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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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### **SB 945 (Weber Pierson) - School curriculum: physical education framework: cardiopulmonary resuscitation: automated external defibrillators**

**Version:** April 6, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** April 27, 2026

**Policy Vote:** ED. 7 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Lenin Del Castillo

**Bill Summary:** This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to consider including content on the importance of compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillators (AED) during the next regularly scheduled revision of the Physical Education (PE) Curriculum Framework.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

- The bill's requirement for the IQC to consider increasing content for the Health and Physical Education Framework is not expected to result in additional costs to the state since it would occur as part of the next regularly scheduled revision of the framework.
- Local education agencies (LEAs) could incur additional local costs depending on how they choose to implement the new instruction. To the extent that they purchase CPR training kits to implement the instruction, statewide costs could potentially be in the millions of dollars on a one-time basis. It is unclear whether the Commission on State Mandates would deem this to be a state reimbursable mandate.

**Background:** Existing law provides that if the governing board of a school district or the governing body of a charter school requires a course in health education for graduation from high school, the governing board of a school district or the governing body of a charter school shall include instruction in performing compression-only CPR. The law requires CDE to provide guidance on how to implement such instruction, including, but not limited to, who may provide instruction.

Existing law encourages school districts and charter schools to provide pupils with general information on the use and importance of an AED and specifies that the physical presence of an AED in the classroom is not required.

Existing law provides that the adopted course of study shall provide instruction at the appropriate elementary and secondary grade levels and subject areas in personal and public safety and accident prevention, including emergency first aid instruction, instruction in hemorrhage control, treatment for poisoning, resuscitation techniques, and CPR when appropriate equipment is available; fire prevention; the protection and conservation of resources, including the necessity for the protection of our environment; and health, including venereal disease and the effects of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, and tobacco upon the human body.

The IQC develops curriculum frameworks in each subject by convening expert panels, developing drafts, and holding public hearings to solicit input. Changes are frequently made in response to public comments. The State Board of Education (SBE) then adopts the frameworks in a public meeting. The SBE also adopts, in a public process, instructional materials aligned to those frameworks for grades K-8. School district governing boards and charter schools adopt instructional materials aligned to these standards and frameworks. This process occurs on a regular schedule, giving schools a predictable timetable to plan and budget for changes to the curriculum. Local adoption of new curricula involves significant local costs and investment of resources in professional development. These existing processes involve practitioners and experts who have an in-depth understanding of curriculum and instruction, including the full scope and sequence of the curriculum in each subject and at each grade level, constraints on instructional time and resources, and the relationship of curriculum to state assessments and other measures of student progress.

**Proposed Law:** This bill requires the IQC to consider including content on the importance of CPR and AEDs, as specified, during the next regularly scheduled revision of the PE Curriculum Framework.

**Related Legislation:** AB 1473 (Maienschein, 2023), similar to this bill, would have required the IQC to consider increasing content related to instruction in performing CPR when the Health and Physical Education framework is next revised. The bill was held on the Suspense File in this committee.

AB 1719 (Rodriguez, Chapter 556, Statutes of 2016) requires school districts and charter schools serving students in grades 9 through 12, commencing with the 2018-19 school year, to include instruction in CPR if they require a course in health education for graduation from high school.

**Staff Comments:** The costs to implement this bill will depend upon how LEAs choose to implement this new instruction. It would be difficult for them to offer the instruction without purchasing new instructional materials and equipment, especially if the instruction includes the skills necessary to perform compression-only CPR and the use of an AED. Therefore, LEAs will likely have to purchase instructional materials and equipment to implement a meaningful course. Further, to the extent that instructional programs based on certain guidelines are utilized, the bill could result in additional costs to purchase CPR training kits which can cost several hundred dollars each. Assuming one kit would be needed for each high school classroom, statewide costs could be in the millions. This amount could be higher if additional CPR kits are purchased and extra training is offered for staff. It is unclear whether the Commission on State Mandates would deem these activities to be reimbursable.

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