

5 things to know about AEDs. AHA article.pdf

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Position: FAV

Published: January 17, 2023

5 things to know about AEDs after a defibrillator helped save Damar Hamlin

By Laura Williamson, American Heart Association News

We've all walked past them: Little red, yellow or green boxes with hearts on them and the letters "AED." They can be found in office buildings, gyms, schools, airports, shopping malls – almost anywhere large crowds gather.

These little boxes can save lives. But few people use them.

An AED – short for automated external defibrillator – is an easy-to-use medical device that can restore a normal heart rhythm to someone who has gone into cardiac arrest. Defibrillators recently received national attention when one was used to save the life of Buffalo Bills player Damar Hamlin, who collapsed on the field in Cincinnati following a tackle. Hamlin is now recovering at home.

He is one of the lucky ones. Receiving immediate CPR and an electric shock from a defibrillator are the key drivers of survival for the roughly 350,000 U.S. adults who go into cardiac arrest outside of a hospital each year. But according to American Heart Association statistics, bystanders administer CPR about 40% of the time and AEDs even less so. About 1 in 10 people who have cardiac arrests in public get this type of help.

Here are five critical things people should know about AEDs and why experts say the public shouldn't be afraid to use them.

They are a person's best chance for survival

While out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survival rates vary across the United States, those with the best chance for survival have two things in common: They quickly received CPR and an electric shock from an AED, said Dr. Mary Ann Peberdy, a professor of medicine and emergency medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

"One of the reasons Hamlin had such good neurologic outcomes and a week later was tweeting with friends was that he had early CPR and early defibrillation," she said. "Unequivocally, these devices save lives and Hamlin is a perfect example of that."

A defibrillator can be manual, used by trained health care personnel to deliver a shock. Or it can be automated, available for anyone to use, with the device determining if a shock is needed. The

Buffalo Bills and the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, where Hamlin was treated, did not respond to questions about which type of defibrillator was used on the field to restore Hamlin's heartbeat.

Call 911 and start CPR first

If someone collapses, the first thing to do is check for signs of life, such as whether the person is breathing normally, Peberdy said. Sometimes people in cardiac arrest can look as if they are breathing with "agonal breaths," when breathing is abnormal or it appears the person is gasping for air.

For a teen or adult who suddenly collapses, immediately call 911 and begin CPR by pushing in the center of the chest for 100 to 120 beats per minute. 911 operators also can guide rescuers through CPR.

"Always call 911 first," said Dr. Ashish Panchal, an emergency medicine specialist at Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center in Columbus. "That gets more help to you. Then push hard and fast."

The chest compressions keep blood flowing to the heart and other organs, Peberdy said, and can prolong the time a shock is effective to restore a normal heart rhythm.

Both Panchal and Peberdy, who helped write the 2020 AHA guidelines for CPR and emergency cardiovascular care, stressed that CPR should not be stopped to go look for an AED. A second bystander should do that. An AED is often available in public settings, but people may not realize it is there or that it can be used by anyone to save someone in cardiac arrest.

An estimated 15% of cardiac arrests in adults happen in a public setting. While there is no standard place to store an AED, they are often found on the wall near an elevator, Panchal said.

"If you are in a public building, ask at the front desk," he said.

There is also an app from the PulsePoint Foundation that identifies where registered AEDs are located, though not all devices are registered, Peberdy said.

Anyone can use an AED – even a child

"The great thing about the AED is that it will tell you what to do," Panchal said. "It walks you through it."

Inside the box are pads and a diagram that shows where to place them on the bare skin. Once the device is turned on, a voice tells the person using it exactly what to do. Some devices offer this instruction in Spanish, but most are English-speaking.

The first thing the AED will do is determine whether an electric shock is needed by analyzing the person's heart rhythm. CPR should be stopped only while the machine is doing this analysis,

Peberdy said. "If no shock is advised, it will tell you to resume CPR. If there is a shockable rhythm, it will deliver the shock and afterwards will tell you to resume CPR."

There is no minimum age required to operate the device, Panchal said.

"A child can operate an AED," he said. "Children can also do CPR – and they can do effective CPR." If children are too young or not strong enough, they can call 911 and get immediate help.

You can't make things worse

"People should not be afraid to use these devices," Peberdy said. "Many people are afraid of making it worse. You're not going to make it worse. If someone is in cardiac arrest, they are technically dead."

