

## HB 675 -- Management of Diabetes in Public Schools

Sponsor: Grisamore

This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop guidelines by January 15, 2014, to train employees of public schools, including charter schools, in the care needed for students with diabetes. The adoption of the guidelines by a school district or charter school is optional. The guidelines will be developed in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, the State Board of Nursing, and other organizations with a school health or diabetes focus. The bill specifies the topics to be covered by the guidelines.

A school that participates in the program will ensure that a minimum of three school nurses or diabetes care employees receive the training; if three employees are not available for the training, the principal must seek for volunteers among all the staff members. Information for the announcement asking for volunteers is specified in the bill. Training must be coordinated by a school nurse and provided by a school nurse or health care professional with expertise in diabetes at the beginning of the school year or no later than 30 days following the enrollment or diagnosis of a student with diabetes. Schools may provide training to school personnel who have primary responsibility for supervising a student with diabetes, including bus drivers.

Parents or guardians should submit a diabetes medical management plan to the school when a student with diabetes seeks diabetes care at school. The school nurse or trained diabetes care personnel may perform the care, including before and after school and off-site activities.

A licensed health care professional may provide training or supervise school personnel. Any rights that a student has under federal law protecting persons with disabilities are not diminished by the bill.

Students with diabetes must attend the school they would otherwise attend if they did not have diabetes, and the diabetes care must be provided at that school. The school cannot restrict a student from attending any school on the basis of the student's having diabetes or because the school does not have a full-time nurse or trained personnel. The school must not require the parents to provide care at school.

If a parent requests in writing, and the student's diabetes medical management plan authorizes it, a student may perform his or her own glucose checks, administer insulin, and otherwise attend to his or

her own care. If the parent or student asks, access to a private area for these tasks must be provided.

No physician, nurse, school employee, charter school or school district will be civilly liable or subject to professional license disciplinary action for performing any activities authorized by the bill when acting as an ordinarily reasonably prudent person would.