

SENATE BILL NO. 135

INTRODUCED BY E. MCCLAFFERTY

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ENCOURAGING SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PROVIDE A PROGRAM OF STUDY IN FIRST AID, CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION, AND THE USE OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS; REQUIRING THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, The legislature finds that protecting citizens from serious injury and death is a compelling state interest; and

WHEREAS, sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death in the United States with only a 7-9% survival rate;

WHEREAS, bystander CPR can greatly increase survival rates of sudden cardiac arrest; and

WHEREAS, training all high school graduates in CPR will add thousands of trained rescuers to the population each year; and

WHEREAS, this training requires minimal time and cost; and

WHEREAS, numerous individuals and organizations are willing to support schools in providing this training.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. First aid training in schools.** (1) The office of public instruction shall, in consultation with school districts, the department of public health and human services, the American heart association, and the American red cross, provide guidance and technical support and make available a program of study to Montana schools on:

- (a) basic first aid;
- (b) basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and
- (c) the use of automated external defibrillators.

(2) The guidance and program of study under subsection (1) must comply with current evidence-based guidance from the American heart association or another national science organization.

1 (3) School districts are encouraged to incorporate the program of study under subsection (1) during
2 health enhancement courses during high school as required in the accreditation standards and to include in the
3 program of study hands-on practicing of cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

4 (4) A school district and the office of public instruction may accept from any person, public entity, or other
5 legal entity in-kind donations of materials, equipment, or services that may be used in the program of instruction
6 under subsection (1).

7 (5) The office of public instruction, in consultation with the department of public health and human
8 services, shall assist districts in carrying out a program under this section, including providing guidelines and
9 advice for seeking grants for the purchase of automated external defibrillators or seeking donations of automated
10 external defibrillators. The office of public instruction may coordinate with local health districts or other
11 organizations in seeking grants and donations for this purpose.

12 (6) A school district may use any of the following persons to provide instruction and training pursuant
13 to this section:

- 14 (a) emergency medical technicians;
- 15 (b) paramedics;
- 16 (c) fire department personnel;
- 17 (d) police officers;
- 18 (e) representatives of the American heart association;
- 19 (f) representatives of the American red cross;
- 20 (g) teachers;
- 21 (h) other school employees; and
- 22 (i) other similarly qualified persons.

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24 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
25 integral part of Title 20, chapter 7, part 13, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 7, part 13, apply to [section 1].

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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