Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

HB 996 (Excerpts)

An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for the establishment of independent schools; further providing for contracts with private residential rehabilitative institutions; providing for professional teacher assessment, for automatic external defibrillators, for an education support services program and for an educational improvement tax credit; and further providing for special education payments to school districts.

SECTION 4. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:

8 [SECTION 1423. AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS.--(A) FOR
9 THE FISCAL YEAR 2001-2002, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A ONE-
10 TIME AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAM TO ASSIST SCHOOL
11 ENTITIES IN ACQUIRING AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS.
12 (B) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF
13 GENERAL SERVICES, SHALL ISSUE AN INVITATION TO BID FOR THE COST
14 OF AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
15 ACCEPT THE BID OF THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER AND PERMIT ANY
16 SCHOOL ENTITY TO PURCHASE THE DEVICES AT THE CONTRACT BID PRICE.
17 (C) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO OBTAIN OR PURCHASE AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL
18 DEFIBRILLATORS UNDER THE PROGRAM A SCHOOL ENTITY MUST:
19 (1) ASSURE THAT TWO (2) OR MORE PERSONS ASSIGNED TO THE
20 LOCATION WHERE THE AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR WILL BE
21 PRIMARILY HOUSED ARE TRAINED AS REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (D).
22 (2) ENSURE THAT THE DEVICE WILL BE SECURED IN A SAFE AND
23 READILY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION AND AGREE TO PROPERLY MAINTAIN AND
24 TEST THE DEVICE ACCORDING TO THE MANUFACTURER'S OPERATIONAL
25 GUIDELINES.
26 (3) SUBMIT A VALID PRESCRIPTION FOR THE DEVICE FROM A
27 LICENSED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.
28 (4) AGREE TO PROVIDE THE TRAINING REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION
29 (D).
30 (D) SCHOOL PERSONNEL WHO ARE EXPECTED TO USE THE AUTOMATIC
31 EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR SHALL COMPLETE TRAINING IN
32 CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION AND IN THE USE OF AN AUTOMATIC
33 EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROVIDED BY THE AMERICAN HEART
34 ASSOCIATION, THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OR THROUGH AN EQUIVALENT
35 COURSE OF INSTRUCTION APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.
36 (E) A SCHOOL ENTITY MAY INCLUDE THE TRAINING REQUIRED BY
37 SUBSECTION (D) IN ITS CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PLAN
38 SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION 1205.1.
39 (F) THE PROVISIONS OF 42 PA.C.S. § 8331.2 (RELATING TO GOOD
40 SAMARITAN CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR USE OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL
41 DEFIBRILLATOR) SHALL APPLY TO SCHOOL EMPLOYEES WHO RENDER CARE
42 WITH AN AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR.
43 (G) FROM FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE
44 DEPARTMENT, UPON REQUEST, SHALL PROVIDE: UP TO TWO (2) AUTOMATIC
45 EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS TO EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT; ONE (1)
46 AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR TO EACH INTERMEDIATE UNIT; AND
47 ONE (1) AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR TO EACH AREA
48 VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL.
(H) No school entity shall be required to participate in the automatic external defibrillator program.

(I) No later than June 30, 2002, the secretary shall submit a report to the general assembly describing the effectiveness of this section in outfitting the commonwealth's school entities with automatic external defibrillators.

(J) The department may adopt guidelines as necessary to administer this section.

(K) As used in this section--

"Automatic external defibrillator," means a portable device that uses electric shock to restore a stable heart rhythm to an individual in cardiac arrest.

"Department," means the department of education of the commonwealth.

"School entity," means an area vocational-technical school, a charter school, an intermediate unit, a nonpublic school or a school district.

"Secretary," means the secretary of education of the commonwealth.