
SENATE BILL 6593

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senator Hatfield

Read first time 02/08/12. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to placing epinephrine auto-injectors in schools;
2 adding a new section to chapter 28A.210 RCW; and creating a new
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that allergies are
6 a serious medical disorder that affect more than one in five persons in
7 the United States and are the sixth leading cause of chronic disease.
8 Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction. Rapid and
9 appropriate administration of the drug epinephrine to a patient
10 suffering an anaphylaxis allergic reaction may make the difference
11 between the life and death of that patient.

12 (2) The legislature further finds that, on many days, as much as
13 twenty percent of the nation's combined adult and child population can
14 be found in a school, and schools need to be prepared to treat allergic
15 reactions in the event a student's personal epinephrine auto-injector
16 is not available or the student is having a reaction for the first
17 time.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.210
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) A school may maintain at a school in a locked, secure location
4 a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors based on the number of students
5 enrolled in the school.

6 (2) A physician may prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors in the
7 name of the school district or school to be maintained for use when
8 necessary.

9 (3) When a student does not have an epinephrine auto-injector or a
10 prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector on file, the school nurse
11 may utilize the school district or school supply of epinephrine
12 auto-injectors to respond to anaphylactic reaction, under a standing
13 protocol from a physician employed under RCW 28A.210.300 or any other
14 physician with which the district has contracted for medical services.

15 (4)(a) If a student is injured or harmed due to the administration
16 of epinephrine that a physician has prescribed to a school under this
17 section, the physician may not be held responsible for the injury
18 unless he or she issued the prescription with a conscious disregard for
19 safety.

20 (b) If a student is injured or harmed due to the administration of
21 epinephrine that a school employee has administered to a student, the
22 school employee may not be held responsible for the injury unless he or
23 she administered the epinephrine injection with a conscious disregard
24 for safety.

25 (c) A school, school district, or the office of the superintendent
26 of public instruction is not responsible for any injury that has
27 occurred under (a) or (b) of this subsection.

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