

Testimony in support
of:

HB2086

Alana Williams-Dean 1437
100 Rd.
Mankato, KS 66956

Dear Rep. Steve Huebert and members of the Education Committee,

My name is Alana Williams-Dean, RN, BSN and I live in Mankato, KS.

I am a school nurse in Smith Center, Kansas.

Please consider supporting the proposed legislation regarding stocking Albuterol and Epinephrine in the schools for emergency situations.

Problem:

1. We need new legislation that decreases the barriers to stocking epinephrine at schools. Epinephrine is the first-line treatment for anaphylaxis, a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions
2. We need to be able to stock Albuterol at schools for respiratory emergencies related to asthma symptoms.

As a school nurse in a rural community, having emergency medications available to use prior to emergency medical services (EMS) arriving can be the difference in life or death. Having a student struggling and panicking for each breath, is a helpless feeling while knowing if I just had the emergency medication to administer to start the treatment of the reaction the student would have a better outcome.

I have had both occasions of needing albuterol and epinephrine prior to EMS arriving at school. As soon as EMS arrived and administered the medication the student was relieved and able to breath. Having these emergency medications available is necessary for Kansas schools.

Pharmacists in our community are hesitant to serve as the consulting pharmacist due to being unable to meet the supervisory responsibilities in the current statute.

Solution:

1. We need to allow Albuterol to be stocked and used in schools for emergencies.
2. We need new wording in our legislation that gets rid of the barriers Kansas Schools face when trying to get Epinephrine in their buildings. We can do that with this new language that aligns with the other 48 states who allow Epinephrine.
3. We need to expand wording that allows it to be given to visitors on school property.
4. Expand liability exclusion for schools.

I urge you to support the proposed Albuterol and Epinephrine legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

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