

**PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Health Care

**REVENUE: No revenue impact****FISCAL: No fiscal impact****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Zena Rockowitz, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 2/4, 4/8

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows entity to acquire premeasured doses of epinephrine and necessary paraphernalia from the Oregon Health Authority if it is identified as presenting risk of harm to those with severe allergic responses to insect stings and other allergens. Allows health care professional to transfer the epinephrine and paraphernalia to the approved entity. Requires entity to keep epinephrine and paraphernalia in a secure container in close proximity to a communication device for consulting with a practitioner in an emergency situation. Establishes that training on allergic responses be conducted by a health care professional supervised by a physician or nurse practitioner. Redefines that “other treatment has failed” to mean hypoglycemic symptoms worsening after administration of a food containing glucose or other carbohydrate. Defines physician, nurse practitioner, and practitioner for purposes of allergy treatment training. Specifies that no cause of action shall arise against a person who administers doses in good faith while pursuing emergency treatment. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Accessibility of epinephrine injectors in emergency situations
- Safety and speed of administering epinephrine in secured containers
- Collection of data on how epinephrine is being used
- Use of premeasured epinephrine in schools

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: -3 Amendment:** Allows entity which acquires epinephrine and necessary paraphernalia to make it available to any person under specified circumstances. Adds that paraphernalia be kept locked and permits remotely unlocking. Requires communication device to be attached to container. Specifies consulting practitioner must have prescription privileges. Specifies administration to individual that person believes in good faith is suffering severe allergic response.

**BACKGROUND:** An epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) is a medical device used to deliver a measured dose (or doses) of epinephrine (also known as adrenaline) using auto-injector technology, most frequently 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 (as fast as within a couple of minutes). Symptoms of a life-threatening allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) vary, but can include hives, itching, flushing, and swelling of the lips, tongue, and roof of mouth. The airway is often affected, resulting in tightness of the throat, chest tightness and difficulty breathing. These reactions can also be accompanied by chest pain, low blood pressure, dizziness and headaches. In 2013 Senate Bill 611 directed the State Board of Education to adopt rules for administration of pre-measured doses of epinephrine for students or other individuals on school premises who have severe allergic reactions, regardless of whether the person has a prescription for the medication.

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***This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.***