

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 19-113—SB 795**

*Public Health Committee*

*Judiciary Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL  
DEFIBRILLATORS**

**SUMMARY:** This act extends immunity from civil liability to physicians, dentists, and nurses who operate an automatic external defibrillator (AED) for personal injury damages caused by the AED's malfunctioning, if the malfunctioning was not due to the provider's negligence.

The act applies to (1) physicians and dentists licensed in Connecticut or other states and (2) licensed practical nurses and registered nurses licensed in Connecticut, when any such professional operates an AED to provide emergency medical or professional assistance.

Existing law provides immunity for negligent acts or omissions by (1) anyone who operates an AED to give emergency assistance voluntarily, gratuitously, and not in the ordinary course of his or her employment or practice and (2) a person or entity in providing or maintaining an AED. The immunity does not apply to gross, willful, or wanton negligence.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2019