If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple the chance of survival from a cardiac arrest outside of a hospital. "Waiting for emergency medical services to arrive takes up precious, precious time," Peberdy said.

You can't get in trouble

Some people may hesitate to help because they're afraid of the liability, Panchal said. "They worry if they're going to get sued."

Good Samaritan laws protect people who step in to provide lifesaving care, he said.

"All of us can be a lifesaver," Panchal said. "We can be that individual. We just have to choose to do it. Call 911, push hard and fast and ask someone to go get the AED. Those three steps can save a life."

AED Statisticss 001 (1).pdf

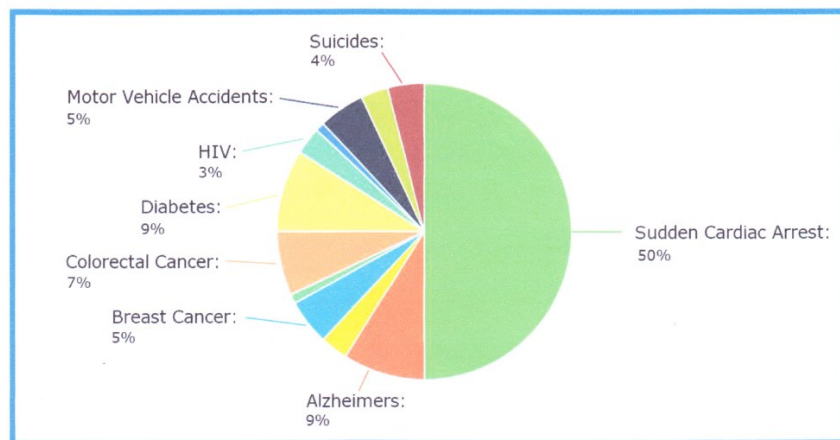
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Position: FAV

STATISTICS

STARTLING STATISTICS

The number of people who die each year from SCA is roughly equivalent to the number who die from Alzheimer's disease, assault with firearms, breast cancer, cervical cancer, colorectal cancer, diabetes, HIV, house fires, motor vehicle accidents, prostate cancer and suicides combined.



- Sudden Cardiac Arrest is a leading cause of death in the US, accounting for an estimated 325,000 deaths each year.
- 50% of victims of Sudden Cardiac Arrest have no prior symptoms, and many have no previous history of heart disease.
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest is the leading cause of death in young athletes.

SB624 - PFFMD Written Testimony - J. Buddle (Favor

Uploaded by: Jeffrey Buddle

Position: FAV

PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS OF MARYLAND



CHARTER 1969

DATE: March 9, 2023

TO: Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

FROM: Jeffrey Buddle, President
Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland

RE: SB624 – Income Tax – AED Tax Credit

The Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland represents more than 10,000 active and retired professional fire fighters, paramedics, and emergency medical services personnel who proudly serve the citizens of the State of Maryland.

As public safety professionals the serve the citizens of the State of Maryland we are well aware of the importance of having automated external defibrillators in any place or establishment that has a large number of people gathering at any one given time. When tragedy strikes critical minutes elapse between the time the 911 system is activated, and the time emergency medical personnel arrive on the scene of the incident.

Any costs associated with the purchase of AED's are diminimus when considered in the context of a life saved, which in our view is priceless. This legislation would provide tax relief for certain restaurant businesses and represents prudent and responsible public tax policy.

On behalf of the members of Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland, we respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 624.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Buddle, President
Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland

The membership of the Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland includes 25 local IAFF affiliates from the following jurisdictions:

Federal: *Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Fort George G. Meade, National Capital Federal Fire Fighters, National Institutes of Health*

State: *Baltimore / Washington International Airport*

Local: *Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City (2 affiliates), Baltimore County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Charles County, Cumberland, Frederick County, Garrett County, Hagerstown, Howard County, Montgomery County, Ocean City, Prince Georges County, Queen Annes County, Salisbury, Talbot County, Worchester County*

SB624_Zucker_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Senator Craig Zucker

Position: FAV

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Legislative District 14
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Budget and Taxation Committee
Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee

Chair, Senate Democratic Caucus

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Craig J. Zucker
Senate Bill 624 – Income Tax - Automated External Defibrillator Tax Credit
March 7, 2023
1:00 PM
Position: Favorable

Good afternoon, Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and distinguished members of the committee. It is my pleasure to testify today in **support of Senate Bill 624 – Income Tax - Automated External Defibrillator Tax Credit.**

Senate Bill 624 authorizes a tax credit for the first \$500 of the purchase price of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) purchased at a restaurant in the state. The credit is applicable for only one AED at a restaurant location in the State with an annual gross income of at least \$400,000. An individual or business entity that owns a restaurant in the State may claim up to \$1,500 in credit in a taxable year.

