18A:40-12.6a LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2007 **CHAPTER**: 57

NJSA: 18A:40-12.6a (Clarifies the law concerning the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for

anaphylaxis)

BILL NO: S79 (Substituted for A961)

SPONSOR(S) Kean and Others

DATE INTRODUCED: Pre-filed

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY:

SENATE: Education

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: March 8, 2007

SENATE: February 22, 2007

DATE OF APPROVAL: March 16, 2007

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Second reprint enacted)

S79

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 5 of original bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: Yes

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE: No

A961

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 5 of original bill)

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: <u>ASSEMBLY</u>: <u>Yes</u>

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: Yes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

<u>VETO MESSAGE</u>: <u>Yes</u>

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

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RWH 4-23-08

P.L. 2007, CHAPTER 57, approved March 16, 2007 Senate, No. 79 (Second Reprint)

AN ACT concerning the administration of epinephrine for certain students, amending P.L.1993, c.308 and amending and supplementing P.L.1997, c.368.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.308 (C.18A:40-12.3) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. A board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses or a life-threatening allergic reaction provided that:
- (1) the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written authorization for the self-administration of medication;
- (2) the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written certification from the physician of the pupil that the pupil has asthma or another potentially lifethreatening illness or is subject to a life-threatening allergic reaction and is capable of, and has been instructed in, the proper method of self-administration of medication;
- (3) the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the pupil;
- (4) the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging that the district or the nonpublic school shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the self-administration of medication by the pupil; and

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

Senate SED committee amendments adopted June 8, 2006.

²Senate amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations February 5, 2007.

- 1 (5) the permission is effective for the school year for which it is 2 granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon 3 fulfillment of the requirements in paragraphs (1) through (4)of this 4 subsection.
 - b. Notwithstanding any other law or regulation to the contrary, a pupil who is permitted to self-administer medication under the provisions of this section shall be permitted to carry an inhaler or prescribed medication for allergic reactions, including a pre-filled ¹[, single dose] ¹ auto-injector mechanism, at all times, provided that the pupil does not endanger himself or other persons through misuse.
 - c. Any person who acts in good faith in accordance with the requirements of this act shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability arising from actions performed pursuant to this act.

15 (cf: P.L.2001, c.61, s.1)

- 2. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. Each board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall develop a policy in accordance with the guidelines established by the Department of Education pursuant to section 4 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) for the emergency administration of epinephrine via ¹[epi-pen] a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism to a pupil for anaphylaxis provided that:
- a. the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written authorization for the administration of the '[epi-pen] epinephrine';
- b. the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written orders from the physician or advanced practice nurse that the pupil requires the administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis [and does not have the capability for self-administration of the medication];
- c. the board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that ¹[if the procedures specified in this section are followed,] ¹ the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the ¹[epi-pen to the pupil] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism ¹;
- d. the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that ¹[if the procedures specified in this section are followed,] ¹ the district or the nonpublic school shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from

the administration of the '[epi-pen] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism' to the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the '[epi-pen to the pupil] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism'; and

e. the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in subsections a. through d. of this section.

The policy developed by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall require 1:

- (1)¹ the placement of ¹a pupil's prescribed¹ epinephrine in ¹ [each classroom where a student who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis is in attendance] a secure but unlocked location easily accessible by the school nurse and designees to ensure prompt availability in the event of an allergic emergency at school or at a school-sponsored function. The location of the epinephrine shall be indicated on the pupil's emergency care plan. Back-up epinephrine shall also be available at the school if needed;
- (2) the school nurse or designee to be promptly available on site at the school and school-sponsored functions in the event of an allergic reaction; and,
- (3) the transportation of the pupil to a hospital emergency room by emergency services personnel after the administration of epinephrine, even if the pupil's symptoms appear to have resolved 1. (cf. P.L.1997, c.368, s.1)

