

HB 4160 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Prepared By: Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/24, 2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires schools to have a cardiac emergency response plan for responding to medical emergencies. It establishes requirements for the response plan, including alignment with national standards, as well as the placement, identification, and maintenance of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). It requires athletic coaches and other staff to be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of AEDs. It takes effect July 1, 2027.

HOUSE VOTE: Passed. Ayes, 53; Nays, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Schools' need for additional AEDs on large campuses
- Location of AEDs on large campuses
- Needs of rural schools
- Schools' need for resources
- Schools' need for training in CPR and the use of AEDs
- Role of coaches and athletic trainers
- Benefits of cardiac arrest emergency plans
- Experiences of survivors of cardiac arrest
- Experiences of first responders and medical providers
- Guidelines of national organizations, such as the American Heart Association

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

An AED is a portable electronic device used to treat sudden cardiac arrest, for instance, when a person's heart suddenly stops working. Senate Bill 556 (2009) required the owner of a place of public assembly to have on the premises at least one AED. It exempted facilities owned by school districts, education service districts, private schools, public charter schools, and facilities primarily used for worship or education associated with worship. Senate Bill 1033 (2010) required schools to have at least one AED on premises by January 1, 2015. In 2025, the legislature considered but did not enact House Bill 2529, which would have enacted provisions similar to those in House Bill 4160 A.