

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3533

To require the Department of Homeland Security to carry out certain activities with respect to delivering training in age-appropriate basic life supporting first aid skills to school children, including funding of a program to provide this education to the public.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 16, 2006

Mr. COLEMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Department of Homeland Security to carry out certain activities with respect to delivering training in age-appropriate basic life supporting first aid skills to school children, including funding of a program to provide this education to the public.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Community Response  
5       System Initiative Act of 2006” or the “CRSI Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Injury remains 1 of the top killers in Amer-  
2           ica, effecting over 2,400,000 children who needlessly  
3           die each year. Fifty percent of these lives could have  
4           been saved if prompt aid were administered prior to  
5           the arrival of emergency medical services.

6           (2) Part of any comprehensive emergency pre-  
7           paredness plan must include educating the public on  
8           how to prepare for and react in an emergency situa-  
9           tion.

10          (3) The need for citizen-based emergency pre-  
11          paredness training at the community level has never  
12          been greater. The Citizen Corps and mayors from  
13          across the country agree that educating children in  
14          age-appropriate life supporting first aid, including  
15          cardiopulmonary resuscitation, the Heimlich maneu-  
16          ver, and blood-borne and biohazardous precautions,  
17          is an important component of meeting this need. On  
18          June 5, 2006, the United States Conference of May-  
19          ors adopted a resolution urging mayors to form a  
20          Community Response System Initiative Committee  
21          to address this issue.

22          (4) Studies have shown that providing children  
23          with life supporting first aid skills training increases  
24          their willingness to assist others in a medical emer-  
25          gency by 57 percent.

1           (5) Eighty percent of schools surveyed stated  
2           that cardiopulmonary resuscitation training is best  
3           provided in a school setting.

4           (6) In 2001, 101,537 Americans died of “unin-  
5           tentional injury deaths”.

6           (7) In 2003, 479,305 Americans died due to  
7           heart attacks, which was 1 of every 5 deaths in the  
8           United States overall.

9           (8) In the United States, 1,200,000 new and  
10          recurrent coronary attacks occur each year.

11          (9) The National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-  
12          ministration has concluded that if members of the  
13          public learned life supporting first aid, there would  
14          be “significant potential” for reducing the more  
15          than 22,000 preventable highway deaths that occur  
16          in the United States each year.

17 **SEC. 3. BASIC LIFE SUPPORTING FIRST AID EDUCATION**  
18 **FOR CHILDREN.**

19          (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

20               (1) the term “age-appropriate” means informa-  
21               tion, education, and skills suitable for the individual  
22               to understand and perform;

23               (2) the term “appropriate municipal entity”  
24               means an agency of a unit of local government that  
25               is an emergency response provider or provides other

1 similar medical services or training, including a fire  
2 department, law enforcement agency, hospital, school  
3 nurse, or emergency medical services provider;

4 (3) the term “children” means individuals  
5 under the age of 18 years enrolled in grades kinder-  
6 garten through 12;

7 (4) the term “emergency medical professional”  
8 means an individual certified by a State in emer-  
9 gency medical services;

10 (5) the terms “emergency response provider”  
11 and “local government” have the same meaning as  
12 in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002  
13 (6 U.S.C. 101);

14 (6) the term “life supporting first aid” includes  
15 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, the use of an auto-  
16 matic external defibrillator, the Heimlich maneuver,  
17 blood-borne and biohazardous precautions, bleed  
18 control, and other life-sustaining procedures in the  
19 event of an emergency; and

20 (7) the term “selected organization” means the  
21 organization contracting with the Secretary of  
22 Homeland Security under subsection (b).

23 (b) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
24 rity, acting through the Chief Medical Officer, shall enter  
25 into an agreement with an organization, under which such

1 organization shall provide funds to appropriate municipal  
2 entities to provide education and training in life sup-  
3 porting first aid to children, including scene safety proce-  
4 dures.

5 (c) ELIGIBILITY.—The selected organization shall—

6 (1) have experience in, and the sole mission of,  
7 training individuals (especially children) to be active  
8 bystanders, equipped with life supporting first aid  
9 skills to assist during emergencies;

10 (2) recognize that life supporting first aid tech-  
11 niques are essential to maintaining life before the ar-  
12 rival of emergency response providers;

13 (3) use only emergency medical professionals as  
14 instructors to teach life supporting first aid tech-  
15 niques to children and adults;

16 (4) work with Federal, State, and local govern-  
17 ment entities and the private sector to highlight the  
18 importance of public emergency preparedness and  
19 effective emergency response;

20 (5) have developed and implemented, before the  
21 date of entering a contract under subsection (b), a  
22 testing component for evaluation, accountability, and  
23 data collection; and

24 (6) be an affiliate of the Citizens Corps of the  
25 Department of Homeland Security.

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Funds provided under this  
3 section by the selected organization to an appro-  
4 priate municipal entity shall be used—

5 (A) to create age-appropriate educational  
6 materials regarding life supporting first aid to  
7 be distributed to children;

8 (B) to conduct training and clinical in-  
9 struction of children in life supporting first aid;  
10 and

11 (C) for data collection and statistical anal-  
12 ysis.

13 (2) PRIORITY.—In providing funds to appro-  
14 priate municipal entities under this section, the se-  
15 lected organization shall give priority to emergency  
16 medical services, fire departments, law enforcement  
17 agencies, hospitals, and school nurses.

18 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 There are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000  
20 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010 to carry out  
21 this Act .

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