



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 7190

LCO No. 4626



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT EXTENDING GOOD SAMARITAN PROTECTIONS FOR PERSONS OR ENTITIES THAT INCLUDE AN OPIOID ANTAGONIST WITHIN A CABINET CONTAINING AN AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR.

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*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, 2019*):

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 a person trained in
11 cardiopulmonary resuscitation in accordance with the guidelines set
12 forth by the American Red Cross or American Heart Association, or a
13 person operating an automatic external defibrillator, who, voluntarily

14 and gratuitously and other than in the ordinary course of such person's
15 employment or practice, renders emergency medical or professional
16 assistance to a person in need thereof, shall not be liable to such person
17 assisted for civil damages for any personal injuries which result from
18 acts or omissions by such person in rendering the emergency care,
19 which may constitute ordinary negligence. A person or entity that
20 provides or maintains an automatic external defibrillator shall not be
21 liable for the acts or omissions of [the] such person or entity in
22 providing or maintaining the automatic external defibrillator, which
23 may constitute ordinary negligence. A person or entity that provides
24 or maintains an automatic external defibrillator in a cabinet, which also
25 contains an opioid antagonist used to treat or prevent a drug overdose,
26 shall not be liable for the acts or omissions of such person or entity in
27 making available the opioid antagonist, which may constitute ordinary
28 negligence. The immunity provided in this subsection does not apply
29 to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence.
30 With respect to the use of an automatic external defibrillator, the
31 immunity provided in this subsection shall only apply to acts or
32 omissions involving the use of an automatic external defibrillator in
33 the rendering of emergency care. Nothing in this subsection shall be
34 construed to exempt paid or volunteer firefighters, police officers or
35 emergency medical services personnel from completing training in
36 cardiopulmonary resuscitation or in the use of an automatic external
37 defibrillator in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the
38 American Red Cross or American Heart Association. For the purposes
39 of this subsection, "automatic external defibrillator" means a device
40 that: (1) Is used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall
41 to the heart; (2) contains internal decision-making electronics,
42 microcomputers or special software that allows it to interpret
43 physiologic signals, make medical diagnosis and, if necessary, apply
44 therapy; (3) guides the user through the process of using the device by
45 audible or visual prompts; and (4) does not require the user to employ
46 any discretion or judgment in its use.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2019	52-557b(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To extend good samaritan protections to persons or entities that include an opioid antagonist within a cabinet containing an automatic external defibrillator.

[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.]