



December 6th, 2023

Re: A letter of support for HB 47

Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson and Members of the Senate Health Committee:

On behalf of Philips, I urge the Committee to pass HB 47, legislation that would require sports and recreation facilities and schools to have automated external defibrillators (AEDs) on site.

As you may know, Philips is a health technology company focused on improving people's lives. The company produces a variety of health care technologies, including AEDs, patient monitors, medical imaging machines, ventilators, among many other solutions. Philips employs nearly 600 in Ohio with facilities in Highland Heights and Beachwood.

Philips applauds any legislative effort to expand access and awareness of AEDs because they increase the survival rate from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), which is a life-threatening emergency that occurs when the heart suddenly stops beating. This emergency could strike people of all ages at any moment, even those who appear healthy. An AED analyzes the heart and delivers a shock to restart the heart's normal rhythm if it detects a problem. An AED is critical to reviving a sudden cardiac arrest victim.

This legislation is important because SCA may happen when individuals exercise. For example, one study in Portland, Oregon from 2002-2015, found that sports-related SCA accounted for 39% of SCAs among those under 18 years of age, 13% for those 19-25 years of age, and 7% for those 25-34 in a prospective registry of 3,775 SCAs in Portland, OR.¹

In addition, requiring AEDs in schools is important if SCA strikes a student. According to the National Emergency Medical Services Information System, out-of-hospital cardiac arrest strikes approximately 23,000 youth under 18 annually.²

According to the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation, only 1 in 10 Americans survive SCA. Approximately 356,000 people of all ages experience SCA out of the hospital each year.³ For every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation, a SCA victim's survival chances decrease by 7-10 percent.⁴ Another study of nearly 50,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests, showed the value of bystanders using a publicly available AED before emergency services arrive. According to this research:

- The victim had far greater chance of survival and being discharged from the hospital than those who did not: 66.5 percent versus 43 percent.
- The victim survived 2.62 times higher to hospital discharge and 2.73 times more favorable outcomes compared to victims who first received an AED shock after emergency responders arrived.⁵

¹ [See Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation latest statistics landing page](#)

² See [Incidence of SCA in Youth - Parent Heart Watch](#)

³ [See Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation about-us section](#)

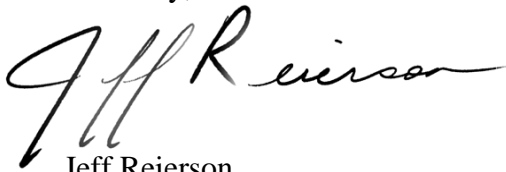
⁴ AHA Releases 2015 Heart and Stroke Statistics, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation, September 16, 2016

⁵ [See Cardiac arrest survival greatly increases when bystanders use an AED](#), *ScienceDaily* February 26, 2018

HB 47 would increase the probability that an AED shock can be delivered within minutes of a SCA happening in a sports facility or school. For these reasons, Philips urges this Committee to advance this bill forward.

For more information, please contact Evan Hoffman, director of state and local government relations for Philips at evan.hoffman@philips.com. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Reiersen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Jeff Reiersen
Leader, Emergency Care
Philips



Philips North America

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