

April 4, 2013

Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Zigmund Sawzak. I have not only been a Paramedic in Oregon since the pre-hospital Paramedics has existed in Oregon since 1972 but represented Oregon's American Heart Association as their first BLS (CPR) representative to the National Emergency Cardiac Care Committee from 1973-1980 when the first national CPR standards were introduced into the medical community. I am currently the CEO for CPR LifeLine, the first BLS AHA Training Center in Oregon but also the EMT Program Director for Clackamas Community College in Oregon City, Oregon. I also designed the first AED national training program.

I fully support house Bill HB 3135 and urge it immediate passage. Children needing immediate resuscitation do so usually because of respiratory and not cardiac failure and need at least two minutes of resuscitation before an AED is applied if available. Those surrounding that child are the most important responders and those first few minutes of CPR provides the greatest chance for the child to be revived.

The current First Aid requirement for schools is very limited and insufficient. Ironically, CPR is the most important life-saving skill to be done in those emergencies by teachers. HB 3135 will add CPR and help fix that flaw in their current requirement.

Respectfully Submitted for your consideration,

Zigmund Sawzak, Paramedic