

March 11, 2026

The Honorable Hanna M. Gallo, Chair
Senate Education Committee
Rhode Island House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

RE: SENATE BILL 2210 – AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION -- SCHOOL TRAUMA KIT ACT

Chair Gallo and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, we write in support of Senate Bill 2210, which would require that every elementary and secondary school in Rhode Island, whether public or privately operated, provide and maintain clearly visible and easily accessible trauma kits.

Municipalities recognize that our most valuable resources are our students, educators, and school communities, and they share the responsibility of ensuring their safety and well-being. In emergency situations involving traumatic bleeding injuries, immediate access to lifesaving equipment can mean the difference between life and death. Trauma kits, which may include tourniquets, compression bandages, and other bleeding control supplies, provide the essential tools needed to stabilize an individual until first responders arrive.

This legislation represents a practical and proactive public safety measure. By ensuring that trauma kits are available in schools across the state, Rhode Island can strengthen emergency preparedness and provide trained personnel with the tools needed to respond quickly during critical incidents. Many municipalities already work closely with local school districts, police, fire, and emergency medical services to improve emergency response capabilities, and this bill complements those ongoing efforts.

The League also appreciates that the bill includes civil liability protections for individuals who gratuitously render emergency assistance to someone experiencing a traumatic bleeding injury.

The League respectfully suggests that it would be beneficial to incorporate input from local school districts regarding the appropriate quantity and type of trauma kits needed within each facility, as school size, layout, and safety planning needs can vary significantly. While trauma kits are generally modest in cost, often ranging from approximately \$50 to \$150 depending on the type and contents, the total number required per building may differ. Providing flexibility for local input, along with the potential for financial assistance or grant support for districts that can demonstrate financial hardship, could help ensure equitable and effective implementation across all school communities.

Overall, Senate Bill 2210 promotes preparedness, supports rapid emergency response, and strengthens protections for those who step forward to help in a moment of crisis.

We appreciate the Committee's thoughtful review and thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. R. Rossi".

Randy R. Rossi
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of Senate Education Committee