

HB 2529 -5 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/24, 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The bill modifies requirements related to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in schools. It requires AEDs to be kept in unlocked, accessible locations; the development of cardiac emergency response plans; and the development of statewide training requirements for staff related to AEDs. The measure appropriates \$2 million from the General Fund for the Oregon Department of Education to distribute to school districts and public charter schools and becomes operative for the 2026-2027 school year. It declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Incidences of cardiac arrest in schools
- Need for access to AEDs
- Need for planning related to cardiac arrest

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-5 Replaces the measure. Requires school governing bodies to ensure that automated external defibrillators are located at each school and athletic venue, that locations are clearly identified and accessible, that they are tested and maintained, that all coaches are trained in their use, that the ratio of students to trained staff complies with rules established by the State Board of Education, that training aligns with national guidelines, and that school emergency plans include cardiac emergencies.

BACKGROUND:

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a portable electronic device used to treat sudden cardiac arrest, i.e. 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.