

## Matt Mangine Sr. Testimony House Health Provider Services Committee

- Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the House Health Provider Services Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimonial support on House Bill 47 and the urgent need for legislative action involving the use of Automated External Defibrillators or AEDs availability and access
- My name is Matt Mangine, OUR Son, MATTHEW MANGINE JR. collapsed during soccer practice on June 16, 2020, at the age of 16. An AED was not used or brought to the scene until the EMTs arrived roughly 12 minutes after his collapse. During our investigation we found that the closest AED was less than 250 feet from where he collapsed but was never brought to or used on him. For an AED to be most effective it needs to be applied within the first three minutes of collapse. The high school's Emergency Action Plan (EAP) stated that several AEDs were on site. The loss of our child was unthinkable, and something no parent should face.
- AED access and frequent training are key to success. Currently one of our greatest success stories is Taylor High School in Cleves, Ohio. To date we have trained over 700 athletes, coaches, and teachers at this school, and it continues to grow every day. Every sport at Taylor requires a hands-on refresher training for the coaches who are already CPR/AED certified before the season starts. The athletic director Larry Herges wanted to take it one step further, so we also train every athlete the first week of practice. The cost of this is ZERO and their Athletic Trainers Lauren and Betsy have made it their passion to be ready for any catastrophic event. We hope that All Schools in Ohio implement education programs that mimic programs similar to this.
- As we all know, sudden cardiac arrest can strike anyone, at any time, regardless of age or physical fitness. Every year, thousands of young people suffer from sudden cardiac arrest, and many of them die as a result. SCA is the leading cause of death among youth athletes. A student athlete dies every 3.5 days from SCA. However, with the availability of AEDs, the chances of survival increase dramatically.
- **It is not a matter of IF it is a matter of WHEN.**
- We have made great strides in recent years in increasing the availability of AEDs in public places, but there is still much work to be done. Specifically, I am here to advocate for changes in the bylaws governing AED use in schools and athletic venues.
- Currently, many schools do not have AEDs on site, and those that do may not have them readily accessible or adequately maintained. This puts students, teachers, and staff at unnecessary risk. We need to make it mandatory for all schools to have AEDs on site and easily accessible.
- I urge you to consider the importance of this issue and to take legislative action that will make our schools safer for everyone. By implementing these changes, we can increase the chances of survival for those who suffer from sudden cardiac arrest and provide peace of mind to parents, teachers, and students alike.

- Matthew's favorite color was Purple, the foundation that Kim and I started in his honor uses Purple in all we do. This issue is not BLUE or RED this issue is PURPLE.
- Thank you for your attention to this important matter.