

My name is Erin Halsey and I am here today on behalf of my 10 year old son Gavin...he was born with a congenital heart defect called aortic stenosis and has had 6 surgeries since he was born and has fought to survive...and I refuse to have him become a statistic because there was not an AED in his school.

- Children spend the majority of there day in school
- Sporting events take place at schools
- Concerts, plays, talent shows, Grandparents Day, Parent Teacher conferences, after school programs, summer programs, book fairs, bake sales, dances, auctions, PTO meetings...plus countless other events take place in our schools...

At any time, any body could collapse due to heart related incidents...I just pray to God it doesn't happen at a school in CT...or there is a very good chance the person won't survive...

Heart disease remains the number one killer...please don't let it take another life without careful consideration for this bill...I have been to the superintendent of schools in my town, I have spoken to the Mayor, I have talked with state representatives yet no AED exist in my town...they have been donated and denied, given and refused, all because of two things...ignorance and fear

I come here today for Gavin...and for Michael and for Louis and for any person that has or will spend time in a school...please don't let another life cease because of that ignorance and fear...AED's need to be available in our schools, and they are very easy to use and maintain...please don't let another person, especially child die a preventable death...this is just too important

Thank you for your time and attention