



March 12, 2024

Heather Braum, Health Policy Advisor
Kansas Action for Children
Written-only Proponent Testimony on HB 2547
Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

Chairperson Gossage and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony in **support of HB 2547, which would allow school nurses to stock emergency supplies of albuterol and epinephrine.**

Kansas Action for Children is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to make Kansas a place where every child has the opportunity to grow up healthy and thrive. We work across the political spectrum to improve the lives of Kansas children through bipartisan advocacy, partnership, and information-sharing on key issues, including early learning and education, health, and economic security for families.

Kansas schools care for thousands of kids five days per week throughout the school year. School nurses are on the front line of health care in the school setting and must be equipped with the necessary supplies (including albuterol and epinephrine) to respond to the most common life-threatening situations, such as allergic reactions and severe asthma attacks.

HB 2547 would allow school nurses to stock emergency supplies of albuterol and epinephrine – two life-saving medications that can be readily administered in emergencies.

Reversing severe reactions is extremely time-sensitive and immediate help is crucial, especially for kids in rural areas where emergency services may take longer to arrive. Having these critical supplies on hand in our schools will fill the gap from the time an emergency health event is recognized, emergency help is summoned, and emergency help arrives.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2547, as it will provide important additional tools to our school nurses as they respond to health emergencies. We ask you to favorably move this bill out of your committee this year and advocate for the policy to cross the finish line during the 2024 legislative session.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at heather@kac.org.