The American Heart Association reports that there are more than 350,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests annually in the United State a year, with nearly 90% of them being fatal. By incentivizing restaurants with a tax credit to purchase an AED, we will be able to save the lives of people experiencing these medical episodes in public settings that could not otherwise be treated in time by Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

I would like to thank the members of the Budget and Taxation committee, as almost everyone has signed as a cosponsor of this bill. For these reasons, I urge the committee for a favorable report on Senate Bill 624. Thank you for your kind consideration.

SB0624_FAV_MSLBA_Income Tax - Automated External D

Uploaded by: Steve Wise

Position: FAV



**MARYLAND STATE
LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION**

150 E Main Street, Suite 104, Westminster, MD 21157

TO: The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Craig J. Zucker

FROM: J. Steven Wise
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
Danna L. Kauffman
Andrew G. Vetter
410-244-7000

DATE: March 9, 2023

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 624 – *Income Tax – Automated External Defibrillator Tax Credit*

The Maryland State Licensed Beverage Association (MSLBA), which consists of approximately 800 Maryland businesses holding alcoholic beverage licenses (restaurants, bars, taverns and package stores), **supports** Senate Bill 624.

This legislation would provide an income tax credit for a business entity that purchases an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

MSLBA believes this legislation takes the right approach toward increasing the availability of AEDs in public places by incentivizing the purchase of them. We believe businesses such as the bars, restaurants, taverns, and package stores operated by MSLBA members will take advantage of this tax credit and make AEDs more readily available when a cardiac arrest occurs.

Other legislation pending before the General Assembly, such as Senate Bill 299, would mandate their purchase, and we do not believe that is the correct approach. The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Service Systems recently conducted a study to help determine the most effective locations for placement of AEDs. The study looked at the locations of sudden cardiac arrests in the State and found that only 1% of all out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occurred in restaurants during the 2.5-year period studied. While that statistic weighs against an AED mandate, a tax credit such as that proposed in Senate Bill 624 would be an effective way to increase their availability.

For these reasons, MSLBA supports Senate Bill 624.

SB 624_RestaurantAssoc_Thompson_FWA.pdf

Uploaded by: Melvin Thompson

Position: FWA



SENATE BILL 624

Income Tax – Automated External Defibrillator Tax Credit

March 9, 2023

Position: Favorable with Amendments

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

The *Restaurant Association of Maryland* supports SB 624, which would provide a tax credit for Maryland restaurants with at least \$400,000 in annual gross income that voluntarily purchase an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for use at the restaurant.

According to the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), new AEDs can cost \$880 to \$1,700 per device (excluding device maintenance costs). The tax credit provided under this legislation will be of benefit to those restaurants that choose to purchase such devices.

Under current Maryland law ([§13-517](#) of the Education Article) and related regulations, facilities and businesses that choose to participate in Maryland's Public Access AED Program must comply with registration, certification and training requirements. Related CPR and AED training costs can range from \$75-\$115 per person. Because these devices are easy to operate, we request that this legislation be amended to specify that the related CPR and AED training is not required for restaurants that choose to purchase AED devices. We also request that the bill also be amended to provide civil liability protection for restaurants that choose to purchase and maintain AED devices. We believe these amendments will encourage more restaurants to take advantage of this tax credit.

In a 2017 MIEMSS [Report to the Maryland General Assembly](#), the incidence (a measure of probability) of cardiac arrests at restaurants is very low compared to other ranked location types in the tables on pages 13 and 14 of the report (locations are ranked from highest to lowest). Restaurants rank at #26 out of 31 location types in Table 1 of the report; and restaurants rank at #23 out of 26 location types in Table 2 of the report. Therefore, we strongly oppose mandating AED devices for restaurants. We appreciate and support the tax credit incentive approach of this legislation instead.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report with the requested amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin R. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line.

Melvin R. Thompson
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy