



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** Res 1749-2001, **Version:** \*

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Res. No. 1749

Resolution calling upon the appropriate committee of the Council to conduct an oversight hearing on the use of Automatic External Defibrillators at all public education facilities and athletic fields, and further calling upon the New York City Board of Education to implement a comprehensive Automatic External Defibrillator emergency response plan at all public education facilities and athletic fields.

By Council Members Robles, Oddo, Berman, Clarke, Malave-Dilan, Moskowitz, Provenzano, Quinn, Warden, Abel and Golden; also Council Members Carrion, Fisher, Harrison, Michels, O'Donovan, Rodriguez and Sabini

Whereas, Each year, an estimated 225,000 Americans die from sudden cardiac arrest, and even seemingly healthy young people who exercise regularly can experience cardiac arrest; and

Whereas, Furthermore, the vast majority of deaths from cardiac arrest occur outside of a hospital, with the highest incidence occurring in public places; and

Whereas, Public educational facilities and athletic events can attract 1,000 or more people of varying ages; and

Whereas, An Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is a life-saving tool if used within the short 10 minute window following an incident of sudden cardiac arrest; and

Whereas, Every minute that defibrillation is delayed, a victim's chances of survival decreases by 10 percent; and

Whereas, Recently, a number of localities have recognized the importance of AED, including the Jackson County West Virginia Board of Education, which approved the purchase of two AEDs for deployment at two high schools in response to the death of a 16-year-old high school athlete, and the Northport-East Long Island school district, which aggressively implemented AEDs in its emergency response plan, distributing well over a dozen AEDs throughout its schools and extensively training numerous staff members in the use of AEDs in response to the death of a 14-year-old student; and

Whereas, Furthermore, a beloved educator in New York City recently suffered a fatal heart attack while playing in a faculty-student charity event at a public high school, and no life-saving AED was available, nor was there a comprehensive AED emergency response plan in effect to prevent his death; and

Whereas, According to the American Heart Association, the use of an AED, combined with other emergency responses, greatly increases the chances of surviving a heart attack; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the appropriate committee of the Council conduct an oversight hearing on the use of Automatic External Defibrillators at all public education facilities and athletic fields, and further calling upon the New York City Board of Education to implement a comprehensive Automatic External Defibrillator emergency response plan at all public education facilities and athletic fields.

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