



February 16, 2025

Chairman Beard and Senate Education Committee Members,

On behalf of the American Heart Association's North Dakota Statewide Advocacy and Engagement Committee, Smart Heart Sports Coalition, and the organizations and individuals who have signed the attached letter of support, we urge you to support **HB 1363** and vote **YES** for a **DO PASS** recommendation.

With over a century of advancements and collaborative community engagement, the American Heart Association is dedicated to creating a Nation of Lifesavers, and this bill is a crucial step in that direction. Throughout the legislative process in the House, we collaborated with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, North Dakota Health & Human Services – EMS Unit, North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders, and North Dakota School Boards Association to refine and strengthen the bill's language, ensuring it meets the needs of all interested parties committed to the well-being of our children.

The passage of **HB 1363** will enable the American Heart Association, in partnership with the Smart Hearts Sports Coalition, to assist North Dakotans in implementing Cardiac Emergency Response Plans (CERPs) in schools and athletic facilities. With ready-to-use tools like a CERP Implementation Guide and Checklist for Schools, Sports, and Communities, we are prepared to help North Dakotans become a Nation of Lifesavers.

Nationwide, 10 states have enacted policies for CERPs in schools, and 18 states have policies for CERPs in athletics. Currently, we are monitoring over 25 active bills on this issue.

American Heart Association Community Impact staff and volunteers have already collaborated with schools such as Killdeer, Rugby, South Heart High School, and Billings, among others.

We ask you to vote **YES** on **HB 1363** and help transform our nation of bystanders into a Nation of Lifesavers!

With respect & sincerity,



**American Heart Association
North Dakota Statewide Advocacy & Engagement Committee (ND SAEC)**

Chair Joan Enderle – Jamestown, ND 58401

Vice-Chair Greg Gallagher – Mandan, ND 58554

Member Amy Heuer – Bismarck, ND 58504

Member Melanie Smith – Watford City, ND 58854

Member Janet Maxson – Minot, ND 58701

Member Jared Eagle – New Town, ND 58763

Member Sandra Tibke – Bismarck, ND 58501

Member Dr. Mevan Wijetunga – Grand Forks, ND 58201

Member Sandy Rhode – Manning, ND 58642

Member Patricia Schmitz – Watford City, ND 58854

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Burke".

Tony Burke, BA, CCMP
Government Relations Director
Regional Team Lead – ND/NE/SD
American Heart Association
605.351.5939



American
Heart
Association.

Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

HB 1363

We Support **Cardiac Emergency Response Plans (CERP)** in Schools & Athletic Facilities/Events.

Each year 356,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of a hospital.

About 9 in 10 cardiac arrest victims who receive a shock from an AED in the first minute live.

During cardiac arrest, CPR can double or triple a person's chance of survival.

What is a Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP)?

CERP is a written document that establishes specific steps to reduce death from cardiac arrest in school settings. It can be stand-alone guidelines or merged with a school's existing medical emergency response plans. It should be posted at key locations throughout the school and practiced regularly. It is also important to work directly with local emergency service providers to integrate the CERP into the community's EMS responder protocols. It also ensures every school has a plan in place, which is integrated into local EMS protocols.

23,000 children experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital each year in the U.S. And in schools with AEDs, 70% of children survive cardiac arrest. That's 7x the overall survival rate for children



Share



Practice



Activate



American Heart Association.

Cardiac Emergency Response Plan



Dickinson, ND



Minot, ND



North Dakota Medical Association



Beulah, ND

Smart Heart Sports Coalition

- American College of Cardiology
- American College of Sports Medicine
- American Heart Association
- American Medical Society for Sports Medicine
- American Orthopedic Society for Sport Medicine
- American Red Cross
- Association of Black Cardiologists
- Chasing M's Foundation – Damar Hamlin
- Citizen CPR Foundation
- Heart Rhythm Society
- John Taylor Babbitt Foundation
- Korey Stringer Institute
- Major League Baseball
- Major League Soccer
- Make Them Know Your Name
- National Academy of Sport Medicine
- National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
- National Athletic Trainers' Association
- National Basketball Association
- National Collegiate Athletic Association
- National Council of Youth Sports
- National Federation of State High School Associations
- National Football League
- National Football League Physicians Society
- National Hockey League
- National Woman's Soccer League
- Pediatric & Congenital Electrophysiology Society
- Parent Heart Watch
- Project Adam Saves Lives



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Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

Simon's Heart
Sports Safety International
Starting Hearts
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation
T.J. Carrie Foundation
Unites States Tennis Association
Weil Institute
Who We Play For
Women's National Basketball Association
Women's Tennis Association

Individual Sign Ons

Rep. Eric J. Murphy District 43, Grand Forks
Beverly Tong, MD, FACOG, Williston
Alana McClellan RN, CHI Mercy Health, Valley City
Tabitha Muncy, MS, LAT, ATC Valley City High School Athletic Trainer
Trinity Sports Medicine Dr. Dawn Mattern
Amy Heuer, Co-Executive Director, ND Shape
Darren Armstrong, MSM-ATC-PTA, Trinity Health, Minot
Sandy Covey, Bismark
Mike Heidel, Beulah
Sandra Kopp, Beulah
Jeff Kopp, Beulah
Lacye Knudsen, Bismark
William Tipton, Beulah
Russell S., Beulah
Robert Fifer, Beulah
Rik Cutting, Beulah
Victoria Siemieniewski, Williston
Phillip Siemieniewski, Williston
Danny O'Quinn, Beulah
Shawn Filibeck, Beulah
Troy Christian, Bismark
Mark Koble, Bismark
Renee Nelson, Bismark
Kylee Thormahlen, Killdeer
Christina Gross, Halliday
Janet Wanek, Halliday
Sarah Duttenhefner, Dodge
Melody Kucera, Halliday
Coven Dahlen, Halliday
Michaela Rice, Bismark
Erin McMahan, Dickinson
Emily Dolinar, Dickinson
Linda Carlson, South Heart
Marlease Rambousek, Dickinson
Samantha Buzulsky, Dickinson
Dean Rodacker, Mandan



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Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

Chantelle Kuntz, Dickinson
Nicole Pinner, Medora
Jewelie McGrane, Mandan
Barbara Shockey, Dickinson
Trudie Neurohr, Dickinson
Kierra Mathern, Dickinson
Rachel Stockert, Dickinson
Cassie Perkins, Bismark
Ivy Mavis, Medora
Jana Griffin, Hazelton
Carmen Samson, Minot
Brian Zilibeck, Beulah
Clarice Sandstrom, Minot
Dulce Sanchez, Dickinson
Adriana Heredia, Dickinson
Cassia Hibl, Dickinson
Jessica Walz, Beach
Dallis Mitchell, Dickinson
Paula Williams, Dickinson
Lonni Fleck, Williston
Jacklyn Kinto, Dickinson
Tiffany Long, Minot
Sandra Bertelsen, Dickinson
Beverly Kadrmas, Dickinson
Hannah Pepich, Dickinson
Patty Riely, Dickinson
Shelley Jacobson, Bowbells
Heidi Kirkpatrick, Dickinson
Penny Theusch, Minot
Leah Hoenke, Dickinson
Susan Karpyak, Dickinson
Kim Lee, Wimbledon
Rebecca Howe, Dickinson
Kelly Doll, Beulah
Carole Bjerke, Beulah
Nina Phillips, Minot
Michelle Tipton, Beulah