

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO EDUCATION -- HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS

Introduced By: Representative Peter J. Petrarca

Date Introduced: January 27, 2011

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1-1 SECTION 1. Chapter 16-21 of the General Laws entitled "Health and Safety of Pupils" is

1-2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

1-3 **16-21-33.1. Automatic external defibrillators.** – (a) Legislative findings-

1-4 (1) Approximately three hundred twenty-five thousand (325,000) Americans suffer

1-5 sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) each year and more than ninety-five percent (95%) of them die

1-6 before reaching the hospital;

1-7 (2) In the population of Rhode Island, an estimated one thousand (1,000) residents will

1-8 die of cardiac arrest every year;

1-9 (3) No official statistics have been gathered about SCA in children, however experts

- 3-1 This act would mandate that all public and private elementary and secondary schools in
- 3-2 the state shall have functional automatic external defibrillators on school grounds at all times.
- 3-3 This act would take effect at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.

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