
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1992

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Ballasiotes, Schual-Berke and Rockefeller)

Read first time 03/02/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to the emergency administration of epinephrine;
2 creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that allergies are a
5 serious medical disorder that affect more than one in five persons in
6 the United States and are the sixth leading cause of chronic disease.
7 Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction. Rapid and
8 appropriate administration of the drug epinephrine to a patient
9 suffering an anaphylaxis allergic reaction may make the difference
10 between the life and death of that patient. The legislature further
11 finds that some situations may arise when the administration of
12 epinephrine by an emergency medical technician is required to save a
13 person's life and that it is paramount that these valuable emergency
14 response personnel receive the appropriate training on the use of
15 epinephrine to treat anaphylaxis.

16 It is the purpose of this act to investigate the rate of
17 anaphylaxis state-wide and the training and care standards needed to
18 allow emergency medical technicians to administer life saving
19 epinephrine.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Using existing data and resources, the
2 department of health, in cooperation with the house of representatives
3 health care committee, shall review the use of epinephrine for
4 anaphylaxis by emergency medical personnel and report to the
5 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 12, 1999. The
6 report shall determine the following:

7 (1) An estimate of the total number of expected incidents of
8 anaphylaxis state-wide, grouped by age;

9 (2) The approximate education and training costs associated with
10 preparing emergency medical systems personnel to carry and administer
11 a prefilled measured dose of 1:1000 epinephrine for anaphylaxis;

12 (3) Any mitigating circumstances for the use of 1:1000 epinephrine
13 by certified emergency medical systems personnel, including but not
14 limited to, age factors, on-line versus off-line protocols, and
15 specific signs and symptoms present before drug administration.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of health may establish a
17 pilot program to determine the effectiveness of training emergency
18 medical technicians to carry and administer epinephrine to persons
19 under age thirty who display symptoms of anaphylaxis. If a pilot
20 program is established, the department shall establish a voluntary
21 technical advisory committee to advise the department in the
22 development and review of the program. The technical advisory
23 committee shall include appropriate state-wide organizations that
24 represent emergency care personnel, individuals that are trained in
25 pediatric emergency medicine, and board-certified allergists.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
28 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
29 immediately.

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