



**Oregon Chapter
American College of
Emergency Physicians**

March 25, 2025

To: Chair Rep. Courtney Neron
Vice Chairs Rep. April Dobson and Rep. Emily McIntire
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Dr. Craig Rudy Immediate Past President OR-ACEP

RE: HB 2529 AED/CPR in Schools

Chair Neron , Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire and members of the committee, please accept this statement for the record on behalf of OR-ACEP, the Oregon Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. OR-ACEP is a medical society that has represented physicians specializing in emergency medicine since 1971 and its members share a commitment to improve emergency healthcare for all Oregonians.

I am writing in support of HB 2529. As an emergency physician, I see tragedy of cardiac arrest in the course of my practice. The data is clear, early identification and intervention for cardiac arrest is paramount. Witnessed cardiac arrest with early electrical shock for those with shockable rhythm saves lives. The chances of survival to hospital discharge increases several-fold, especially in young otherwise healthy patients.

I am also a specialist in sports medicine. In this capacity, I attend a variety of sporting events where I am part of an overall medical team providing care for athletes in the course of competition. Automated External Defibrillator (AED) availability is a crucial tool. This compact portable device can abort a cardiac arrest, especially when applied promptly. It is the most important tool available to the medical team. However, without this very tool, the patient in cardiac arrest that must wait for EMS to arrive has a significantly reduced chance of survival.

Furthermore, this bill would put a structure in place to respond to these emergencies. Early identification of cardiac arrest is much more likely to happen if we adequately prepare to respond. For this reason, I encourage you to support this bill. It will provide a framework for our schools to prepare, respond, and have life saving equipment available for our students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chapter President- Christian Smith MD, FACEP

Chapter Executive- Michele Byers

President-Elect Patsy Chenpanas, MD

Government Rel. Director- Katy King

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