

Florida AED Law

House Bill 411 - Passed 1997

Florida House of Representatives - 1997 HB 411

By Representative Byrd

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to medical transportation services; amending s. 401.291, F.S.; revising legislative intent with respect to automatic external defibrillators; revising requirements with respect to training and qualifications to use an automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 401.291, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

401.291 Automatic external defibrillators.--

- (1) The Legislature finds that the provision of timely emergency attention will save many lives. The Legislature further finds that the use of automatic and semiautomatic defibrillators may save the lives of many residents of the state and recognizes that the incorrect or inappropriate use of a defibrillatory shock could cause injury or death. It is the intent of the Legislature to set minimum standards for use, training, and medical control of automatic and semiautomatic defibrillators and the use of these medical devices in an out-of-hospital environment.
- (2) An automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator may be used by any individual who meets the requirements of this section who has successfully completed an appropriate training course as approved by the local emergency medical services medical director. This requirement consists of completion of a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation or successful completion of a basic first aid course that includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation training, and demonstrated proficiency in the use of an automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator, and to include instruction in:
 - (a) The proper use, maintenance, and periodic inspection of the automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator.
 - (b) Defibrillator safety precautions to enable the user to administer a shock without jeopardizing the safety of the patient, the user, or other persons.
 - (c) Assessment of an unconscious person to determine if cardiac arrest has occurred and the appropriateness of applying an automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator.
 - (d) Recognizing that an electrical shock has been delivered to the patient and that the defibrillator is no longer charged.
 - (e) Rapid, accurate assessment of the patient's postshock status to determine if further activation of the automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator is necessary.

- (f) The operations of the local emergency medical services system, including methods of access to the emergency response system, the need to activate the EMS system as soon as possible upon use of the automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator, and interaction with emergency medical services personnel.
- (g) The role of the user and coordination with other emergency medical service providers in the provision of cardiopulmonary resuscitation, defibrillation, basic life support, and advanced life support.
- (h) The responsibility of the user to continue care until the arrival of medically qualified personnel.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

HOUSE SUMMARY

Revises the provision of law in the Raymond H. Alexander, M.D., Emergency Medical Transportation Services Act dealing with automatic external defibrillators to revise language with respect to legislative intent and to revise the requirements with respect to training and with respect to individuals who may use automatic or semiautomatic defibrillators. See bill for details.