



February 19, 2025

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson
State Capitol Room 30
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Gray-Jackson,

On behalf of the NEA-Alaska, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 20 (SB 20). NEA-Alaska members support teaching students Cardiopulmonary resuscitation education (CPR).

Educators overwhelmingly recognize the critical importance of equipping students with life-saving skills like CPR. Integrating CPR training into school curricula offers several profound benefits:

- **Empowering Lifesavers:** Students become potential first responders, capable of acting swiftly and effectively in emergencies.
- **Promoting Community Health:** Widespread CPR knowledge strengthens community resilience and increases survival rates for cardiac arrest victims.
- **Developing Essential Life Skills:** CPR training fosters confidence, critical thinking, and a sense of responsibility, valuable assets beyond emergency situations.
- **Creating a Culture of Preparedness:** Schools become safer environments where both students and staff are better prepared to handle unforeseen medical crises.

By prioritizing CPR education, we empower students to become active participants in safeguarding lives, creating a lasting positive impact on their communities.

We appreciate that SB 20 is a common-sense proposal to utilize existing curriculum and resources to provide CPR instruction to students.

Thank you,

Tom Klaameyer, President, NEA-Alaska

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