



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER DAVIS FIFTY-SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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PROUDLY SERVING
EAST WINDSOR AND ELLINGTON

RANKING MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

MEMBER
HOUSING COMMITTEE
INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Monday, February 23, 2015 Public Hearing Testimony Public Health Committee

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter, Senator Markley, and Representative Srinivasan, and members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Christopher Davis, and I represent the 57th Assembly District, which includes East Windsor and Ellington. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 684: AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING IN CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION.

Sadly, 70% of Americans feel helpless during a cardiac emergency either because they have never been taught how to administer CPR or their training has significantly lapsed. Research also shows that only a very small minority of cases can make it in time for treatment at the hospital, leading to upwards of 90% of all cardiac arrest cases being fatal. According to the American Heart Association, 88% of cardiac arrests happen at home. In these cases, CPR could double or even triple the chance of survival, yet only 32% of cardiac arrest victims get CPR outside the hospital. As a recent incident in my town of Ellington shows, CPR trained young people can help save lives throughout our state.

It is imperative that we look at CPR training in our schools and decrease the amount of unnecessary deaths as a result of inaction during a cardiac emergency. Instructing adolescents, and reinforcing training throughout high school, will not only serve as a valuable training mechanism, it will also build confidence in these skills and a sense of obligation to intervene should the need arise.

I urge the committee's favorable consideration of HB 687. We have the opportunity to make a difference in our communities and protect all of our loved ones from something as devastating as cardiac arrest.

Sincerely,

Christopher Davis
State Representative, 57th District