



JOHN SPIROS

State Representative • 86th Assembly District

Assembly Bill 545

January 13, 2015

Testimony from Rep. Spiros

Good afternoon and thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety for allowing me to have the opportunity to talk to you today regarding Assembly Bill 545, a bill that would provide lifesaving skills instruction to Wisconsin students.

Each day in the United States, 1,000 people suffer cardiac arrest. Of those witnessed by a bystander, less than half receive CPR prior to EMS arriving, oftentimes because the bystander does not know what to do. For every one minute without CPR initiated, chances of survival drop by 10%. This leads to a dismal survival rate of 11%. Conversely, effective bystander CPR provided immediately after cardiac arrest can double or triple a victim's chance of survival.

This past March, Dan Christianson, one of my constituents, was riding his bike and suffered a massive heart attack. Thankfully, three teenagers were nearby and came to his aid. Without the quick action of these youth, and their prior CPR training, Dan would not be alive today. Time is of the essence in situations like this, and ensuring that our youth are getting this crucial, hands-on, education will equip them to be ready to respond in an emergency. I was honored to present those three teenagers with a Hometown Hero Award earlier this year.

Furthermore, my wife and I were at a baseball game this summer when we witnessed someone experiencing a cardiac event. Since my wife is a nurse, she was able to step in, administer CPR and save the man's life. There is a significant need for laypeople like you and me to be trained and ready to step in until professionals arrive, just as those boys and my wife did.

AB 545 will make our communities safer and improve survival rates for those who suffer cardiac arrest. The bill will help to ensure that all youth learn basic, compressions-only CPR in school. In most cases, the training can be done in as little as 30 minutes. To date, 27 states have passed similar legislation.

Many schools in Wisconsin already provide CPR training to their students. Some team up with their local fire/EMS and others work with champions at their local hospital. AB 545 will replicate those great programs and ensure all students have access to CPR training. It will also provide flexibility to allow the schools to implement a CPR program in a way that is best for their school. This will yield an additional 58,000 CPR trained youth to our communities each year, ultimately making our communities safer and improving survival rates.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to testify in support of this bill, and I would welcome any questions.

TO: Members, Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
FROM: Nicole Hudzinski, Government Relations Director, American Heart Association
John Raymond, MD, President, American Heart Association Metro Milwaukee Board and President and CEO of the Medical College of Wisconsin
Damond Boatwright, Chair, American Heart Association Madison Board and Regional President/CEO of Hospital Operations for SSM Health
DATE: January 13, 2016
RE: Support of Assembly Bill 545, providing lifesaving skills instruction to pupils

Good afternoon Chairman Kleefisch and members of the Committee. We are happy to be here today to testify in support of Assembly Bill 545, ensuring all youth learn basic, compressions-only CPR before they graduate. Our goal with this legislation is very simple— we want to save lives, and we want to empower Wisconsin’s youth to be those lifesavers by giving them the skills and confidence needed to help during a cardiac emergency.

Each day in the United States, approximately 1,000 people suffer cardiac arrest outside the hospital setting. Of those witnessed by another person, less than half receive CPR prior to EMS arriving, oftentimes because the person witnessing the arrest doesn’t know what to do. This leads to a dismal survival rate of 11 percent. We can and must do better.

Cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death. It can happen anywhere— at work, at the gym, while out shopping or most commonly at home, where we spend the most time. It strikes suddenly and without warning, and what happens in the first few minutes can mean the difference between life and death.

To survive a cardiac arrest, CPR must be started promptly to keep blood pumping to the brain, lungs and other organs. Sometimes first responders are nearby and can respond quickly; other times, depending where in the state it occurs, first responders can take 5, 10 or even 15 minutes to arrive. In these circumstances the victim’s life is in the hands of the people around them— people like you, me, and our youth.

Schools present an opportunity to teach our youth basic, compressions-only CPR. This is different from CPR certification, which is the level of training our EMS providers and medical professionals complete every two years. The training we’re looking for in the school setting is much more basic, and can be done in as little as 30 minutes. It can be easily incorporated into the school day, and many schools across the state already have model programs in place. Some team up with their local fire department or EMS agency, and others work with the local hospital. Others, like Hayward High School, have its own equipment and trained faculty. There are many models, and we believe these programs can and should be replicated in schools throughout the state.

