

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide forthwith for emergency medical response plans in schools throughout the commonwealth, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety.*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:***SECTION 1.** Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 8 the following section: -Section 8A. (a) Each school committee and commonwealth charter school board of trustees shall ensure that every school under its jurisdiction has a written medical emergency response plan to reduce the incidence of life-threatening emergencies and to promote efficient responses to such emergencies. The plan shall be in addition to the multi-hazard evacuation plan required under section 363 of chapter 159 of the acts of 2000.

Each plan shall include:

- (1) a method for establishing a rapid communication system linking all parts of the school campus, including outdoor facilities and practice fields, to the emergency medical services system and protocols to clarify when the emergency medical services system and other emergency contact people shall be called;
- (2) a determination of emergency medical service response time to any location on campus;
- (3) a list of relevant contacts and telephone numbers with a protocol indicating when each person shall be called, including names of professionals to help with post-emergency support;
- (4) a method to efficiently direct emergency medical services personnel to any location on campus, including to the location of available rescue equipment;
- (5) safety precautions to prevent injuries in classrooms and on the facilities;
- (6) a method of providing access to training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid for teachers, athletic coaches, trainers and other school staff, which may include training high school students in cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and
- (7) in the event the school possesses an automated external defibrillator, the location of the device, whether or not its location is either fixed or portable and those personnel who are trained in its use.

Plans shall be developed in consultation with the school nurse, school athletic team physicians, coaches, trainers and the local emergency medical services agency, as appropriate. Schools shall practice the response sequence at the beginning of each school year and periodically throughout the year and evaluate and modify the plan as needed. Plans shall be submitted once every 3 years to the department of elementary and secondary education on or before September 1, beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. Plans shall be updated in the case of new construction or physical changes to the school campus.

Included in each initial and subsequent filing of a medical emergency response plan, each school district shall report on the availability of automated external defibrillators in each school within the district, including, the total amount available in each school, the location of each within the school, whether or not the device is in a fixed location or is portable, those personnel or volunteers who are trained in its use, those personnel with access to the device during regular school hours and after and the total estimated amount of automated external defibrillators necessary to ensure campus-wide access during school hours, after-school activities and public events.

(b) The department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the department of public health, shall develop a cost-neutral model medical emergency response plan in order to promote best practices. Said model plan shall be made available to school committees and commonwealth charter school boards. In developing the model plan, the department shall refer to research prepared by the American Heart Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and other relevant organizations that identify the essential components of a medical emergency response plan. The department shall biennially update the model plan and post the plan on its website.

SECTION 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall submit a report to the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives who shall forward the same to the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on education and the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and means on the implementation of this act, the number of students and personnel certified in first-aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the number of schools that opt out of instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation under section 1 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, on or before July 1, 2013.

Approved, April 18, 2012.