

TESTIMONY OF

Mylan Inc.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. I represent Mylan Inc. Mylan supports this amendment and urges the support of this committee.

Mylan is a leading manufacturer of generic and specialty medications that currently provides medicines in more than 140 countries and territories worldwide. A Mylan subsidiary markets and distributes one of several epinephrine auto-injectors available in the United States.

Food allergies, which can sometimes lead to a life-threatening allergic reaction, or anaphylaxis, are a large and growing public health problem.^{1,3} Today, an estimated one out of 13 - approximately 6 million - children in the U.S. has a food allergy.² Approximately 1 out of 20 adults have a food allergy. And, food allergens are only one type of the allergens that can cause anaphylaxis. Insect stings, medicines, latex are also known to cause anaphylaxis in some people.

Unfortunately, over the past several years, there have been several high profile anaphylaxis-related tragedies around the country in schools and outside of schools. Deaths in Illinois (in 2011), Georgia and Virginia (in 2012), California, Texas and New York (in 2013) and Minnesota (in 2014) resulted in significant attention to the issue and much discussion on how to best address it.

- Studies done in school settings show that between 20 and 55 percent of anaphylactic events occurred in individuals who were not previously known to have an allergy.⁴
- Anaphylaxis to food allergies alone results in approximately 90,000 emergency department visits each year in the U.S.⁵
- Anaphylaxis results in approximately 1,500 deaths annually.⁶

Oregon is one of 47 states that allows schools to stock epinephrine auto-injectors and to permit trained school personnel to administer them in an emergency. More than 62,000 schools nationwide – including more than 1,082 here in Oregon - are stocking



epinephrine auto-injectors received through a program offered by Mylan that provides free auto-injectors to schools.

This amendment will ensure Oregon's current entity access law passed by the Legislature in 2013 can be implemented. It expands access to this critical medication to authorized entities such as day cares, colleges and universities, summer and day camps, restaurants, theme parks and other places where children and adults could come into contact with potentially life-threatening allergens. This amendment would not require any entity to stock epinephrine auto-injectors, but would simply allow it.

Anaphylaxis can happen in many different places and prompt recognition of signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis is crucial. A recent survey showed that 1 out of 10 schools administered epinephrine auto-injectors to treat anaphylactic reactions last year, underscoring the positive impact of allowing entities to stock auto-injectors.

Failure to administer epinephrine early in the course of treatment has been repeatedly implicated in anaphylaxis fatalities.⁷ The more rapidly anaphylaxis develops, the more likely the reaction will be severe and potentially life-threatening. This is why this legislation to allow increased access is so important.

19 states already have similar laws. Oregon passed the first law in 2013 and Florida and Rhode Island followed suit in 2014. In 2015, legislatures in 16 more states (Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Utah, Wisconsin and West Virginia) passed legislation.

Mylan would like to work with you, the advocates and other interested parties as you consider this amendment. I am happy to take any questions you may have.

References

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5. Clark S, Espinola J, et al. Frequency of U.S. emergency department visits for food-related acute allergic reactions. *J Allergy Clin Immunol*. 2011; 127(3): 682—683
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