

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 84

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 13, 2010

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

District 15 (Mercer)

Assemblyman BRIAN E. RUMPF

District 9 (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblyman Caputo, Assemblywoman Voss, Assemblyman Wolfe,
Assemblywomen Evans, Angelini, Rodriguez, Jasey, Assemblyman
Coughlin and Assemblywoman Greenstein**

SYNOPSIS

Urges boards of education to improve staff and student preparedness for responding to incidents of sudden cardiac arrest.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/22/2010)

AR84 DIEGNAN, WATSON COLEMAN

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1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging boards of education to improve
2 staff and student preparedness for responding to incidents of
3 sudden cardiac arrest.

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5 **WHEREAS**, According to the American Heart Association,
6 approximately 295,000 sudden cardiac arrests occur each year in
7 the United States outside of a hospital setting; and

8 **WHEREAS**, While on average, just 8% of out-of-hospital sudden
9 cardiac arrest victims in the United States survive,
10 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and early defibrillation with
11 an automated external defibrillator can more than double a victim's
12 chance of survival; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Tragically, there have been a number of instances in recent
14 years when seemingly healthy students have, without warning, died
15 as a result of sudden cardiac arrest during school athletic events or
16 other physical activity; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Automated external defibrillators are portable devices used
18 to induce electrical stimulation to the heart muscle in the event of a
19 potential cardiac arrest and early access defibrillation has been
20 recognized as a significant factor in survival for victims of sudden
21 cardiac arrest; and

22 **WHEREAS**, The lack of a sufficient number of automated external
23 defibrillators and a sufficient number of persons trained in the use
24 of defibrillators or the performance of CPR in school districts,
25 results in lost opportunities to save young lives; now, therefore,

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27 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
28 Jersey:

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30 1. The General Assembly of the State of New Jersey urges all
31 boards of education in the State to take precautionary measures to
32 protect students and staff from sudden cardiac death through such
33 actions as: the installation of an automated external defibrillator at
34 each of its schools; the provision of training to staff on the
35 appropriate use of these devices; the development of an emergency
36 action response plan for each school that addresses the appropriate
37 use of school staff in responding to cardiac arrests and similar
38 health crises which may occur on school grounds; and the
39 implementation of a CPR training program for all students and staff.

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41 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
42 Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof,
43 shall be transmitted to the State Board of Education to be disseminated
44 to all public school district boards of education.

STATEMENT

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This Assembly Resolution urges all boards of education in the State to take precautionary measures to protect students and staff from sudden cardiac death through such actions as: the installation of an automated external defibrillator at each of its schools; the provision of training to staff on the appropriate use of these devices, in combination with training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); the development of an emergency action response plan for each school that addresses the appropriate use of school staff in responding to cardiac arrests and similar health crises which may occur on school grounds; and the implementation of a CPR training program for all staff and students.