



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Amendment

LCO No. 6483

SB0120806483SR0

Offered by:
SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1208 File No. 414 Cal. No. 337

"AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (a) of section 52-557b of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
5 *passage*):

6 (a) A person licensed to practice medicine and surgery under the
7 provisions of chapter 370 or dentistry under the provisions of section
8 20-106 or members of the same professions licensed to practice in any
9 other state of the United States, a person licensed as a registered nurse
10 under section 20-93 or 20-94 or certified as a licensed practical nurse
11 under section 20-96 or 20-97, a medical technician or any person
12 operating a cardiopulmonary resuscitator or a person trained in
13 cardiopulmonary resuscitation [or in the use of an automatic external
14 defibrillator] in accordance with the standards set forth by the
15 American Red Cross or American Heart Association, who, voluntarily

16 and gratuitously and other than in the ordinary course of such person's
17 employment or practice, renders emergency medical or professional
18 assistance to a person in need thereof, shall not be liable to such person
19 assisted for civil damages for any personal injuries which result from
20 acts or omissions by such person in rendering the emergency care,
21 which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in
22 this subsection does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross,
23 wilful or wanton negligence. [For the purposes of this subsection,
24 "automatic external defibrillator" means a device that: (1) Is used to
25 administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart; (2)
26 contains internal decision-making electronics, microcomputers or
27 special software that allows it to interpret physiologic signals, make
28 medical diagnosis and, if necessary, apply therapy; (3) guides the user
29 through the process of using the device by audible or visual prompts;
30 and (4) does not require the user to employ any discretion or judgment
31 in its use.]

32 Sec. 502. Section 52-557b of the general statutes is amended by
33 adding subsection (h) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

34 (NEW) (h) Any paid firefighter or police officer operating an
35 automatic external defibrillator, if trained in the use of such device, or
36 any other individual operating an automatic external defibrillator,
37 who, voluntarily and gratuitously and other than in the ordinary
38 course of such individual's employment or practice, renders
39 emergency medical or professional assistance to a person in need
40 thereof, shall not be liable to such person assisted for civil damages for
41 any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions by such
42 firefighter, police officer or individual in rendering the emergency
43 care, which may constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity
44 provided in this subsection does not apply to acts or omissions
45 constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence. For the purposes of
46 this subsection, "automatic external defibrillator" means a device that:
47 (1) Is used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the
48 heart; (2) contains internal decision-making electronics,
49 microcomputers or special software that allows it to interpret

50 physiologic signals, make medical diagnosis and, if necessary, apply
51 therapy; (3) guides the user through the process of using the device by
52 audible or visual prompts; and (4) does not require the user to employ
53 any discretion or judgment in its use."