

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2025
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB463

Hearing Date: Thursday February 27, 2025
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Ballard
One Liner: Require school districts to develop a cardiac emergency response plan under the School Safety and Security Reporting Act and provide for grants for such plans from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Hardin, Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Meyer, Quick, Riepe
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Beau Ballard
Erin Zabawa
Fara Adams
Dr. Matthew Sorensen
Sam Wilkins
Dr. Karla Lester
Micheal Dwyer
Brian Krannawitter

Representing:

Opening Presenter
self
self
Children's Nebraska
Nebraska State Athletic Trainer's Association
self
self
American Heart Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Colby Coash

Wendy Rau

Representing:

Nebraska Association of School Boards and
Nebraska Rural Community Association
Lincoln Public Schools

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 463 requires schools as well as state school security directors to develop a cardiac emergency response plan. Definitions are provided for a cardiac emergency response plan, a cardiac emergency response team and automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Requirements are provided for DHHS and the State Department of Education. Grants are funded through the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund. Provisions relating to the School Safety and



Security Fund are changed.

Sec. 1: Requires Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to be used for grants for costs associated with a cardiac emergency response plan pursuant to this bill.

Sec. 2: Requires a state school security director to establish a cardiac emergency response plan template for use by schools in developing a plan to respond in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest on school grounds or at any school sponsored activity or event. The cardiac emergency response plan template shall integrate core elements established by the American Heart Association or other nationally recognized cardiovascular care organizations for response in the event of a cardiac arrest. At a minimum, the plan shall include establishment of a school cardiac emergency response team; activation of such team in the event of a cardiac arrest; placement of AEDs on school grounds; routine maintenance of AEDs; distribution of the plan on school grounds; stipulation of appropriate school personnel to receive training; training of stipulated school personnel and cardiac emergency response team; annual practice by faculty and students of the plan using drills; coordination with local emergency medical services providers; and annual review and evaluation of the plan by the school board and the school district.

Sec. 3: Includes Sec. 6 and 7 in the School Safety and Security Reporting System Act.

Sec. 4: Defines cardiac emergency response plan as a written document establishing the specific steps to reduce the chance of death from cardiac arrest developed by a school district which shall include the core elements established by the American Heart Association or other cardiovascular care organizations.

Defines cardiac emergency response team as a school-based team of members who have AEDs and cardiopulmonary resuscitation training and are designated to respond to and provide basic life support during a cardiac emergency. Team members shall have different assigned roles. Team members include, but are not limited to, the principal or principal's designee, a health care professional, and a member of the school staff.

Sec. 5: DHHS is required to provide training for the members of any cardiac emergency response team serving a public/nonpublic school. Such training shall provide the knowledge and skill to allow cardiac emergency response teams to work collaboratively to react in the case of a sudden cardiac arrest among school staff, students, and the public. Such training shall be reasonable in length.

Sec. 6: For the purposes of this section AED is defined as a lightweight, portable device capable of delivering an electric shock through an individual's chest to the individual's heart, which is used in the event of a cardiac arrest to attempt to stop an irregular heartbeat and allow a normal rhythm to resume. Cardiac arrest is defined as a life-threatening event in which an individual's heart unexpectedly stops beating.

Beginning in school year 2026-27, each school district is required to develop and adopt a cardiac emergency response plan; place AEDs on school grounds; place AEDs in an accessible location at each school district; identify each AED with appropriate signage; and ensure each AED is in an unlocked location that can be retrieved in fewer than 3 minutes for an individual experiencing cardiac arrest.

An approved or accredited nonpublic school may develop and adopt a cardiac emergency plan used the template developed by the state school security director.

Sec. 7: The State Department of Education (Department) is required to develop a grant program to provide grants to school districts for costs associated with the plan.

A school district may apply to the Department, in a manner prescribed by the Department, for a grant to develop and



implement a plan. Such application shall include the name of the school district/contact person; the amount of funds requested and use of funds; and any other information the Department may require.

Subject to available funding, the Department is required to provide grants to school districts. Such grants shall be funded from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund. The Department shall develop a priority system for awarding grants with first priority to school districts that receive Title I funds pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. The total amount of grants provided shall not exceed \$1.5 million.

Sec. 8: The Commissioner of Education shall create a grant program for safety as well as security-related infrastructure projects.

Sec. 9: The School Safety and Security Fund shall also be used for safety related infrastructure projects.

Sec. 10: Repealer

Brian Hardin, Chairperson

