LEGISLATIVE BILL 365

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to require instruction in certain emergency procedures as a requirement for high school graduation as prescribed; and to provide for a waiver.

4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,
Section 1. (1) Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, each student enrolled in a public high school in Nebraska, as a requirement for graduation, shall complete an instructional program established by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or another nationally recognized program which uses the most current national evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines on basic first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and operation of an automated external defibrillator and successfully pass a written test on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and operation of an automated external defibrillator.

(2) Instruction required pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall be taught by an educator or instructor, a member of the American Heart Association or an affiliate, a member of the American Red Cross or an affiliate, or an emergency care provider licensed under the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act. It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage such instructors to provide instruction, training, and resources at no cost to school districts.

(3) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation may be taught in a psychomotor skills class and may include hands-on training with simulators to supplement cognitive skills training or a video presentation. Operation of an automated external defibrillator may be taught in a psychomotor skills class or by video presentation.

(4) Students may but are not required to become certified upon completion of such instruction. The instruction required by this section shall be given by an instructor certified in cardiopulmonary
resuscitation and operation of an automatic external defibrillator.  

(5) A school administrator may waive the requirements of this section for a student who is a child with a disability as defined in section 79-1117 or a student who holds a valid certificate in any of the required areas of instruction.