



# BRIAN MAIENSCHIEIN

ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-SIXTH DISTRICT

## Assembly Bill 1473

### CPR Training in Schools

*As Introduced 2/17/2023*

#### **Summary**

AB 1473 would require hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) training in either a health or physical education (PE) class as part of the high school graduation requirement.

#### **Background**

Upwards of 356,000 people are lost annually to sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), among them up to [23,000](#) youth. It's long been established that the persistently low survival rate of just [10%](#) can be [tripled](#) with immediate bystander intervention with hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and can be boosted up to [90%](#) with the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) prior to EMS arrival. Alarming, 70% of Americans feel helpless to act during a cardiac emergency because they do not know how to perform CPR.

What's more, a witnessed sudden cardiac arrest adult or child victim who is [Black](#) or [Hispanic](#) or is in a [Black or Hispanic](#) neighborhood is less likely to receive bystander CPR.

To date, 41 states require CPR training as part of high school curriculum. Assembly bill 319 (2015) established the instruction of hands-only CPR training in high schools requiring a health class to graduate. But the majority of California school districts do not offer a health class, which not only means scores of youth are deprived of these critical life-saving skills, but also presents health equity disparities across the state's socio-economically diverse school communities.

A recent study showed just over [75%](#) of young adults who did a single, 20-minute CPR training session said they'd be willing to perform CPR on a stranger. The American Academy of Pediatrics has long [supported](#) mandating CPR/AED training in all public and private schools. According to the [Whole Child](#) framework, schools play a critical role in not only promoting the health and safety of young people but in establishing lifelong behaviors, which is why AB 1473 seeks to collaborate more comprehensively with schools to advance this public health initiative.

#### **This Bill**

AB 1473 would amend current law to:

- Require the instruction of hands-only CPR and use of an AED in either a health or physical education (PE) class as part of a graduation requirement.
- Require student athletes who opt out of PE and have no health class requirement to participate in the above instruction as part of their sports program

#### **Support**

California Department of Education (Sponsor)  
Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation (Sponsor)  
Keep the Beat (Co-Sponsor)

#### **Contact Info**

Harleen Pannu, Legislative Assistant  
Office of Assemblymember Maienschein  
Harleen.Pannu@asm.ca.gov  
O: (916)-319-2076 Ext. 1166