To help with implementation, police, fire, EMS, and several other community resources are willing to help schools in their local communities. Additionally, the American Heart Association has committed to putting \$75,000 worth of training equipment in the state to help schools implement. This investment will put 100 manikins and 100 training DVDs in each of our states 12 Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs), providing schools access to the needed training equipment.

Additionally, this past June the Institute of Medicine released a report on surviving cardiac arrest, and one of the recommendations in the report is to train all youth in CPR. This report is a recognition by the medical community that we can and must do better when it comes to helping victims of cardiac arrest.

Wisconsin is not alone in its efforts to train youth in CPR. To date 27 states have passed similar requirements, adding thousands of lifesavers to their communities each year. If passed here in Wisconsin, we will add 58,000 CPR-trained individuals to our communities each year. In less time than it takes to watch a TV sitcom, we can give students the skills they need to help save someone's life.

One last point we would like to make is that this is not only about saving lives. It's also about giving our youth the skills they need to be prepared should they come across a cardiac emergency. Far too many times we hear from people, youth included, that they witnessed a cardiac event and didn't know what to do. The memory of the situation, and the feeling of helplessness, can haunt people. Not only will this bill save more lives, but it will give our youth the training they need to be prepared in those situations.

Assembly Bill 545 will substantially increase the number of CPR trained individuals in our state. It will teach Wisconsin citizens, from a young age, to have the skills and confidence to step in and help until professionals arrive. We ask for your support of Assembly Bill 545, and we are happy to answer any questions you have.



TO: WI Legislature
 DATE: December 22, 2015
 RE: SB 412/AB 545, relating to providing lifesaving skills instruction to pupils

Cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death, and immediate CPR followed by the timely use of an AED can literally mean the difference between life and death. **Please support SB 412/AB 545, authored by Senator Petrowski and Representative Spiros, ensuring all youth are trained in basic, compressions-only CPR.**

Imagine that you are one of the 1,000 people who will suffer sudden cardiac arrest in the United States today. You're at the gym, the grocery store, at work or most likely you are at home. Then suddenly, you collapse, and the only thing standing between you and a fatal outcome is someone's ability to perform CPR until emergency personnel arrive. Unfortunately, less than half (45.9%) of witnessed cardiac arrest victims receive CPR from a bystander prior to EMS arrival, oftentimes because the person who witnesses the cardiac arrest is not trained to provide life-saving CPR. This leads to a dismal survival rate of 11%.

SB 412/AB 545 will substantially increase the number of CPR-trained individuals in Wisconsin communities by incorporating basic, compressions-only CPR training into the school curriculum. The training can be done in as little as 30 minutes, and can easily be incorporated into the existing health curriculum. Many schools across the state already have model programs in place. To help with implementation, police officers, firefighters, EMS providers, and other community resources across the state are willing to work with schools in their local communities to conduct the training. The American Heart Association and the American Red Cross are also ready to contribute resources and help schools implement.

Wisconsin is not alone in its efforts to train youth in CPR. To date, 27 states have passed similar requirements, adding thousands of lifesavers to their communities each year. Additionally, the Institute of Medicine recently released a report "*Strategies to Improve Cardiac Arrest Survival: A Time to Act*" (June 2015), and one of the recommendations in the report is to train all youth in CPR.

SB 412/AB 545 creates potential lifesavers by training Wisconsin citizens from a young age to have the skills and confidence needed to step in and help until professionals arrive. It will enable Wisconsin to add over 58,000 CPR trained individuals to our communities each year, with the potential to save hundreds of lives. Please support SB 412/AB 545.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Nicole Hudzinski at 608-225-4042 or Nicole.hudzinski@heart.org. For more information, please visit www.heart.org/CPRWisconsin.

FACTS

CPR in Schools

Empowering Youth to be Lifesavers

OVERVIEW

Cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death, with nearly 326,200 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occurring each year in the United States. It strikes suddenly and without warning, and what happens within the first few minutes can mean the difference between life and death. Immediate CPR can double or even triple the chances of survival.