- 3. Section 2 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.6) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. The policy for the administration of medication to a pupil shall provide that the school nurse shall have the primary responsibility for the administration of the '[epi-pen] epinephrine'. The school nurse '[may] shall' designate, in consultation with the board of education, or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school [another employee] additional employees of the school district or nonpublic school 'who volunteer' to administer epinephrine via '[epi-pen] a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism' to a pupil for anaphylaxis when the nurse is not physically present at the scene '[, provided] . The school nurse shall determine' that:
- a. the [designated person has] designees have been properly trained in the administration of the '[epi-pen by the school nurse] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism using standardized training protocols established by the Department of

Education in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services;

- b. the parents or guardians of the pupil consent in writing to the administration of the ¹[epi-pen] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism by the [designated individual] designees;
 - c. the board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that '[if the procedures specified in this section are followed,]' the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees and agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the '[epi-pen] epinephrine' to the pupil;
- d. the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that '[if the procedures specified in this section are followed,]' the district or nonpublic school shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the '[epi-pen] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism' to the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the '[epi-pen] epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism' to the pupil; and
 - e. the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in subsections a. through d. of this section.

The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall '[establish a ratio of] require trained designees '[to] for students enrolled in a school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis '[. The number of designees trained by the nurse shall be in accordance with that ratio] when the school nurse is not available .

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the emergency administration of epinephrine via ¹[epi-pen] a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism ¹ to a pupil for anaphylaxis by the school nurse or other employees designated pursuant to this section when the pupil is authorized to self-administer epinephrine pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1993, c.308 (C.18A:40-12.3) ¹, or when there is a coexisting diagnosis of asthma, or when a prescription is received from a licensed health care professional for epinephrine coupled with another form of medication ¹.

42 (cf: P.L.1997, c.368, s.2)

4. (New section) The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, ¹appropriate medical experts, and professional organizations representing school

nurses, principals, teachers, and the food allergy community, shall establish and disseminate to each board of education and chief school administrator of a nonpublic school guidelines for the development of a policy by a school district or nonpublic school for the management of food allergies in the school setting and the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis. The guidelines shall address issues including, but not limited to, the responsibilities of the school, the parent or guardian, and the student for the emergency administration of epinephrine. The Commissioner of Education shall disseminate the guidelines to each board of education and chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, and the policy adopted by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5) shall conform to those guidelines.

1 2

¹[5. (New section) The board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, in consultation with the parents or guardians of children enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, shall develop a district or school plan that outlines procedures to be followed to reduce the potential for student exposure to allergens. The school nurse shall work with the parents or guardians of affected students to develop the plan which shall be updated annually.]¹

¹5. (New section) Each board of education and chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall implement in the schools of the district or the nonpublic school the guidelines established and disseminated pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). ¹

¹6. (New section) a. In an effort to assist the certified school nurse in recruiting and training additional school employees as volunteer designees to administer epinephrine for anaphylaxis when the school nurse is not physically present, the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Senior Services shall jointly develop training protocols, in consultation with the New Jersey School Nurses Association.

b. The certified school nurse, in consultation with the board of education or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, shall recruit and train volunteer designees who are determined acceptable candidates by the school nurse within each school building as deemed necessary by the nursing service plan.

S79 [2R]

1	² [¹ 7. (New section) No action of any kind in any court of
2	competent jurisdiction or before the New Jersey State Board of
3	Nursing shall lie against any school employee, including a school
4	nurse, or any other officer or agent of a board of education or
5	nonpublic school because of any action taken by virtue of the
6	provisions of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5 et seq.). ¹] ²
7	
8	² 7. (New section) No school employee, including a school
9	nurse, or any other officer or agent of a board of education or
10	nonpublic school shall be held liable for any good faith act or
11	omission consistent with the provisions of P.L.1997, c.368
12	(C.18A:40-12.5 et seq.), nor shall an action before the New Jersey
13	State Board of Nursing lie against a school nurse for any such
14	action taken by a person designated in good faith by the school
15	nurse pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.6).
16	Good faith shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence or
17	recklessness. ²
18	
19	¹ [6.] <u>8.</u> This act shall take effect immediately.
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21	
22	
23	
24	Clarifies the law concerning the emergency administration of
25	epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis.

