



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1685

PRINTER'S NO. 3480

PRIME SPONSOR: Brennan

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
General Fund	See fiscal impact	See fiscal impact

SUMMARY:

House Bill 1685 relates to instruction in the use of CPR and AEDs for school employees and volunteers.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 1685 amends Article XIV – School Health Services – of the Public School Code by adding:

- Section 1423.1 – AED and CPR Instruction and Procedure
- Section 1423.2 – Automated External Defibrillator Program
- Section 1423.3 – Availability and Specifications of Automated External Defibrillators

Section 1423.1 requires each school entity to make instruction in the principles and techniques of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) available on school premises at least once every two years. This training is mandatory for school nurses, coaches, marching band directors, physical education teachers, and athletic trainers, and it is optional for all other school employees and volunteers.

School entity is defined as a school district, charter school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit, or area career and technical school. The bill stipulates that the instruction must be provided by qualified providers and may be provided through the internet. Each school entity is required to ensure that at least one individual trained and certified in the use of an AED and CPR is present in each school building each school day. The bill outlines requirements for a cardiac emergency response plan.

Section 1423.2 establishes the Automated External Defibrillator Program. It allows school entities to take advantage of a contract bid price obtained by the state, and allows the Department of Education (PDE) to purchase or subsidize AEDs for school entities using any money appropriated or made available through donations. Additionally, the bill adds the purchasing of AEDs as an allowable use for Ready to Learn Block Grant funds, school safety and security funds, and the Education Improvement Tax Credit's (EITC) innovative educational program.

Section 1423.3 requires each school entity, nonpublic school, and private school to have at least one AED in each school building. Additionally, at least one AED trained employee and AED device must be at each athletic activity unless emergency services personnel are present. The bill clarifies that these provisions do not waive liability or create liability for schools or school employees.

House Bill 1685 would take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 1685 will have no fiscal impact on commonwealth funds. There is no appropriation in this bill to support the purchasing of AEDs.

The training requirements may impose a cost on school entities depending upon the level of training already provided. Under current law, Section 1205.4 requires public school entities (not including charter schools) to make optional CPR training available every three years.

The requirements for an AED in each building and an AED trained employee at each athletic event may impose a cost on school entities and nonpublic/private schools depending on the current practice of the school entity and number of AEDs a school already has. According to the 2022/23 data submitted to PDE, 33 public school buildings do not have an AED.

The average cost per AED is \$1,989 and there may be a \$250 cost for cabinet and sign installation for each location. Additionally, associated maintenance costs every 2-7 years per AED include \$200 for adult pad replacement, \$230 for child pad replacement, and \$460 for battery replacement.

PREPARED BY: Sean Brandon, Assistant Executive Director
House Appropriations Committee (D)

DATE: July 3, 2024

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.