By training more lay persons in CPR, more people will be prepared to intervene and take action until medical professionals arrive. Teaching CPR in the school setting is common throughout the United States, and several states have passed legislation requiring it as part of the high school curriculum. It provides students with the skills and confidence necessary to perform CPR, ultimately making our communities safer and empowering our youth to save lives.

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart malfunctions and stops beating unexpectedly. It happens suddenly and without warning. With its pumping action disrupted, the heart cannot pump blood to the brain, lungs and other organs. Death occurs within minutes if the victim does not receive treatment.

Cardiac arrest is different from a heart attack, which is caused when blood flow to the heart is blocked. While different from cardiac arrest, serious heart attacks can cause a person to go into cardiac arrest.

SURVIVING CARDIAC ARREST

Surviving a cardiac arrest requires immediate bystander CPR followed by the timely use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). For every minute without CPR, survival from witnessed cardiac arrest decreases 7-10 percent. With EMS response times exceeding 10 minutes in many areas of Wisconsin, the need for trained bystanders is even greater.



you're the cure

Survival rates are dismal, around 11%, often because the person who witnesses the arrest is not trained to provide CPR. On average, only 45.9% of witnessed cardiac arrests receive CPR from a bystander, prior to EMS arrival.

In Milwaukee County in 2013, 778 people suffered a cardiac arrest and only 10.2% survived¹. Evidence shows that CPR initiated promptly by a bystander can double or even triple the chances of survival.

CPR TRAINING IN THE CLASSROOM

Schools present an opportunity to teach young people how to respond to cardiac arrests. In less than the time it takes to watch a 30-minute sitcom, we can give students the skills they need to help save someone's life with CPR. CPR training empowers our youth, giving them the training they need to be lifesavers.

LIFESAVERS IN SCHOOL

by AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION NEWS

Twenty-seven states have passed laws or adopted curriculum changes to require hands-on, guidelines-based CPR training for high school graduation. Each year, more than 1.6 million public high school graduates will have been trained in CPR.



Sources: American Heart Association; National Center for Education Statistics, 2013-2014 school year

ANNUAL HS GRADUATES

AL	42,920
AR	28,540
CT	35,540
DE	8,120
GA	92,010
IA	32,310
ID	17,170
IL	130,340
IN	65,940
LA	35,720
MD	56,990
MN	56,320
MS	25,720
NC	88,040
ND	6,980
NJ	92,220
NY	153,480
OK	37,300
OR	34,490
RI	9,460
TN	58,600
TX	291,830
UT	31,860
VA	79,900
VT	6,070
WA	65,310
WV	16,740

TOTAL 1,639,920

As of October 20, 2015, 27 states have passed legislation ensuring all students are trained in basic CPR prior to high school graduation.

CURRENT PRACTICE IN WISCONSIN

Many schools in Wisconsin already provide CPR training to students. Some schools team up with the local Fire/EMS agency, some team up with

the local hospital, and others have their own trainers and equipment. There are several models that could easily be implemented.



“Training our students in CPR prepares them to help others in their time of need. It’s easy to incorporate into the school day, and the students love the interactive nature of the training.”— Mrs. Angela Hutchinson, Department Chair; Physical Education & Health Instructor, Divine Savior Holy Angels, Milwaukee

“Providing high school students with life-saving techniques such as CPR allows them to confidently walk out into our communities and be prepared should a situation arise. Through classroom CPR training, students recognize the importance that a life could be saved by their efforts. The in-class training is easy, efficient and effective.”— Brooke Trettin, Health & Physical Education Instructor, Hayward High School

ETHAN'S STORY

(March 12, 2015) It was a day like any other day. Ethan Kariger, a 15-year-old student at D.C. Everest High School, was walking with his friends through Gaska Park in Rothschild, Wisconsin. A man, around 50 years old, passed the boys on his bike. A few seconds later they heard a crash.

The boys rushed to check on the man. Initially he was responsive, but quickly began having difficulty breathing and his eyes rolled back in his head. One of Ethan’s friends dialed 9-1-1. Ethan began performing CPR, which he learned the summer before while working at the community pool.

The biker survived the incident, in part because of the quick actions of Ethan and his friends. The boys have been recognized by the Rothschild

Police and Fire Departments and the victim’s family calls the three boys “heroes”. Additionally, the Wisconsin State Assembly presented each of the three boys, Ethan, Jakob and Hunter, with a Hometown Hero Award.

