



**Testimony before the
Senate Education Committee
On
HB 2494 Cardiac Emergency Response Plan Legislation**

**By
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Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on HB 2494. USA Kansas appears in support to the concert behind the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan. When the bill was first heard in the House Education committee we were neutral in our testimony. This was due to our concern over an unfunded mandate and a great deal of concern over how the bill would be supported by various agencies within state government and implementation of the requirements listed in the bill. However, since that time there has been a great deal of work by several individuals and groups. For this reason we feel can support the legislation.

The United School Administrators sent out a survey to schools in January 2024 seeking answers to: How many school districts currently have AED machines in their buildings and how many? How many school districts have trained staff in CPR? How many districts have an Emergency Response Plan in place?

The response from school districts was approximately 50% of all school districts responding had at least one AED machine in their district. Over 75% reported having multiple machines in their district (at least one in every building, many districts have multiple machines in each building depending on size). Smaller districts (less than 500 students) reported having the fewest AED machines in their buildings. All districts reported having trained staff in CPR (KSHSAA requires coaches and sponsors be trained in CPR). Less than 20% of the districts reported having an Emergency Response Plan in place. There is still a great deal of information that is needed to determine what the expense of the bill would be to school districts.

USA Kansas is in support of this legislation due to the potential benefit to the students, staff, and visitors to the school districts across Kansas.