

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Beyer, Kruse, Roblan, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: Knopp

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires school district board to allow certain medications to be kept in student's classroom if requested by student's parent or guardian and other conditions are met. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Dangers faced by children with allergies that may result in anaphylactic shock
- Concern with safety of students
- Importance of time and immediate access to an auto-injector in an emergency involving an anaphylactic reaction
- Consideration of balance between student safety and liability in creation of measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: An epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) is a medical device used to deliver a measured dose or doses of epinephrine. EpiPens are most frequently used for the treatment of acute allergic reactions to avoid or treat the onset of anaphylactic shock. Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that can occur quickly, in as little as a few minutes. Symptoms of a life-threatening allergic reaction may vary, but can include hives, itching, flushing, and swelling of the lips, tongue, and roof of the mouth. Studies have shown that one in 13 children in this country has a food allergy, and 40 percent of those may be at risk for a severe reaction.