“I hoped I’d never have to put my CPR skills to use, but that day in the park I was thankful I knew exactly what to do.”— Ethan Kariger

“My family and I are so thankful that these three young men not only had CPR knowledge, but also had the training and ability to be able to put it into action. Without them, I know I would not be here today.”— Dan Christianson, survivor



THE AHA ADVOCATES

Sudden cardiac arrest is deadly and no one sees it coming. To make our communities safer and ultimately increase survival rates from cardiac arrest, we must train more lay people in CPR.

The American Heart Association advocates for all student to be trained in basic CPR prior to high school graduation. We want every youth to be trained and prepared to respond, just as Ethan did.

For more information, visit www.heart.org/CPRWisconsin

References:

- 1.) <http://county.milwaukee.gov/EMS/statisticsandreports.htm>; accessed 5/7/15

Date: January 13, 2016

To: Members, Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

From: Dee Pettack, Legislative Liaison, Department of Public Instruction

RE: Statement on AB 545

Current Law

2009 WI Act 273 required public high schools, independent charter schools, and private schools to offer enrolled high school students instruction in cardiopulmonary and cardio cerebral resuscitation (CCR) and instruction about automated external defibrillators (AED). The instruction in cardiopulmonary and cardio cerebral resuscitation must be based on an instructional program established by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association or other nationally recognized, evidence-based guidelines.

Senate Bill 412

Beginning in the 2017–18 school year, Assembly Bill 545 (AB 545) requires school boards, operators of independent charter schools, and governing bodies of private schools in grades 7 through 12 to provide instruction in CCR in any health education course offered to pupils and to provide instruction about AED to all pupils. Requiring all schools to actually provide, rather than just offer, instruction ensures that a greater number of students would have the opportunity to learn life-saving skills, which if properly utilized, might someday save another person's life.

Under this legislation, it is unclear how often a school district would be required to offer this training during the career of a student. However, it is possible that a student may receive this instruction multiple times as they progress from grades 7 through 12.

CCR could likely be completed in a class period – AB 545 does not require a student to receive certification cardiopulmonary and cardio cerebral resuscitation. Courses that do not offer certification to participants may be taught by “facilitators” (non-certified persons knowledgeable about CPR).

As you know, additional school district duties require staff time and resources. The overall fiscal effect will vary by district based on whether they offer certification as part of their instruction and the amount of supplies they will need to purchase for instruction, which may include the initial purchase of manikins and consumable supplies like disposable plastic airways for manikins' lungs, cleansing wipes, sanitizing supplies, and recognition cards.

Dan Christianson

Schofield, WI

Hi, my name is Dan Christianson. I am the individual that was saved by the quick actions of Ethan, Jakob, and Hunter on March 12th, 2015. I would like to thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today. I would also like to thank Ethan, Jakob, and Hunter because if they didn't step in and come to my aid, I wouldn't be with you all today.

The purpose of learning is so that one can in turn apply and use that knowledge in their own lives. The boys learned the lifesaving skill of CPR. They were then able to use that lifesaving skill on me. I believe that all high school students should learn CPR, because they can use this skill to in turn help others. I ask for your support of Assembly Bill 545.

Assembly Public Safety Committee
January 13, 2015, 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 300 NE
Testimony on AB 545, CPR in Schools

Good afternoon Chairman Kleefisch and members of the Committee. My name is Jakob Brogli and I'm a junior at DC Everest High School in Wausau, WI.

It was March 12, this past Spring. I had just got done with school, and I was hanging out with two of my friends, Ethan and Hunter. It was a beautiful day, and none of us had to work so we decided to go skateboarding in the park. We were walking on the path, near the parking lot, when a man passed us on his bike. We didn't think anything of it, but a couple seconds later we heard a crash. We ran over to him and knew he needed our help. He was responsive at first, but then his eyes rolled back in his head and he lost consciousness. I called 9-1-1 and the dispatcher told us we needed to start CPR.

My friend Ethan performed CPR on him. He was nervous about doing it, but we knew he needed our help. It all happened so fast, and I remember how nervous we all were. Thankfully EMS arrived quickly and took over.

