

Date of Hearing: July 1, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

SB 945 (Weber Pierson) – As Amended April 6, 2026

Policy Committee: Education

Vote: 8 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to consider including content on the importance, performance, and use of compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) upon the revision of the state's physical education curriculum framework occurring after January 1, 2027.

FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) One-time Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures of an unknown, but potentially significant amount, possibly in the hundreds of thousands to low millions of dollars to local educational agencies (LEAs), collectively statewide. An exact estimate depends upon the extent to which the bill results in LEAs implementing CPR and AED instruction and purchasing the necessary equipment they otherwise would not purchase absent this framework revision.
- 2) Likely minor and absorbable costs for the IQC to consider including CPR and AED content in its next revision of the physical education framework.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

About 23,000 children experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital. Emergency responders typically arrive in 6 to 12 minutes, but irreversible brain damage can begin in just 3 to 5 minutes. That gap is where bystanders can save lives. Schools are the most effective place to train the next generation of lifesavers. Even a single 20-minute CPR training dramatically increases a student's willingness to act in an emergency. While CPR and AED usage is already being taught, a vulnerable segment of the population is NOT receiving this education in high school. By requiring this education as part of a graduation requirement, we can ensure parity and safety in California high schools.

- 2) **Background.** Curriculum frameworks provide guidance to schools for implementing the state's content standards. A body under the State Board of Education, known as the IQC, periodically revises curriculum frameworks and the State Board of Education adopts the

curriculum frameworks for use by schools. CPR instruction is part of the state's health education content standards and corresponding health curriculum framework. AED is mentioned far less in the health curriculum framework. However, CPR is only mentioned in the physical education framework regarding aquatic safety and there is no mention of AED use. This bill requires the IQC to consider including content regarding CPR and AED in the physical education curriculum framework.

- 3) **Prior Legislation.** AB 1473 (Mainschein), of the 2023-24 Legislative Session, required the IQC to consider increasing content related to CPR and AED use in the next revision of both the state's health and physical education curriculum frameworks. AB 1473 was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

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