



February 9th, 2025

Testimony of Laura Hale
American Heart Association

Favorable HB 593 Public Libraries - Automated External Defibrillator Program

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Honorable Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

Thank you for your time and consideration. The American Heart Association extends its support to HB 593 Public Libraries - Automated External Defibrillator Program. My name is Laura Hale and I am the Director of Government Relations for the American Heart Association.

Cardiac arrests can happen anywhere, and having AED's readily accessible in public space can make the difference between life and death. This legislation focuses on an important public space of the library. We would recommend also adding a Cardiac Emergency Response Plan in addition to having an AED. Having a plan in place ensures that staff on site know what to do when an emergency happens and can respond. Every minute counts when a sudden cardiac arrest happens and having staff that know how to respond can save a life.

The American Heart Association urges a favorable report on HB 593 and recommends the addition of a cardiac emergency response plan.