Dan Christensen is the name of the man riding his bike that day. He has a wife, Penny, a daughter Laurissa, and two sons, Dave and Steve. He survived, and my friends and I are thankful to have played a role in that. We're also thankful we had the skills to step in and help that day, and we think all high school students should learn CPR. You never know when you are going to be the one who needs to help someone. We ask for your support of Assembly Bill 545.

Jakob Brogli

Rothschild, WI

CPR in Schools Legislation

My name is JoDee DeCleene and I am writing to support the proposed CPR in Schools Legislation. This training is invaluable and worth every effort to get into our schools. If our high school students learned CPR, we would have another 58,000 people in Wisconsin trained every year!

January 18, 2015 is a date I will never forget. It is the day that I died. I was at my in-laws house with my husband watching the play-off game between the Green Bay Packers and the Seattle Seahawks. We had asked our 22 year old daughter, Lindsay, to join us. I was feeling great and enjoying the game. Suddenly my Mother in law shouted to my husband that I needed help. My head slumped back, my eyes rolled into my head and I stopped breathing. My husband, Kevin, got me on the floor and started to perform CPR. He was very frantic and ineffective as he could not think clearly or remember how to do CPR. My daughter immediately called 911 and the dispatcher asked her to put her phone on speaker and get down on the floor by me. The dispatcher, Claire, talked Lindsay through chest compressions. Lindsay was able to focus and perform the compressions effectively and kept my blood moving and the color began to return to my body. Paramedics arrived 6 minutes later and shocked me twice to get my heart rhythm to return. They told my family that I most certainly would not have survived without the use of CPR. I firmly believe Lindsay was able to do the compressions as a result of CPR training that she and I attended at her high school six years prior. Her teacher collapsed suddenly from cardiac arrest seven years ago and another student performed CPR on him and saved his life. The next year she and her mother arranged to have CPR training class at the high school which Lindsay and I attended. Looking back I remember we both thought we would probably never need to use that training. Well, you never know. Just this past week a St. Norbert student collapsed while training and other students and teachers saved him with the use of CPR and the AED.

While there are certainly some people who have been trained in CPR, most people don't take the time or initiative. If we had our high school students learn CPR, just think of the lives that could be saved! They could learn and, in turn, teach their families, friends, grandparents, neighbors, etc. The more trained bystanders, the more lives that can be saved. Have you thought about it? If your husband, wife, child, or parent suddenly collapsed what would you do? Could you perform CPR or would you rely on a bystander?

Thanks to my husband and daughter I am alive today. I was able to walk down the aisle and dance with my son at his wedding last June. We recently learned we will be grandparents in June. Our daughter is now engaged and will be married in July. So many wonderful things to celebrate and am so thankful I am here! Without CPR I would not have had the chance to celebrate any of these milestones.

Please give your support to the CPR in Schools Legislation. Your life or the life of a loved one may depend on it.

Respectfully,

JoDee A. DeCleene

De Pere, WI



Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs' Association

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DATE: January 13, 2016
TO: Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety
FROM: Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association
RE: Support Assembly Bill 545

The Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs asks that you support Assembly Bill 545. AB 545 will help provide additional trained responders for cardiac events in Wisconsin.

CPR training is essential to the survivability of a patient when a cardiac event occurs. The first 4 – 6 minutes are crucial if the heart has gone into an arrhythmia that is not delivering adequate oxygenated blood to the vital organs in the patient. With many years of research CPR has evolved into a very efficient process if the citizen by-stander knows and is comfortable in performing CPR. We have learned through many years of research performing CPR that compression only CPR for the first 4 – 6 minutes is adequate to keep the oxygenated blood circulating until the ambulance arrives and can provide ventilations with oxygen for the patient. The by-stander does not have to do mouth to mouth on a stranger – just keep the already oxygenated blood circulating those first few minutes. Survivability of those patients has dramatically increased.

The next step in providing these patients the ability to survive these cardiac events is training for all residents of Wisconsin and the best place to start that process is to train all of our high school students before they graduate. This process will create large numbers of confident Wisconsin residents in applying their CPR skills when a cardiac event occurs.

