



Senate Education Committee

Senator Mike Folmer
Chairman

Room 170 Main Capitol • Senate Box 203048, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-3048 • 717-787-5708 • Fax: 717-787-3455

BILL SUMMARY

House Bill 974, Printer's No. 2176

Prime Sponsor: Representative Brown

SYNOPSIS:

House Bill 974 amends the Public School Code regarding automatic external defibrillators (AEDs).

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 974 amends the Public School Code to provide for a public hearing and vote on the acquisition of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs). Within 90 days of the effective date and every five years thereafter, the governing body of each school entity, that has not already acquired AEDs, must convene a public hearing to consider acquisition for each of its school buildings. Within 90 days of the public hearing, the governing body must, by majority vote at a public meeting, approve or disapprove a resolution to acquire the AEDs. A school entity that acquires AEDs would be subject to existing eligibility, training and immunity requirements.

Effective Date: Immediately.

AMENDMENT A06028 TO HB 974:

Amendment A06028 removes the existing provisions of HB 974 and replaces them with a program to assist school entities and nonpublic schools to make AEDs available in school buildings. It requires the Department of Education (PDE), in consultation with the Department of Health and Department of General Services, to biennially issue an invitation to bid for the cost of AEDs and other equipment and supplies necessary for the proper operation of the device. School entities and nonpublic schools may purchase the AEDs at the contract bid price.

Both school entities and nonpublic schools that acquire AEDs would be subject to existing eligibility, training and immunity requirements.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by Members and staff of the Senate of Pennsylvania. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Senate of Pennsylvania and may not be utilized as such.

Funds from the Pennsylvania Accountability Grants or the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program may be used to purchase AEDs. PDE may provide school entities and nonpublic schools that are not equipped with AEDs a discount from the contract bid price or AEDs with funds made available to it for this purpose.

School entities must annually report to PDE the number, condition, age and placement of AEDs in each school building. A nonpublic school that participates in the AED program is subject to these reporting requirements.

PDE must annually publish a report, which details, by school entity or nonpublic school: the total number of AEDs, the number of school buildings equipped with AEDs, and the number of school buildings that need to be equipped with AEDs.

Effective Date: 60 days.