

**LD 984 - An Act to Require Every State and Municipal Building to Have at Least One Automated External Defibrillator**

Good morning, Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government. I'm here to introduce LD984 – *An Act to Require Every State and Municipal Building to Have at Least One Automated External Defibrillator*.

My name is Marianne Moore. I proudly represent Senate District 6 which includes all of Washington County and 16 Communities in Eastern Hancock County as well.

It is an honor to stand before you today to discuss a matter of life and death—the critical need for Automated External Defibrillators, or AEDs, in state and municipal buildings.

Each year, over 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of hospitals in the United States alone. Tragically, the survival rate for these emergencies remains alarmingly low, hovering around 10%. However, research shows that when an AED is used within the first few minutes of a cardiac arrest, the chances of survival can increase by up to 70%. This staggering difference underscores the urgency of equipping our public buildings with this life-saving technology. State and municipal buildings are places where large numbers of people gather—employees, visitors, and residents seeking services. Cardiac arrest does not discriminate. It can strike anyone, anywhere, at any time. When it does, every second counts. Waiting for emergency medical personnel, even under the best circumstances, can take too long. An AED on-site means that immediate assistance can be provided before paramedics arrive, bridging a crucial gap in emergency response.

Beyond saving lives, the presence of AEDs in public buildings fosters a sense of security and preparedness. It sends a powerful message that we, as a community, prioritize the health and well-being of all individuals. Additionally, modern AEDs are user-friendly, equipped with voice-guided instructions that allow even untrained bystanders to take action confidently.

The cost of installing AEDs is minimal compared to the invaluable benefit of saving lives. Many states have already passed legislation requiring AEDs in certain public spaces. It is our duty to ensure that all state and municipal buildings follow suit. By implementing this measure, we can prevent tragedies and make our communities safer for everyone.

I urge you all—as lawmakers, public officials, and community members—to advocate for the inclusion of at least one AED in every state and municipal building. Together, we can turn what might seem like a simple policy decision into a life-saving reality.

Thank you. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this bill.