Please consider supporting AB 545. If you have any questions please contact Dave Bloom, Legislative Liaison, WI State Fire Chiefs Association at 608-444-3324 cell or bloomd@town.madison.wi.us.





GREENFIELD

AMBULANCE
FIRE RESCUE



Seven young men are standing in a line in front of the ambulance. From left to right: the first man wears a black jacket and a black baseball cap; the second man wears a red t-shirt; the third man wears a black jacket; the fourth man wears a red t-shirt; the fifth man wears a red t-shirt; the sixth man wears a black jacket; and the seventh man wears a red t-shirt. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.

Good afternoon,

My name is Susan Kindschi and I am a registered nurse and have worked in cardiology since 1990. I live in Marshall and practice at Edgerton Hospital & Health Services, a small critical access hospital, where I am the manager of the Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics and Rehabilitation Department. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of **Assembly Bill 545**, teaching hands on CPR to every Wisconsin student. It is one of the simplest yet most important pieces of legislation that may come before you this year. This one bill can truly make the difference between life and death!

I have been certified in CPR my entire career and have been a certified American Heart Association CPR instructor for the past 8 years, teaching Health Care Provider CPR. Six years ago I went through the Red Cross training to teach compression only CPR. This has been a wonderful opportunity to reach out to the community and teach hundreds of everyday people who want to make a difference. The most exciting area where I teach is at the local high school in Edgerton. Each semester, as well as summer school, I teach juniors hands on CPR as part of the *Healthy Living* class. I bring the hospital's CPR mannequins and training automatic external defibrillators, AEDs, to the high school. Hands on CPR can be taught in one class period, approximately 50 minutes long. I taught sixty five students, 3 class periods, just in the month of December! Their teacher then assigns them to teach at least one other person as part of their homework. The Edgerton Hospital provides this community service because we think it is so important! Our athletic trainer and I make certain each student has the experience of doing compressions on a mannequin as well as practicing the entire scenario of scene safety, assessment of victim and initiating the 911 call. The students are attentive and engaged. Please see the comments on the back from some of the students last semester. Their teacher, Mrs. Guasman has sent: "Thank you, once again, for presenting information and skills on CPR and use of the hospital's AED machines to the students in Healthy Living 11 courses. The support of the hospital staff, including you and the athletic trainer, and use of the mannequins for practice is valuable in helping students learn to take emergency actions."

Three years ago, December of 2012, one of the students I had taught had the opportunity to put her training into practice when her little sister found the neighbor unresponsive. The student, Julia, and her Mom performed CPR until the EMS arrived and took over. She said it was **terrifying and exhilarating** at the same time! She was so glad she knew what to do! Julia determined **everyone** needed to know CPR and decided to take on that responsibility. She and her high school basketball teammates came to the Edgerton Hospital for a morning of training over their Christmas break. They then sponsored an event in February of 2013 called *The Heart of a Champion* where they taught over 80 community members CPR during halftime of the basketball game! Each team member was able to teach at least 10 people how to perform CPR and potentially save a loved one. The students felt incredibly empowered and were thrilled to know they could make a difference in their community and the community of the visiting team.

Teaching CPR is one of my passions! There is nothing else I do in my personal or professional life that can have as great an impact. Please choose to make a difference in the lives of your constituents by supporting this simple but extremely important bill. Thank you for allowing me to share my passion with you.

Sue just taught the class yesterday. Here are few comments from students:

"I think CCR is important to teach people because you are prepared if anything happens. Learning CCR at a young age can help you know how to save lives at anytime in your life. This is a presentation every teen should be shown." Jessica Peterson

"I like that we all have to learn this because this is good information to have. If I'm ever in a situation where someone around me is passed out, I know if no one else can help, I can. This is a valuable skill to have, I hope I never have to use it though!" Bergen Larson

"[I appreciate learning] CPR and how to use the AED. Both skills are helpful skill; I may save someone's life. I thought the course was extremely effective. It was understandable, informational, and not too long. If it was too long, we may not have payed attention as well. I think all students from here on out should learn CPR and how to use the AED." Leanne Wileman

"I feel more confident with my skills of saving a life. I now know CCR and how important it is to know how to safe a person's life!" Kelsey Boss

"It is very important for as many people as possible to learn CCR so that more lives can be saved. I plan on teaching my parents and friends who aren't in the class." Mason Demrow

