

Authorizing schools to maintain supplies of certain emergency medications to administer such medication in emergency situations

Proponent Testimony for HB2086

January 19, 2021

Chairman Huebert, Vice-Chairman Thomas, Ranking Minority Stogsdill and committee members:

I am writing as a school nurse for a mid-size high school in the Kansas City area. I have students that have known severe allergy requiring epinephrine as well as asthma requiring rescue treatment (usually as albuterol). These students are required to bring their rescue medications to school, and while most do, there are a significant number that do not. As we have students from all socioeconomic levels, some of these students are not able to bring a secondary rescue medication to keep at school due to insurance or circumstance. This is where having stock rescue medications available is invaluable for these students when they are in crisis. Minutes matter, and while I would call 911 in an emergency, the ability to quickly administer a rescue medication can be the difference between at most life and death and at least possibly chronic damage. Finally, there are of course unidentified individuals that per my medical assessment may benefit from a rescue medication.

I am writing in support of passing the Epi Pen and Albuterol bill that is being brought to the Committee of Education. Thank you for your consideration.

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