



4 March 2025

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American Heart Association Budget requests
Ohio House Public Safety Committee
HB 96 – Interested Party

Provide Funding for the Ohio Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (Ohio CARES) Registry

REQUEST – Provide a \$500,000/year appropriation via Dept. of Public Safety

- Ohio CARES currently receives only \$25,000/year from Ohio.
 - This current budget does not cover even basic operating expenses.
 - As an example, Illinois CARES receives \$500,000/year
 - Without additional funding, Ohio CARES will cease to exist in 2025
- Ohio CARES is part of a nationwide effort to improve survival from sudden cardiac arrest.
 - Immediate bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) doubles or triples the chance of survival.
 - Only 33% of cardiac arrests in Ohio receive bystander CPR.
 - Ohio is below the national average of 41% for bystander CPR and 3rd worst in the nation.
 - Other states have a bystander CPR rate as high as 75%.
- Overall, the CARES program seeks to:
 - Improve the bystander CPR rate in Ohio to save more lives from cardiac arrest
 - Strengthen collaboration between bystanders, 911 centers, first responders, emergency medical services (EMS) agencies and hospitals
 - Provide a simple, confidential process for measuring patient outcomes in compliance with HIPAA to help communities improve.