



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 1339

LCO No. 4458

04458 _____ PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 52-557b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2007*):

4 (a) A person licensed to practice medicine and surgery under the
5 provisions of chapter 370 or dentistry under the provisions of section
6 20-106 or members of the same professions licensed to practice in any
7 other state of the United States, a person licensed as a registered nurse
8 under section 20-93 or 20-94 or certified as a licensed practical nurse
9 under section 20-96 or 20-97, a medical technician or any person
10 operating a cardiopulmonary resuscitator or an automatic external
11 defibrillator, or a person trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation or
12 in the use of an automatic external defibrillator in accordance with the
13 standards set forth by the American Red Cross or American Heart
14 Association, who, voluntarily and gratuitously and other than in the
15 ordinary course of such person's employment or practice, renders
16 emergency medical or professional assistance to a person in need
17 thereof, shall not be liable to such person assisted for civil damages for

18 any personal injuries [which] that result from acts or omissions by
19 such person in rendering the emergency care, which may constitute
20 ordinary negligence. No person or entity that owns an automatic
21 external defibrillator shall be liable for civil damages for any personal
22 injuries that result from acts or omissions by any person in using such
23 automatic external defibrillator to render emergency care, which may
24 constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided in this
25 subsection does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross,
26 wilful or wanton negligence. Nothing in this subsection shall be
27 construed to exempt paid or volunteer firefighters, police officers or
28 emergency medical services personnel from completing training in
29 cardiopulmonary resuscitation or in the use of an automatic external
30 defibrillator in accordance with the standard set forth by the American
31 Red Cross or American Heart Association. For the purposes of this
32 subsection, "automatic external defibrillator" means a device that: (1) Is
33 used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart;
34 (2) contains internal decision-making electronics, microcomputers or
35 special software that allows it to interpret physiologic signals, make
36 medical diagnosis and, if necessary, apply therapy; (3) guides the user
37 through the process of using the device by audible or visual prompts;
38 and (4) does not require the user to employ any discretion or judgment
39 in its use.

40 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) Each public and private
41 school shall provide and maintain in a central location on the premises
42 of the school at least one automatic external defibrillator, as defined in
43 section 19a-175 of the general statutes.

44 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) Each public building
45 constructed on or after October 1, 2007, at a cost exceeding two million
46 dollars shall provide and maintain in a central location on its premises
47 at least one automatic external defibrillator, as defined in section 19a-
48 175 of the general statutes.

| | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2007</i> | 52-557b(a) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2007</i> | New section |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2007</i> | New section |

Statement of Purpose:

To require each school and public building to have at least one automatic external defibrillator on its premises and to provide immunity from liability to any person or entity that owns an automatic external defibrillator used to render emergency care.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]