SENATE, No. 79

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.
District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Martin, Sweeney, Coniglio, McNamara and Sarlo

SYNOPSIS

Clarifies law concerning the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis, increases number of delegates trained to administer epinephrine, and requires plan to reduce student exposure to allergens.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/9/2006)

AN ACT concerning the administration of epinephrine for certain students, amending P.L.1993, c.308 and amending and supplementing P.L.1997, c.368.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.308 (C.18A:40-12.3) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. A board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses or a life-threatening allergic reaction provided that:
- (1) the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written authorization for the self-administration of medication;
- (2) the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written certification from the physician of the pupil that the pupil has asthma or another potentially lifethreatening illness or is subject to a life-threatening allergic reaction and is capable of, and has been instructed in, the proper method of self-administration of medication;
- (3) the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the pupil;
- (4) the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging that the district or the nonpublic school shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the self-administration of medication by the pupil; and
- (5) the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in paragraphs (1) through (4)of this subsection.
- b. Notwithstanding any other law or regulation to the contrary, a pupil who is permitted to self-administer medication under the

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

provisions of this section shall be permitted to carry an inhaler <u>or</u>
prescribed medication for allergic reactions, including a pre-filled,
single dose auto-injector mechanism, at all times, provided that the
pupil does not endanger himself or other persons through misuse.

- c. Any person who acts in good faith in accordance with the requirements of this act shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability arising from actions performed pursuant to this act.
- 8 (cf: P.L.2001, c.61, s.1)

- 2. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. Each board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall develop a policy in accordance with the guidelines established by the Department of Education pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) for the emergency administration of epinephrine via epi-pen to a pupil for anaphylaxis provided that:
- a. the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written authorization for the administration of the epi-pen;
- b. the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written orders from the physician or advanced practice nurse that the pupil requires the administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis [and does not have the capability for self-administration of the medication];
- c. the board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil;
- d. the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district or the nonpublic school shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil; and
- e. the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in subsections a. through d. of this section.
- The policy developed by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall require the placement of

epinephrine in each classroom where a student who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis is in attendance.

(cf: P.L.1997, c.368, s.1)

- 3. Section 2 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.6) is amended to read as follows:
 - 2. The policy for the administration of medication to a pupil shall provide that the school nurse shall have the primary responsibility for the administration of the epi-pen. The school nurse may designate, in consultation with the board of education, or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school [another employee] additional employees of the school district or nonpublic school to administer epinephrine via epi-pen to a pupil for anaphylaxis when the nurse is not physically present at the scene, provided that:
 - a. the [designated person has] <u>designees have</u> been properly trained in the administration of the epi-pen by the school nurse using standardized training protocols established by the Department of Education in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services:
 - b. the parents or guardians of the pupil consent in writing to the administration of the epi-pen by the [designated individual] designees;
 - c. the board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees and agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil;
 - d. the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district or nonpublic school shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil; and
 - e. the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in subsections a. through d. of this section.
- The Department of Education, in consultation with the
 Department of Health and Senior Services, shall establish a ratio of
 trained designees to students enrolled in a school who may require
 the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis. The
 number of designees trained by the nurse shall be in accordance

1 with that ratio.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the emergency administration of epinephrine via epi-pen to a pupil for anaphylaxis by the school nurse or other employees designated pursuant to this section when the pupil is authorized to self-administer epinephrine pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1993, c.308 (C.18A:40-12.3).

(cf: P.L.1997, c.368, s.2)

4. (New section) The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall establish guidelines for the development of a policy by a school district or nonpublic school for the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis. The guidelines shall address issues including, but not limited to, the responsibilities of the school, the parent or guardian, and the student for the emergency administration of epinephrine. The Commissioner of Education shall disseminate the guidelines to each board of education and chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, and the policy adopted by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5) shall conform to those guidelines.

5. (New section) The board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, in consultation with the parents or guardians of children enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, shall develop a district or school plan that outlines procedures to be followed to reduce the potential for student exposure to allergens. The school nurse shall work with the parents or guardians of affected students to develop the plan which shall be updated annually.

6. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill clarifies the provisions of law regarding the emergency administration of epinephrine. Under current law, a board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school must permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses provided that certain conditions are met. This bill clarifies that a pupil may also self-administer medication for a life-threatening allergic reaction.

A separate law directs school districts and nonpublic schools to develop a policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine.

That law provides that the school nurse has the primary responsibility for the administration of the epinephrine but also allows the nurse, in consultation with the board of education or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, to designate another employee of the school district or nonpublic school to administer the epinephrine for anaphylaxis when the school nurse is not physically present. Certain school districts and nonpublic schools have interpreted this law to prohibit the administration of epinephrine by the school nurse or other designated employee for pupils who are authorized to self-administer the epinephrine. This "either/or" policy adopted by some school districts and nonpublic schools may place a student who is authorized to self-administer the epinephrine in jeopardy if that student loses or misplaces the epi-pen or panics in an emergency situation and is unable to administer the epi-pen. This bill clarifies that authorization to self-administer epinephrine does not preclude the school nurse or a designee from administering the epinephrine in emergency situations.

This bill also allows the nurse to train multiple delegates for the emergency administration of epinephrine and requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, to establish a ratio of trained delegates enrolled in a school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis. The number of delegates trained by the school nurse is to be in accordance with the established ratio.

The bill also directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, to establish guidelines for the development of a school policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis. The guidelines would address issues such as the responsibilities of the school, the parent or guardian, and the student for the emergency administration of epinephrine. The policy on emergency administration adopted by a school district or nonpublic school would have to conform to those guidelines.

This bill also requires each board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, in consultation with the parents or guardians of children enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, to develop a district or school plan that outlines procedures to be followed to reduce the potential for student exposure to allergens. The school nurse is to work with the parents or guardians of affected students to develop the plan which is to be updated annually.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 79

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 8, 2006

The Senate Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 79 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill clarifies the provisions of law regarding the emergency administration of epinephrine. Under current law, a board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school must permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses provided that certain conditions are met. This bill clarifies that a pupil may also self-administer medication for a life-threatening allergic reaction.

A separate law directs school districts and nonpublic schools to develop a policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine. That law provides that the school nurse has the primary responsibility for the administration of the epinephrine but also allows the nurse, in consultation with the board of education or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, to designate another employee of the school district or nonpublic school to administer the epinephrine for anaphylaxis when the school nurse is not physically present. Certain school districts and nonpublic schools have interpreted this law to prohibit the administration of epinephrine by the school nurse or other designated employee for pupils who are authorized to selfadminister the epinephrine. This "either/or" policy adopted by some school districts and nonpublic schools may place a student who is authorized to self-administer the epinephrine in jeopardy if that student loses or misplaces the pre-filled auto-injector mechanism or panics in an emergency situation and is unable to administer the pre-filled autoinjector mechanism. This bill clarifies that authorization to selfadminister epinephrine does not preclude the school nurse or a designee from administering the epinephrine in emergency situations.

This bill also requires the nurse to designate additional employees who volunteer to administer the epinephrine when the nurse is not physically present at the scene. In order to assist the certified school nurse in recruiting and training additional school employees as volunteer designees, the Department of Education and the Department

of Health and Senior Services will develop training protocols, in consultation with the New Jersey School Nurses Association. The certified school nurse, in consultation with the board of education or the chief school administer of a nonpublic school, will recruit and train volunteer designees who are determined by the school nurse to be acceptable candidates.

The bill also directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, appropriate medical experts, and professional organizations representing school nurses, principals, teachers, and the food allergy community to establish and disseminate guidelines for the management of food allergies in the school setting and the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis.

The bill also specifies that no action of any kind in any court of competent jurisdiction or before the State Board of Nursing will be taken against a school nurse or any other school employee by virtue of any action taken in accordance with this bill for the administration of epinephrine.

