3 school personnel on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of  
4 seizures and the appropriate steps for seizure first aid.

5 The bill requires each public school and each accredited  
6 nonpublic school to have school personnel responsible for the  
7 supervision or care of students to undergo seizure recognition  
8 and first aid training on a biennial basis.

9 The bill requires any training programs or guidelines adopted  
10 by a state agency for the training of school personnel in  
11 the health care needs of students diagnosed with a seizure  
12 disorder to be consistent with training programs and guidelines  
13 developed by the epilepsy foundation of America or any successor  
14 organization.

15 The bill authorizes schools and the department of education to  
16 require additional seizure disorder training.

17 The bill requires, prior to school personnel administering  
18 medication prescribed to treat a student's seizure disorder  
19 symptoms, a school, or accredited nonpublic school to obtain  
20 signed and dated authorization from the student's parent or  
21 guardian that authorizes a person trained to administer or assist  
22 with the self-administration of a medication approved by the  
23 United States food and drug administration to treat seizure  
24 disorder symptoms and a manual dose of prescribed electrical  
25 stimulation using a vagus nerve stimulator magnet approved by  
26 the United States food and drug administration in accordance  
27 with the school's policy and procedures. Such authorizations  
28 are effective for the school year in which the authorization is  
29 granted and must be renewed each school year.

30 The bill requires, upon the request of a student's parent or  
31 guardian, a school to collaborate with the parent or guardian and  
32 relevant licensed health care professionals, including the school  
33 nurse or education team, in the development of an individual  
34 health plan, and a seizure action plan if appropriate, consistent  
35 with rules adopted by the state board of education. The

1 individual health plan or seizure action plan must be based  
2 on the student's needs and may include but is not limited to  
3 assessment, nursing diagnosis, outcomes, planning, interventions,  
4 student goals, and a plan for emergencies to provide direction in  
5 managing the student's health needs. The plan must be updated  
6 consistent with timelines for individual health plans and with  
7 rules adopted by the state board of education.

8 The bill requires each school to maintain all authorizations  
9 to allow seizure assistance, individual health plans, and seizure  
10 action plans for enrolled students on file in the office of the  
11 school nurse or school administrator.

12 The bill requires each school to distribute information  
13 regarding a student's seizure action plan to any school personnel  
14 responsible for the supervision or care of the student.

15 The bill limits the requirements relating to authorizations,  
16 individual health plans, and seizure action plans for students  
17 to schools that either have an enrolled student with a known  
18 diagnosis of epilepsy or seizure disorder or an enrolled student  
19 who is known to currently be taking medication prescribed by a  
20 health care provider and approved by the United States food and  
21 drug administration to treat seizure disorder symptoms.

22 The bill directs the state board of education to adopt rules  
23 to establish a seizure education program for the purpose of  
24 providing school districts and accredited nonpublic schools an  
25 age-appropriate program on seizures and seizure disorders. The  
26 seizure education program shall be consistent with guidelines  
27 published by the epilepsy foundation of America or any successor  
28 organization, and participation in the program shall be optional.

29 The bill makes a school, a school employee, or an agent  
30 of a school acting in good faith and in compliance with a  
31 student's individual health plan and seizure action plan immune  
32 from liability for any claim for injuries or damages arising  
33 from actions taken to assist a student with the student's needs  
34 related to epilepsy or a seizure disorder.