



KANSAS EMS ASSOCIATION
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Unity Is Strength

March 15, 2024

Ms. Molly Baumgardner, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Re: HB 2494

Ms. Chairwoman and committee,

The Kansas EMS Association strongly and proudly supports any efforts aimed at the early detection and response to cardiovascular related illnesses or events. The proposed legislation is aimed to provide the training and coordinated response which will ensure early recognition and thus potentially lifesaving intervention which is critical to the survival of heart attacks, strokes, or a myriad of other life altering medical conditions. The 9-1-1 chain of survival starts with bystanders recognizing a medical emergency, activating a team approach to the coordination of response, and working together as a team until help arrives. This response can only occur when persons or organizations realize the need for plans and training which are only accomplished by preparing in advance for such incidents. Early CPR, defibrillation with the use of an AED, and understanding how to care for individuals suffering from acute medical conditions have been proven to save lives.

The Kansas EMS Association believes lives will be saved every year in a school or school related event if the staff and students are well prepared for such an eventuality. Legislation such as HB 2494 will save lives and should be supported by this legislative body. We are proud to stand with the American Heart Association in support of this important legislation and ask for the support of the Kansas legislature in this endeavor.

Respectfully,

David A. Adams, President

Kansas EMS Association