

HB 1363

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Senate Education Committee. For the record I am Representative Lisa Meier of District 32 in Bismarck.

In the 2007 session with a unanimous vote of favor the ND House and Senate placed AEDs in ND schools. Now you have a bill before you that places a plan in place.

HB 1363 directs Public and Non-Public schools in ND and athletic events to have a cardiac response plan and incorporates cardiac emergency response plan drills for implementation in schools.

I've had the opportunity to work with the American Heart Association on this legislation and they will walk through the bill.

I know that some schools have a great plan in place to address this important issue. This legislation will ensure that all schools have a plan in place. Heart disease is the number 1 cause of death for North Dakotans. Schools are often a gathering place for community events. Approximately 70% of children survive cardiac arrests when an AED is used. This bill had great input on the House side and what small concerns there were on the bill they were worked out and addressed on the House side, and now you have a well thought out bill before you. The goal with this legislation is to save lives. Thank you for your consideration.