

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R5569 JRD-D

S.B. 531  
By: Nelson  
State Affairs  
3/22/2001  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Each year more than 25,000 adults suffer cardiac arrest, and more than 95 percent of those adults die, in many cases because defibrillation occurs too late to reverse the cardiac arrest. For every minute that passes before returning the heart to a normal rhythm after cardiac arrest, as one would do by delivering an electric shock to the heart using an automated external defibrillator (AED), the chance of survival is decreased by 10 percent. Last year, Houston became the first major city in the nation to develop a plan for the placement of AEDs in its municipal facilities, and the American Heart Association advocates the placement of AEDs in public buildings in order to increase the cardiac arrest survival rate. As proposed, S.B. 531 directs the Texas Department of Health to develop a plan for the placement of AEDs in state buildings.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Requires the Texas Department of Health (department), in consultation with the General Services Commission (commission), to conduct a study regarding the purchase and placement of automated external defibrillators in buildings owned or leased by the state. Requires the department to estimate the extent to which placing automated external defibrillators in state buildings would improve the survival rate of individuals who experience sudden cardiac arrest while in a state building. Requires the department in consultation with the commission to also study certain other stated factors concerning the placement of automated external defibrillators in state buildings. Requires the department to report the results of its study together with any recommendations of the department or the commission to the governor and the presiding officers of each house of the legislature not later than November 1, 2002.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act expires June 1, 2003.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2001.