
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1350

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS AND REQUIRING CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to create a grant program, within available resources, to give grants to local and regional boards of education (school boards) to offset the costs of implementing cardiac emergency response plans, including purchasing and maintaining automated external defibrillators (AED) and training on using them.

Under the bill, the SDE commissioner must award grants, in an amount she sets, on a first-come, first-served basis, except that priority must be given to priority schools (certain schools where at least 40% of the lunches served are to students eligible for free or reduced price lunches). By January 1, 2026, SDE must conspicuously post information about the grant program on its website, including the available grant amount and the application form.

By law, schools must develop emergency action plans for responding to people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or similar life-threatening emergencies (1) while on school grounds, and (2) if the school has organized athletic programs, while attending or participating in athletic practices or events on school grounds. School boards must ensure that each school has an AED and trained school personnel accessible during operating hours, school-sponsored athletic practices and events on school grounds, and other after-hours school-sponsored events. But the law exempts school boards from complying with the AED and trained personnel requirements if federal, state, or private funding is unavailable (CGS § 10-212d).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP

Yea 40 Nay 0 (03/12/2025)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 54 Nay 0 (04/24/2025)