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FLOOR DEBATE

February 1, 2005 LB 176

care or treatment is rendered in good faith and the care or treatment is not rendered in a willful, wanton, or grossly negligent manner. The liability of certain health-care professionals is still limited as provided in the purpose of this change to make AEDs more widely available and usable for persons who need not have that experience. Secondly, instead of requiring every user of an AED to appropriately be trained in its use, and maintain...instead of requiring every user of an AED to be appropriately trained in its use, and to maintain and test the AED, the bill requires that anyone acquiring an AED, that is, the owner of the AED, the person or entity who purchased it, to ensure that the AED is maintained and tested according to the manufacturer's guidelines, that designated personnel are trained in its use according to the guidelines established by the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, and that local emergency medical service is notified of the existence, location, and type of the AED, and any change of its location. That section I just read there was actually introduced by me a year ago. This portion of the bill is not intended to add any new duties to the Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure. The intent of this change is to require the owner of the AED to make sure that at least someone is familiar with it and how to use it. Current law requires users to receive appropriate training in its use, as established by the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure. LB 176 would apply that training requirement only to the person or entity acquiring the AED. Those appeared in support were Randy Jones of the American Red Cross; Jerry Stilmock, who's Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association; Steve Beal, the Nebraska AED Consortium; Joan Anderson, Lancaster County Medical Society and EMS; and Brian Krannawitter, American Heart Association. There was no opposition testimony. I might mention that here in the Legislature, we do have an AED. It is in the Clerk's Office. And certainly, if you haven't seen one of these, certainly be glad to get one for you to show you. They are...you open it up, it is self-explanatory, it talks to you. Really, it doesn't require any technical education whatsoever. But the whole purpose of these is to get as many as necessary out to the communities, to gymnasiums, wherever there is a gathering, so that anyone can...if there is a heart attack that someone has,