"I think it very important to understand CCR and proper AED use. You never know if you'll need to use it, but if you do, you don't want to be a helpless bystander, especially if it is someone you love!" Ethan Richardson

"I really like the hands-on learning! Sean deMoya Cotter

"My family is very hospital-centered and I already knew CCR, but I did not know how to use an AED...It's hard when you don't practice like we did in class. I especially think learning CCR, CPR and how to use the AED machine is the most important thing to learn in health class; it helps prepare people for those situations so they don't FREAK!" Tracy Rice

"I think it is important to learn CCR over CPR. because many people think they should perform mouth-to-mouth, when they really should just do CCR (compressions) based on the data shared on how it is more successful." Annabelle Langer

"It's wonderful to know how to help someone who you barely know or don't know at all. CCR help us be able to help someone without the hesitation of CPR." Abby Love

"The training for CCR was a good idea because now we know what to do if there ever was a situation that we needed to use it. ...I hope the legislators will pass the law that requires CCR training. I liked [learning] the defibrillator training, because I never heard that before." Emma Hedding

"I think the presentation was good, especially the fact that we got to learn basic CCR skills. It can be easily used on someone in need. It may not happen often but when it does, I will be ready. " Deon Thompson

"This was a helpful experience that everyone should have. I already showed by mom how to do this!" Andy Haugom

" CCR is so important to know. Like you said, you can save a life knowing this procedure. I enjoyed the presentations and the hands-on experience." Erin Chapados.

Barb Gausman
Healthy Living
Senior Class Advisor
Edgerton High School

Wisconsin State Assembly – AB 545
Testimony of Mary Jo Gordon – Seymour, WI

Chairman Kleefisch and Members of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, thank you for this opportunity to testify in favor of Assembly Bill 545. My testimony today provides both a personal and a professional perspective on what I believe is the most important lesson a student can learn – how to save a life.

My family and I have an inherited heart disorder that can cause sudden cardiac arrest, primarily in children, teens, and young adults.

In 1979, my youngest sister suffered sudden cardiac arrest, meaning her heart stopped beating. She was on her way home from school and no one with her knew how to do effective CPR. As a result, she was left profoundly brain damaged. She was only 17 years old.

Two-years later, another sister suffered cardiac arrest and my parents, who had just taken a CPR course, successfully performed CPR on her. Several years later, my 11-year-old nephew suffered cardiac arrest and his dad, my brother, did CPR until paramedics arrived. And I am here today because people knew CPR when I, too, suffered cardiac arrest in 2007.

My family's stunning experience highlights the importance of knowing CPR and has guided me on a professional mission to ensure that everyone learns this life-saving skill.

To that end, I have certifications in emergency medical services in Massachusetts and Washington states. I am an EMT/Paramedic member of the American Heart Association. I have held certifications as an American Red Cross and American Heart Association CPR instructor for more than 30 years and have trained hundreds of health care providers in Basic and Advanced Cardiac Life Support.

Of the more than 2,000 individuals I have trained over the years, I am most proud to say that the majority have been high school students. CPR and AED training was part of the health class curriculum and required for high school graduation in the large rural fire district where I worked in King County Washington. I have also trained students as young as 9 years old from families at risk for sudden cardiac arrest, just like mine. Thanks to extensive research by the Heart Association and other medical professionals, hands-only CPR is much easier to learn and remember, and is very effective in practice.

I have particularly enjoyed teaching middle school and high school students because they are so eager to learn and they retain the skills for years. I have heard many success stories, like the 19 year old who had taken my class as a high school freshman and then saved his college roommate five years later. Another of my students successfully did CPR on his grandfather and saved his life. CPR works!

Working as a medic, cardiac arrests calls were always the most challenging. With often long responses times, arriving on scene to see CPR in progress by a family member or a bystander was always a bit of relief because we knew our chances of saving that patient's life were far better than if no CPR had been performed.

I know all too well that early activation of 9-1-1, effective CPR, and an AED are the cardiac arrest victim's only hope for survival. In my opinion, learning CPR is the most important class a student can take because it is the ONLY class where they will learn to save a life. What an incredibly powerful return for just 30-minutes of training! Thank you.

