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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

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

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

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

5           The following definitions govern the construction of this chapter:

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

1 (physician, dentist, or other healthcare provider) office or group of practitioners' offices (whether  
2 owned and/or operated by a hospital or an affiliate of a hospital or an individual practitioner, alone  
3 or as a member of a partnership, professional service corporation, organization, or association).

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

11 SECTION 2. 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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