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Rep. Smola Announces Funds to Equip Municipal Emergency Response Vehicles with Automated External Defibrillators

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that several local communities have been awarded grants to purchase Automated External Defibrillators (AED) for public safety and first responder vehicles. As part of the program, Brimfield will receive \$1,699; Holland will receive \$1,714; Palmer will receive \$2,500; Sturbridge will receive \$1,940; Wales will receive \$1,699; and Warren will receive \$1,613.

An AED is a medical device used to support people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest, which is the abrupt loss of heart function in a person who may or may not have been diagnosed with heart disease. An AED analyzes the patient's heart rhythm and, if necessary, delivers an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. A study from the American Heart Association found that [350,000 people suffer sudden cardiac arrest outside of the hospital every year in the U.S.](#)

“This is great news for the First Hampden District,” said Representative Smola. “Providing first responders with immediate access to AED’s will save lives.”

Statewide, this funding will equip 246 vehicles serving approximately 70% of the Commonwealth’s cities and towns. This grant opportunity was made possible by state legislation authorized by Chapter 24 of the Massachusetts Acts of 2021, An Act Making Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022. For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

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