



235 Promenade Street, Suite 455  
Providence, RI 02908  
401.274.1771  
[info@rihca.org](mailto:info@rihca.org)  
[www.rihca.org](http://www.rihca.org)

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Rhode Island State House of Representatives  
House Committee on Education  
(Submitted electronically via [HouseEducation@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseEducation@rilegislature.gov) )

Re: Oppose H7480

Dear Chairman McNamara and Members of the Committee:

Please accept the Rhode Island Health Center Association's letter of **opposition to House Bill 7480**, which would establish the Cardiac Safety Act.

The health of children is fundamental to their ability to grow, learn, and thrive. Routine screenings are an important in helping identify and address health concerns before they become more serious.

While we support the bill's intent to safeguard the safety of all children 19 years of age or younger participating in athletics, it fails to recognize the standard of care for pediatric cardiac screening.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends assessing for potential cardiac issues at every routine well-child visit, especially as children enter middle and high school. Furthermore, all youth, regardless of their participation in athletics, should be screened for the risk of a sudden cardiac event.

Established pediatric guidelines promote comprehensive, equitable screening practices for all youth. A policy framework that focuses solely on athletic participation may overlook at-risk youth who do not engage in organized sports. By following the standards of care, we ensure equitable and effective cardiac screening and pediatric care for all children, regardless of athletic involvement.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

*M Campbell*

Melissa Campbell  
Policy Manager