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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS
REQUIRED AT PUBLIC PLACES AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES -- DAVID CASEY
ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Fellela, Serpa, Messier, Corvese, Ackerman, and
Caldwell

Date Introduced: January 16, 2025

Referred To: House Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "David Casey Act".

2 SECTION 2. Section 23-6.5-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-6.5 entitled "Automated
3 External Defibrillators Required at Public Places and Healthcare Facilities" is hereby amended to
4 read as follows:

5 **23-6.5-4. Definitions.**

6 The following definitions govern the construction of this chapter:

7 (1) "Healthcare facility" means any healthcare facility licensed by the department of health
8 including any institutional health-service provider, facility, or institution, place, building, agency,
9 or portion thereof, whether a partnership or corporation, whether public or private, whether
10 organized for profit or not, used, operated, or engaged in providing healthcare services, including,
11 but not limited to: hospitals; nursing facilities; rehabilitation centers; kidney disease treatment
12 centers; health maintenance organizations; and facilities providing surgical treatment to patients
13 not requiring hospitalization (surgi-centers); hospice care; and physician ambulatory-surgery
14 centers and podiatry ambulatory-surgery centers providing surgical treatment. The term "healthcare
15 facility" also includes organized ambulatory-care facilities that are not part of a hospital but that
16 are organized and operated to provide healthcare services to outpatients, such as: central-services
17 facilities serving more than one healthcare facility or healthcare provider; treatment centers;
18 diagnostic centers; outpatient clinics; infirmaries and health centers; school-based health centers;

1 and neighborhood health centers. The term “healthcare facility” also includes a practitioner’s
2 (physician, dentist, or other healthcare provider) office or group of practitioners’ offices (whether
3 owned and/or operated by a hospital or an affiliate of a hospital or an individual practitioner, alone
4 or as a member of a partnership, professional service corporation, organization, or association).

5 (2) “Public place” means an enclosed area capable of holding three hundred (300) people
6 or more and to which the public is invited or in which the public is permitted, including, but not
7 limited to: banks; bars; educational facilities; laundromats; [public or private golf courses](#); public
8 transportation facilities; reception areas; restaurants; retail food production and marketing
9 establishments; retail service establishments; retail stores; shopping malls; sports arenas;
10 government offices; theaters; and waiting rooms. A private residence is not a “public place” unless
11 it is used as a childcare or adult daycare facility.

12 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS
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- 1 This act would require public or private golf courses to have an automated external
- 2 defibrillator on the premises.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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