By the Committees on Justice Appropriations; Community Affairs; and Senators Fasano, Bennett, Lynn and Crist

604-2049-05

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to automated external
3	defibrillators in law enforcement vehicles;
4	providing legislative findings and intent;
5	providing definitions; requiring the Department
6	of Law Enforcement to administer a grant
7	program to fund the placement of automated
8	external defibrillators in law enforcement
9	vehicles; limiting the amount of such grants to
10	amounts specifically appropriated; providing
11	for administrative costs; requiring a law
12	enforcement agency to provide matching funds
13	when making a grant request; providing an
14	exception; providing for priority consideration
15	for certain applications; requiring the
16	department to adopt rules; providing an
17	effective date.
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19	WHEREAS, automated external defibrillators (AEDs) have
20	saved numerous lives in Florida from sudden cardiac arrest,
21	and
22	WHEREAS, currently only 5 percent of sudden cardiac
23	arrest victims survive, and
24	WHEREAS, early defibrillation is critical in saving
25	lives from sudden cardiac arrest, and
26	WHEREAS, a victim of sudden cardiac arrest who is not
27	defibrillated within 8 to 10 minutes has little chance of
28	survival, and
29	WHEREAS, even the best emergency medical services
30	systems are often not able to respond to victims of sudden
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1	cardiac arrest within the necessary 4 minutes after collapse,
2	and
3	WHEREAS, law enforcement officers who have been
4	equipped with AEDs in their cars have saved lives, and
5	WHEREAS, law enforcement officers are frequently first
6	on the scene in an emergency medical situation, and
7	WHEREAS, communities have greater numbers of law
8	enforcement officers than emergency medical service personnel,
9	and
10	WHEREAS, victims of sudden cardiac arrest have a
11	greater chance of survival in communities where law
12	enforcement officers are equipped with AEDs, and
13	WHEREAS, AEDs allow trained lay rescuers to quickly and
14	safely deliver defibrillation before emergency medical service
15	personnel can arrive, and
16	WHEREAS, law enforcement officers are continuously on
17	patrol and are poised to respond immediately to emergencies,
18	and
19	WHEREAS, equipping law enforcement vehicles with AEDs
20	can save lives, NOW, THEREFORE,
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22	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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24	Section 1. $\underline{(1)(a)}$ The Legislature finds that placing
25	automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in law enforcement
26	vehicles will save lives.
27	(b) The Legislature further finds that law enforcement
28	officers have an established public role as quardians of
29	public safety and are in a unique position to help reduce
30	death from sudden cardiac arrest. Therefore, the Legislature
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1	intends to promote and encourage law enforcement agencies to
2	equip their vehicles with AEDs.
3	(2) As used in this section, the term:
4	(a) "AED" means an automated external defibrillator.
5	(b) "Department" means the Department of Law
6	Enforcement.
7	(c) "Law enforcement agency" means any law enforcement
8	service provider, including a municipal police department, a
9	county sheriff's office, and the Florida Highway Patrol.
10	(d) "Law enforcement vehicle" means any marked or
11	unmarked automobile used by a law enforcement agency to serve
12	the community or patrol a specific area.
13	(3) The department shall administer a grant program to
14	provide funds to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of
15	placing AEDs in law enforcement vehicles. Grants awarded by
16	the department shall be limited to amounts specifically
17	appropriated each year for the purposes of this section. The
18	department may spend up to 3 percent of the funds received
19	under this section for administrative costs.
20	(4)(a) A law enforcement agency shall provide matching
21	funds of at least 25 percent in order to be considered for
22	funding when making a grant request.
23	(b) A law enforcement agency that serves a rural
24	community as defined in s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes, which
25	requests a grant is not required to provide a 25-percent
26	match, but must provide matching funds of at least 10 percent
27	in order to be considered for funding. The department shall
28	give priority consideration to grant applications from rural
29	law enforcement agencies.
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1	(5) The department shall adopt rules for administering
2	the Automated External Defibrillator Grant Program by
3	September 1, 2005.
4	Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
5	law.
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7	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
8	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR <u>CS for SB 328</u>
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10	The CS specifies that grants awarded by the Department of Law
11	Enforcement to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of placing Automated External Defibrillators in law enforcement
12	vehicles shall be limited to amounts specifically appropriated each year for administering the grant program. The CS allows
13	the department to spend up to three percent of the funds appropriated for administrative costs.
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