

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 19-105—sHB 6146
Public Health Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF CERTIFICATION COURSES IN CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION AND EDUCATION AND TRAINING COURSES IN THE USE OF AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF FIRST AID

SUMMARY: This act expands the list of organizations that may certify or train people in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or first aid for various purposes, such as (1) CPR certification required for lifeguards and (2) first aid training required to qualify for immunity under certain provisions of the Good Samaritan statute. It does so by allowing organizations to provide this training or certification if they use guidelines published by the American Heart Association (AHA) and either the American Red Cross (for first aid) or International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) (for CPR).

The act also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING TRAINING OR CERTIFICATION IN CPR AND FIRST AID

The table below lists the (1) contexts in which the act applies and (2) organizations or persons who may certify or train people in these contexts, both under the act and under existing law.

CPR and First Aid Training or Certification

Act §	Context of Training or Certification	Training or Certification Organizations
1	Required CPR certification for lifeguards (The Department of Public Health (DPH) must adopt regulations to this effect.)	Organizations added by the act: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Those using guidelines for CPR and emergency cardiovascular care published by the AHA and ILCOR Organizations listed in existing law: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AHA• American Red Cross• American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI)

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Act §	Context of Training or Certification	Training or Certification Organizations
2	<p>Civil immunity for certain trained persons for ordinary negligence when providing emergency first aid</p> <p>This applies to firefighters, police officers, teachers or other school personnel, ski patrol members, lifeguards, conservation officers, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection patrol and special police officers, or emergency medical services personnel, who have completed a first aid course certified by the organization offering the course.</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using first aid guidelines published by the AHA and the American Red Cross <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross • DPH • Local health director • National Ski Patrol
2	<p>Civil immunity for trained employees of a railroad company, including commuter rail line, for ordinary negligence when providing emergency first aid or CPR</p> <p>This applies if the employee completed a first aid course certified by the organization offering the course.</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using first aid guidelines published by the AHA and the American Red Cross <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross • DPH • Local health director • National Ski Patrol
3	<p>Civil immunity for trained persons for ordinary negligence when providing emergency assistance by use of a cartridge injector, voluntarily and not in the ordinary course of their employment or practice and not for compensation</p> <p>This applies if the person completed a first aid course certified by the organization offering the course. (Under existing law and the act, the immunity also applies if the person was trained to use a cartridge injector by a qualifying medical professional.)</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using first aid guidelines published by the AHA and the American Red Cross <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross • DPH • Local health director • National Ski Patrol

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Act §	Context of Training or Certification	Training or Certification Organizations
4	<p>Child care center staffing requirements for CPR-certified employees (The Office of Early Childhood must adopt regulations setting such appropriate requirements.)</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using guidelines for CPR and emergency cardiovascular care published by the AHA and ILCOR <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross • ASHI • Medic First Aid International • National Safety Council
5	<p>Required first aid course for qualified educators and lifeguards monitoring school swimming pools</p> <p>Prior law required these individuals to be certified in CPR pursuant to DPH regulations. The act instead requires them to be certified pursuant to the statute on lifeguard certification (see section 1 above).</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using first aid guidelines published by the AHA and the American Red Cross <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross • DPH • Local health director
6	<p>Required first aid course for staff members of before or after school programs, day camps, and child care facilities who are trained to administer medication with a cartridge injector to a child with a diagnosed allergic condition (As under existing law, the course is not required if the staff member has been trained to use such an injector by a qualifying medical professional.)</p> <p>By law, such staff members are granted civil immunity for ordinary negligence when providing emergency assistance with a cartridge injector (see § 3 of the act, CGS § 52-557b(h)).</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using first aid guidelines published by the AHA and the American Red Cross <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross • DPH • Local health director • National Ski Patrol
7	<p>Required basic first aid certification for tattoo technician licensure</p>	<p>Organizations added by the act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those using first aid guidelines published by the AHA and the American Red Cross <p>Organizations listed in existing law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHA • American Red Cross