From: jennifer.k@aiunited.org
To: Engbring Gretchen; oksana.glukhovskikh@state.or.us
Subject: Testimony SB 875
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:21:48 AM

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: SB 875
From: Paula Rivas <paulakirbyrivas@yahoo.com>
Date: Wed, March 11, 2015 11:11 pm
To: "jennifer.k@aiunited.org" <jennifer.k@aiunited.org>

As a public school teacher of 21 years, it has been ingrained that I need to follow Individual Education Plans (IEP) and/or 504s. I have set my watch to go off to remind a diabetic student it was time to check his blood sugar. I have administered an epi pen to another student who was stung by a bee. I happily carry asthma inhalers for when the need arises. I have done this without question because I know it's in the BEST interest of my student. At that moment, I am not only their teacher, but their caregiver. To withhold any of these life saving medications would be negligent...which I could loose my job and freedom over.

When my daughter Lillian was just 3 she has a seizure, loss consciousness, and was transported to the hospital. After many specialist and testing, Lillian was diagnosed with a rare condition, adrenal insufficiency. At first her diagnosis was overwhelming,but through education, training, and time I gained the confidence I needed to parent a child with AI. When it was time to register Lillian for kindergarten I was nervous, yet prepared, to begin the 504 process under HOI. During this meeting I found out teachers, office staff, principals, ANY school staff other than a registered nurse was unable to give Lillian her solu-cortef in an emergency! What?? For years I have been following IEPs and 504s to perfection and now my OWN district refuses care for my daughter? This solu-cortef injection is LIFE SAVING..not something to take lightly. I am to send my child to school on a daily basis not knowing if she will be safe or not. I keep my phone on me at all times and when her school calls my heart skips a beat. I am never at ease while Lillian is at school. As a teacher, I hope you can understand how difficult that is to say.

I'm sure AI United explained the signs/symptoms of a crisis. I also hope they have explained that no one could ever overdose and cause harm on solu-cortef, however Lillian could go into crisis and DIE without the medication.

Please pass SB875 for Lillian and all the other children who live with adrenal insufficiency.

Thank you,
Paula Rivas

Sent from my iPhone