

1 HR505

2 59020-1

3 By Representative Newton (D)

4 RFD: Rules

5 First Read: 10-JUN-03 Page 1

1 59020-1:n:06/10/2003:MCS/th LRS2003-3495

2

3

4

5

6

7

8 REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROGRAM TO REGISTER

9 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS.

10 WHEREAS, heart disease is the leading cause of death

11 in Alabama; and

12 WHEREAS, a cardiac arrest victim's chance of

13 survival drops 10 percent for every minute that passes before

14 his or her heart is returned to normal rhythm; and

15 WHEREAS, because most cardiac arrest victims are

16 initially in ventricular fibrillation, and the only treatment

17 for ventricular fibrillation is defibrillation, prompt access

18 to defibrillation to return the heart to normal rhythm is

19 essential; and

20 WHEREAS, lifesaving technology, the automated

21 external defibrillator, has been developed to allow trained
22 lay rescuers to respond to cardiac arrest by using this simple
23 device to shock the heart into normal rhythm; and
24 WHEREAS, those people who are likely to be first on
25 the scene of a cardiac arrest situation in many communities,
26 particularly smaller and rural communities, lack sufficientPage 2

1 numbers of automated external defibrillators to respond to
2 cardiac arrest in a timely manner; and

3 WHEREAS, the American Heart Association estimates
4 that more than 50,000 deaths could be prevented each year if
5 defibrillators were more widely available to designated
6 responders; and

7 WHEREAS, this body supports a registry of automatic
8 external defibrillators and recognizes the importance of all
9 manufacturers of such equipment to notify the Alabama Council
10 of Emergency Medical Services of the purchaser of each unit
11 and the placement of such unit, so that the EMS Council can
12 contact the appropriate 911 emergency response center in the
13 county where such units are located so that these centers may
14 notify first responders in the event a cardiac emergency
15 occurs; now therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
17 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby request that the
18 Alabama Council of Emergency Medical Services and the Alabama
19 Chapter of the American Heart Association contact the

20 manufacturers of automated external defibrillators urging them
21 to establish a registry of automated external defibrillators.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge that the
23 manufacturers of such defibrillators to notify owners of
24 automated external defibrillators that removal of the unit by
25 the owner for any reason should be reported to the Alabama
26 Council of Emergency Medical Services so that appropriate
27 action can be taken with the local 911 center. Page 3

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama Council of
2 Emergency Medical Services and the American Heart Association,
3 to whom copies of this resolution shall be provided, are
4 requested to report during January 2005 to the Legislature the
5 results of their actions as requested in this resolution.