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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2675 Session of  
2004

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INTRODUCED BY LEWIS, WEBER, BEBKO-JONES, BROWNE, CAPPELLI,  
DALLY, J. EVANS, GEIST, GINGRICH, GOOD, GRUCELA, HENNESSEY,  
LEACH, LYNCH, MILLARD, PETRI, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, SAYLOR,  
SCAVELLO, T. STEVENSON, E. Z. TAYLOR, J. TAYLOR, THOMAS,  
TIGUE, WATERS, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD, JUNE 8, 2004

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 8, 2004

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AN ACT

1 Requiring automatic external defibrillators in law enforcement  
2 vehicles; and providing civil immunity under certain  
3 circumstances.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Law  
8 Enforcement Vehicle Automatic External Defibrillator Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Automatic external defibrillator." A portable device that  
14 uses electric shock to restore a stable heart rhythm to an  
15 individual in cardiac arrest.

16 "Law enforcement entity." The Pennsylvania State Police, a

1 police department of a municipality, a regional police  
2 department and a county sheriff's department.

3 Section 3. Automatic external defibrillators required.

4 (a) General rule.--Within 90 days of the effective date of  
5 this act, a law enforcement entity shall acquire and maintain an  
6 automatic external defibrillator in each vehicle used by the law  
7 enforcement entity.

8 (b) Duties.--A law enforcement entity shall:

9 (1) In accordance with subsection (c), provide training  
10 to persons assigned to each vehicle in which the automatic  
11 external defibrillator will be primarily stored.

12 (2) Secure the automatic external defibrillator in a  
13 safe and readily accessible location within the vehicle and  
14 properly maintain and test the automatic external  
15 defibrillator according to the manufacturer's operational  
16 guidelines.

17 (3) Submit a valid prescription for the automatic  
18 external defibrillator from a licensed medical practitioner  
19 in this Commonwealth.

20 (c) Training.--The personnel of a law enforcement entity who  
21 are expected to use the automatic external defibrillators  
22 required by this act shall complete training in cardiopulmonary  
23 resuscitation and in the use of an automatic external  
24 defibrillator provided by the American Heart Association or the  
25 American Red Cross or through an equivalent course of  
26 instruction approved by the department.

27 Section 4. Civil immunity.

28 The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 8331.2 (relating to good  
29 Samaritan civil immunity for use of automated external  
30 defibrillator) shall apply to personnel of a law enforcement

- 1 entity who render care with an automatic external defibrillator.
- 2 Section 5. Effective date.
- 3 This act shall take effect in 60 days.