Committee on Public Health Bill Summary

Bill No. H2391

Title: An Act requiring automated external defibrillators at sporting

events

Sponsor: Representative Marjorie C. Decker

Committee: Public Health

Hearing Date: April 2, 2025

Similar Matters: S1489 (identical)

Prior History: Refile of H4972 of 2023-2024; Assigned to Joint Committee on

Public Health and reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing and recommended ought to pass; Referred to House Ways and Means and accompanied by a new draft; Ordered to a third reading and passed to be engrossed; Referred to Senate Ways

and Means; No further action taken.

Reporting Deadline: June 1, 2025

Current Law:

• M.G.L. Chapter 93 pertains to the regulation of trade and certain enterprises.

• M.G.L. Chapter 93 § 78 defines "Buyer," "Contract for health club services," "Health club," and "Seller" used throughout the section.

Summary:

This bill amends Section 78 of M.G.L. Chapter 93 by requiring sporting event facilities to have automated external defibrillators (AEDs) on facility premises and further requiring such facilities to have an AED- and CPR-trained employee/volunteer on facility premises during a sporting event.

SECTION 1 amends M.G.L. Chapter 93 § 78 by inserting a definition for "facility", a public stadium, sports center, gymnasium or other facility hosting or providing for an athletic or sporting event.

SECTION 2 amends M.G.L. Chapter 93 by inserting a new section, Section 87A:

Subsection (a) requires facilities to have at least one AED on premises. This subsection also requires facilities to have at least one employee or authorized AED volunteer in attendance during any sporting event, or while rendering services to the public for such sporting events, at the facility.

Subsection (b)(1) requires at least one facility employee/authorized volunteer be in attendance when any sporting activity is taking place at the facility. The employee/authorized volunteer must have completed a training course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and in the use of an AED in accordance with American Heart Association or American Red Cross standards.

Subsection (b)(2) requires facility operators to make their best effort to find any readily available volunteers present at the facility who meet the training requirements if a qualifying employee/authorized volunteer is unavailable. The facility operator may make a request for volunteers through a public announcement. The announcement must identify the location of AEDs in the facility, identify the employee/authorized volunteer trained in AED use, and the procedure for identifying readily available volunteers trained in AED use during the sporting event. The procedure may include physical recognition, such as standing to be recognized, raising a hand, or otherwise communicating a willingness to volunteer, or by electronic communication via mobile phone or other device.

Subsection (c) requires facilities to install a placard with a map of the location of any AED within the facility at the facility entryway.