

News...

from the office of State Rep. Stephanie Kifowit

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Stephanie Kifowit

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Kifowit Wants Emergency Equipment in Public Libraries

AURORA, Ill - Because every second counts in a heart attack, state Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego, helped pass legislation to get emergency equipment in public libraries across Illinois.

“When a crisis strikes, it is vital for those nearby to have the necessary tools to save a life,” Kifowit said. “Good Samaritans in libraries will now have the ability to provide the care needed to keep a heart attack victim alive until help arrives.”

An AED is a portable device that checks the heart rhythm and can send an electric shock to the heart to try to restore a normal rhythm. AEDs are used to treat sudden cardiac arrest and are more commonly being made available in public buildings where large groups of people gather. According to the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation, sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death among adults over the age of 40 in the United States and other countries.

Under the Kifowit-backed legislation, public libraries would be allowed to receive grant funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Heartsaver AED Fund for the purchase of an AED device. Currently, schools, public parks, forest preserves, conservation districts, municipal recreation departments, colleges and universities are eligible for these Heartsaver AED grants. House Bill 200 passed the House and now awaits consideration in the state Senate.

“This legislation is a win-win for both the general public and libraries across Illinois,” Kifowit said. “Allowing libraries to receive a Heartsaver AED grant is a common sense way to ease the financial burden of purchasing these machines, while also helping better aid those in need.”

For more information, please contact Kifowit’s constituent service office by phone at [630-585-1308](tel:630-585-1308), by email at Stephanie.Kifowit@att.net, or by visiting www.ILDistrict84.com.