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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/16/2024	.	
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The Committee on Fiscal Policy (Collins) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Before line 12

insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "HeartCharged Act."

Section 2. Section 1003.457, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1003.457 Automated external defibrillators on school grounds.—

(1) (a) In addition to the requirements of s. 1006.165, each



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11 public school must have at least one operational automated  
12 external defibrillator on school grounds. Each defibrillator  
13 must be placed according to guidelines set by an organization  
14 focused on emergency cardiovascular care, including placement in  
15 a location that is unlocked and easily accessible to anyone at  
16 any time, including outside of the school year. Such  
17 defibrillator may not be placed in the school's athletic  
18 facilities. Each defibrillator must have appropriate  
19 accompanying signage, including, but not limited to, signage at  
20 the defibrillator's exact location directing responders to the  
21 building or room where the defibrillator is routinely kept. Each  
22 defibrillator and all of its components must be maintained  
23 according to the manufacturer's instructions and kept in proper  
24 working order. Each school is encouraged to have or work towards  
25 acquiring and placing a sufficient number of defibrillators on  
26 school grounds, as determined by the Cardiac Emergency Response  
27 Plan, to allow a person to retrieve a defibrillator within 3  
28 minutes after a cardiac or medical emergency in which the use of  
29 a defibrillator is needed anywhere on school grounds. Each  
30 school is encouraged to establish public and private  
31 partnerships and seek grants, gifts, and other donations to  
32 cover the costs associated with the purchase, placement, and  
33 training in the use of a defibrillator.

34 (b) Each charter school and private school is encouraged to  
35 have at least one operational defibrillator on school grounds  
36 and to meet the requirements of paragraph (a). A charter or  
37 private school that elects to comply with this section may  
38 utilize the statewide contracts under subsection (3) and will be  
39 provided with all protocols for the deployment and



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40 administration of defibrillators in schools, as disseminated  
41 pursuant to subsection (4).

42 (2) The use of defibrillators or cardiopulmonary  
43 resuscitation are immune from civil liability, pursuant to ss.  
44 768.13 and 768.1325, also known as the Good Samaritan Act and  
45 the Cardiac Arrest Survival Act, respectively.

46 (3) The Department of Education shall enter into statewide  
47 contracts for defibrillators, pursuant to the updated  
48 technologies and conveniences of available defibrillators on the  
49 market, to provide statewide discounts to schools and school  
50 districts.

51 (4) The Commissioner of Education, at his or her sole  
52 discretion, shall create and disseminate all of the following:

53 (a) The protocols for the deployment and administration of  
54 defibrillators in schools.

55 (b) A Cardiac Emergency Response Plan in accordance with  
56 guidelines set by nationally recognized, evidence-based  
57 standards to be developed by each school which addresses the  
58 appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents  
59 involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a  
60 similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds.

61 (c) Appropriate school staff must be trained in first aid,  
62 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and automated external  
63 defibrillator use that follows evidence-based guidelines set  
64 forth by an organization focused on emergency cardiovascular  
65 care.

66 (5) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
67 administer this section, including those necessary for the  
68 protocols and plans created and disseminated under subsection



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69 (4).

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71 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

72 And the title is amended as follows:

73 Delete line 2

74 and insert:

75 An act relating to student cardiac and medical  
76 emergencies; providing a short title; creating s.  
77 1003.457, F.S.; requiring each public school to have  
78 at least one automated external defibrillator on  
79 school grounds; providing requirements for such  
80 defibrillators; encouraging public schools to have a  
81 sufficient number of defibrillators on school grounds,  
82 as determined by the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan,  
83 to allow a person to retrieve one within a specified  
84 timeframe; encouraging each public school to establish  
85 public and private partnerships and seek gifts,  
86 grants, and other donations for specified purposes;  
87 encouraging each charter school and private school to  
88 have at least one defibrillator on school grounds and  
89 to comply with specified requirements; authorizing  
90 such schools to utilize specified state contracts;  
91 requiring that such schools be provided with certain  
92 protocols and plans; providing immunity from liability  
93 for school employees and students under the Good  
94 Samaritan Act and the Cardiac Arrest Survival Act;  
95 requiring the Department of Education to enter into  
96 statewide contracts for specified purposes; requiring  
97 the Commissioner of Education, at his or her sole



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98           discretion, to create and disseminate specified  
99           protocols and plans relating to the use of  
100          defibrillators in schools; requiring the State Board  
101          of Education to adopt rules; amending