TO: Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety
FROM: Dr. Anoop K. Singh, Director of Cardiac Electrophysiology, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
DATE: January 13, 2016
RE: AB 545 – Support of CPR in Schools

Good afternoon Chairman Kleefisch and committee members. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to share testimony today. My name is Dr. Anoop K. Singh and I am the Director of Electrophysiology at the Herma Heart Center for Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and also the Medical Director of Project ADAM.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin serves children from every county in the state. We care for every part of a child's health from routine checkups to critical care in the hospital. Children's focuses on all elements of pediatric well being by providing school health nurses, dental care, foster care services, adoption services, family resource centers, child health advocacy, health education, pediatric medical research, and the statewide poison hotline.

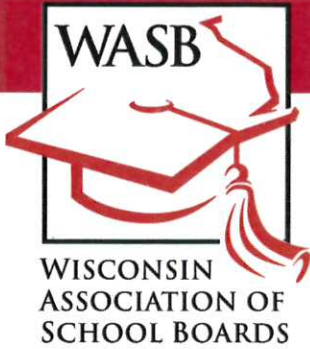
The Herma Heart Center at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin is the largest pediatric cardiac center in the state and ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the number five (#5) pediatric cardiology and heart surgery program in the nation. One of our community programs of excellence is Project ADAM. Project ADAM began in 1999 after a series of sudden deaths among previously healthy, high school athletes in southeastern Wisconsin. A heart condition is often the cause of death in these situations. Prompt cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) can save most lives in these situations. Project ADAM helps schools in Wisconsin and across the nation by providing AEDs and emergency preparedness for schools. Currently, there is only an 11% chance of surviving a cardiac arrest in Wisconsin. With the help of AB 545 we can greatly increase the survival rate in Wisconsin by providing a life-saving skill to everyone.

AB 545 would require school boards, operators of independent charter schools, and governing bodies of private schools:

- To provide instruction in cardiopulmonary and cardiocerebral resuscitation in any health education course offered to students in grades 7 to 12
- To provide information about AEDs to these students.

This legislation will make our communities safer and ensure that all youth learn basic, compressions-only CPR in school. In most cases, the training can be done in as little as 30 minutes. Similar legislation has now been passed in 27 states.

Chairman Kleefisch and committee members, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of AB 545. If you have any more questions you can contact me via email at ASingh@chw.org or via telephone at 414-266-2380.



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John H. Ashley, Executive Director

TO: Members, Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice & Public Safety
FROM: Dan Rossmiller & Chris Kulow, Government Relations Staff
RE: Assembly Bill 545, Relating to providing lifesaving skills instruction to pupils.
DATE: January 13, 2016

The Wisconsin Association of School Boards, representing 423 school boards across the state of Wisconsin, is neutral on Assembly Bill 545.

Our primary concern with this bill from the start has been the financial impact on school districts. In particular the cost of the training and equipment to provide this specialized instruction in CPR to students.

Although the bill itself is an unfunded mandate, the WASB is not opposing the bill for a number of reasons:

- The author of the bill, Sen. Petrowski, has been responsive to our concerns and has worked with representatives of the American Heart Association to lessen the financial burden on schools. We thank both Senator Petrowski and the AHA for their work on this.
- The AHA has indicated to us it is prepared to invest \$75,000—enough to provide each CESA in the state with 100 kits (mannequins and training DVDs) for use in training students.
- In addition, the AHA is working on a grant proposal with CESA 7 to provide substantially more funding. If successful, this grant application would fund teacher training and provide those teachers who successfully complete the training with kits they could take back to their districts. The grant may even include funds to cover the cost of hiring substitutes while teachers are receiving training.
- We are also encouraged by the opportunity for schools to partner with local fire/EMS and medical providers such as hospitals and clinics in an effort to reduce costs.
- It is our understanding that the instruction required by the bill can be done in as little as 30 minutes per student and teachers will not be required to obtain any additional license or certification to do the training. We appreciate this aspect of the bill.
- The bill has a delayed effective date of the 2017-18 school year which will give schools time to plan and schools are already required to *offer* CPR training to students.
- The bill has strong bipartisan support and there is undoubtedly a benefit to the community of having students with lifesaving skills.