



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

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NJASCU Testimony on Assembly Bill No. 1368 Automatic External Defibrillators

**Assembly Higher Education Committee
January 17, 2019**

The New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities supports the intent of the legislation. However, we have concerns that the bill, as drafted, does not define certain terms, that it would be difficult to comply with some of these requirements, and also that the bill goes beyond NCAA requirements which will result in unnecessary expense.

- ◆ The potential requirement for AED at an outdoor facilities since it is unclear what “in each athletic facility” means. If “athletic facility” includes outdoor fields, fixed AED’s at outdoor sites can be problematic because an AED can only be stored in temperatures between 32F-109F. Thus, it would be challenging and costly to have a temperature controlled AED available at an outdoor field that does not have a heated enclosure nearby. In these cases, the institutions typically have mobile AED’s available during competitions.
- ◆ AED’s are costly. Keeping them in an unlocked, unsupervised location to meet the requirements of this legislation will be problematic due to theft and vandalism. Open accessibility could also pose a danger to untrained users.
- ◆ The legislation also requires that colleges have two staff members with the proper certification working in the indoor facilities “during normal operating hours” which is undefined. During the regular business day, it is typical that trainers, coaches and most staff are on site and that the requirement for certified staff will be met. However, it is possible that some nights only one trained staff person may be on duty for a portion of the evening/night after 5 PM.

We appreciate the consideration of our comments and look forward to working with the sponsors and the committee on this important issue.

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