Basic information	
2012/2120(DCE) DCE - Written declaration (historic)	Procedure completed
Declaration on establishing a European cardiac arrest awareness week **Subject** 4.20.01 Medicine, diseases 4.20.06 Health services, medical institutions	

Key events			
Date	**Event**	**Reference**	**Summary**
14/06/2012	Decision by Parliament	T7-0266/2012	Summary
14/06/2012	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2012/2120(DCE)
Procedure type	DCE - Written declaration (historic)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136_
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	**Committee**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Written declaration		T7-0266/2012	14/06/2012	Summary

Declaration on establishing a European cardiac arrest awareness week

2012/2120(DCE) - 14/06/2012 - Written declaration

The European Parliament adopted a declaration on establishing a European cardiac arrest awareness week signed by 395 members.

Parliament recalls that in Europe approximately 400 000 people suffer an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest every year, with a survival rate of less than 10%. It underlines that the survival of many apparently healthy victims depends on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) administered by bystanders and early defibrillation (an intervention within 3-4 minutes may increase the chance of survival to more than 50%).

Recalling that in Europe, automated external defibrillator (AED) programmes are only partially implemented, Parliament calls on the Commission and the Council to encourage:

- the adoption of common programmes for implementing AED in public places and training lay people in all Member States,
- the adjustment of legislation in order to facilitate CPR and defibrillation by non-medical persons,
- systematic data collection for feedback and quality management in every programme.

Parliament also calls on the Commission and the Member States to **establish a European cardiac arrest awareness week** aimed at improving the awareness and education of the general public, physicians and healthcare professionals.

In addition, the Commission is called upon to:

- support the Member States in adopting and implementing national strategies for equal access to high-quality CPR;
- enact **harmonised legislation** across the EU in order to provide immunity from liability to non-medical first responders who offer voluntary assistance in cardiac emergencies.