

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2370

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement a comprehensive program to promote student access to defibrillation in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2023

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK (for herself, Mr. POSEY, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. WILD, Mr. CARSON, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SOTO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. MFUME, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. LIEU, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. CHU, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. BROWN, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. BARR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement a comprehensive program to promote student ac-

cess to defibrillation in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Access to AEDs Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds as follows:

7 (1) Heart disease is the leading cause of death
8 in the United States.

9 (2) Sudden cardiac arrest (referred to in this
10 section as “SCA”) is a life-threatening emergency
11 that is caused by a malfunction in the heart’s elec-
12 trical system or structure, which is caused by an ab-
13 normality from birth or one that develops over time.

14 (3) Studies show that 1 in 300 youth has an
15 undetected heart condition that puts them at risk.

16 (4) SCA is the leading cause of death for stu-
17 dent athletes.

18 (5) Sports-related SCA account for 39 percent
19 of SCAs among children 18 years old or younger.

20 (6) In 2018, there were nearly 394,000 sudden
21 cardiac arrests that occurred in the United States,
22 with 9 out of 10 being fatal. Only 1 in 10 victims
23 survive a sudden cardiac arrest.

1 (7) An estimated 7,000 to 23,000 young people
2 are stricken by SCA annually.

3 (8) The American Heart Association estimates
4 that 5 in 10 victims of SCA could survive if bystand-
5 ers gave CPR and used an AED immediately.

6 (9) The chain of survival includes prompt noti-
7 fication of emergency services and early CPR,
8 defibrillation, and advanced cardiac life support.

9 (10) Health education should include basic
10 emergency lifesaving skills. Incorporating these life-
11 saving training programs into the health curriculum
12 of public elementary and secondary schools will give
13 children and youth these skills.

14 **SEC. 3. PROMOTING STUDENT ACCESS TO**
15 **DEFIBRILLATION.**

16 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall award grants
17 to eligible entities to develop and implement a comprehen-
18 sive program to promote student access to defibrillation
19 in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

20 (b) **USE OF FUNDS.**—An eligible entity receiving a
21 grant under subsection (a) may use funds received
22 through such grant to carry out any of the following activi-
23 ties:

1 (1) Developing and providing comprehensive
2 materials to establish AED and CPR programs in
3 public elementary schools and secondary schools.

4 (2) Providing support for CPR and AED train-
5 ing programs in such schools for students, staff, and
6 related sports volunteers.

7 (3) Providing support for developing a cardiac
8 emergency response plan within such schools.

9 (4) Purchasing AEDs that have been approved
10 under section 515 of the Federal Food, Drug, and
11 Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360e), cleared under sec-
12 tion 510(k) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 360(k)), or au-
13 thorized under section 513(f)(2) of such Act (21
14 U.S.C. 360c(f)(2)).

15 (5) Purchasing necessary AED batteries and
16 performing necessary AED maintenance (such as by
17 replacing AED pads) in accordance with the labeling
18 of the AED involved.

19 (6) Replacing old and outdated AED and CPR
20 equipment, machinery, and educational materials.

21 (7) Fostering new and existing community part-
22 nerships with and among local educational agencies,
23 nonprofit organizations, public health organizations,
24 emergency medical service providers, fire and police

1 departments, and parent-teacher associations to pro-
2 mote the importance of defibrillation in such schools.

3 (8) Aiding school athletic departments to screen
4 student athletes for risk of sudden cardiac arrest,
5 consistent with guidelines of the American Heart As-
6 sociation and the American College of Cardiology.

7 (9) Further developing strategies to improve ac-
8 cess to AEDs in such schools.

9 (c) ELIGIBILITY; APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a
10 grant under subsection (a), an entity shall—

11 (1) be a local educational agency (including a
12 public charter school operating as a local educational
13 agency under State law), in consultation with a
14 qualified health care entity; and

15 (2) submit to the Secretary an application at
16 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
17 formation as the Secretary may reasonably require.

18 (d) CLEARINGHOUSE.—Not later than 1 year after
19 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall es-
20 tablish a clearinghouse database—

21 (1) to collect and make available information,
22 including through voluntary reporting by local edu-
23 cational agencies, State educational agencies, and
24 manufacturers, relating to student access to
25 defibrillation in public elementary schools and sec-

1 ondary schools, including with respect to the costs of
2 providing AEDs and CPR training; and

3 (2) to gather information in a central location
4 to facilitate research regarding sudden cardiac arrest
5 in the pediatric population.

6 (e) REPORTS.—

7 (1) BY GRANTEE.—Not later than 4 years after
8 receipt of a grant under this section, the recipient of
9 the grant shall submit to the Secretary a report that
10 describes the activities carried out with funds re-
11 ceived through the grant.

12 (2) BY SECRETARY.—Not later than one year
13 after receiving the reports required by paragraph
14 (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
15 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-
16 ate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
17 and the Committee on Education and the Workforce
18 of the House of Representatives a consolidated eval-
19 uation of the activities carried out pursuant to
20 grants under this section.

21 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

22 (1) the term “AED” means an automated ex-
23 ternal defibrillator;

24 (2) the term “CPR” means cardiopulmonary
25 resuscitation;

1 (3) the terms “elementary school”, “local edu-
2 cational agency”, and “secondary school” have the
3 meanings given to such terms in section 8101 of the
4 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
5 (20 U.S.C. 7801);

6 (4) the term “qualified health care entity”
7 means a health care entity that—

8 (A) is—

9 (i) a public entity; or

10 (ii) an organization that is described
11 in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue
12 Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation
13 under section 501(a) of such Code;

14 (B) demonstrates an ability to develop,
15 train, and implement a comprehensive program
16 to promote student access to defibrillation in el-
17 ementary and secondary schools; and

18 (C) is qualified in providing technical as-
19 sistance in AED and CPR training; and

20 (5) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
21 of Health and Human Services.

22 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry
23 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated

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1 \$25,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2024 through
2 2028.

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