The committee amended the bill to:

- 1) replace reference to epi-pen to pre-filled auto-injector mechanism in recognition of the fact that there are a variety of injectable epinephrine devices on the market;
- 2) require that the policy developed by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school on the emergency administration of epinephrine provide for the placement of a student's prescribed epinephrine in a secure but unlocked location easily accessible by the school nurse and designees; that the location be indicated on the student's emergency care plan; that back-up epinephrine also be available; that the school nurse or a designee be promptly available on site at the school and school-sponsored functions in the event of an allergic reaction; and that the pupil be transported to the hospital by emergency medical services personnel following the administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, even if the student's symptoms appear to have resolved;
- 3) require a school district and a nonpublic school to designate and train employee volunteers to administer epinephrine to a student for anaphylaxis in emergency situations when the nurse is not physically present at the scene. Current law authorizes such designation but does not require it;
- 4) provide that nothing under the law will be construed to prohibit the emergency administration of epinephrine to a student for anaphylaxis when there is a coexisting diagnosis of asthma or when a prescription is received from a licensed health care professional for epinephrine coupled with another medication;
- 5) provide for the inclusion of appropriate medical experts and professional organizations representing school nurses, principals, teachers, and the food allergy community in the establishment of Department of Education guidelines required under the bill for the

development of school policies on the management of food allergies in the school setting and the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis;

- 6) specifically direct each board of education and nonpublic school to implement the guidelines established by the department;
- 7) in an effort to assist the certified school nurse in recruiting and training additional school employees to volunteer as designees to administer epinephrine, direct the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Senior Services to jointly develop training protocols, in consultation with the New Jersey School Nurses Association;
- 8) specifically direct the certified school nurse to recruit and train volunteer designees to administer epinephrine for anaphylaxis who are determined acceptable candidates by the school nurse within each school building; and,
- 9) specifically provide that no action of any kind in any court or before the New Jersey State Board of Nursing will lie against any school employee, including the school nurse, or any other officer or agent of a board of education or nonpublic school as the result of any action taken in accordance with the law on the administration of epinephrine.

As amended, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 961 (1R), which was released by the Assembly Education Committee on February 6, 2006, and amended on the Assembly floor on May 22, 2006.

ASSEMBLY, No. 961

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ERIC MUNOZ
District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)
Assemblywoman JOAN M. VOSS
District 38 (Bergen)
Assemblywoman CHARLOTTE VANDERVALK
District 39 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Bateman and Scalera

SYNOPSIS

Clarifies law concerning the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis, increases number of delegates trained to administer epinephrine, and requires plan to reduce student exposure to allergens.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/7/2006)

1 AN ACT concerning the administration of epinephrine for certain 2 students, amending P.L.1993, c.308 and amending and 3 supplementing P.L.1997, c.368.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.308 (C.18A:40-12.3) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. A board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses or a life-threatening allergic reaction provided that:
- (1) the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written authorization for the self-administration of medication;
- (2) the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written certification from the physician of the pupil that the pupil has asthma or another potentially lifethreatening illness or is subject to a life-threatening allergic reaction and is capable of, and has been instructed in, the proper method of self-administration of medication;
- (3) the board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the pupil;
- (4) the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging that the district or the nonpublic school shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the self-administration of medication by the pupil; and
- (5) the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in paragraphs (1) through (4)of this subsection.
- b. Notwithstanding any other law or regulation to the contrary, a pupil who is permitted to self-administer medication under the

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

provisions of this section shall be permitted to carry an inhaler <u>or</u>
prescribed medication for allergic reactions, including a pre-filled,
single dose auto-injector mechanism, at all times, provided that the
pupil does not endanger himself or other persons through misuse.

c. Any person who acts in good faith in accordance with the requirements of this act shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability arising from actions performed pursuant to this act.

8 (cf: P.L.2001, c.61, s.1)

- 2. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. Each board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall develop a policy in accordance with the guidelines established by the Department of Education pursuant to section 4 of P.L. , c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) for the emergency administration of epinephrine via epi-pen to a pupil for anaphylaxis provided that:
- a. the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written authorization for the administration of the epi-pen;
- b. the parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school written orders from the physician or advanced practice nurse that the pupil requires the administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis [and does not have the capability for self-administration of the medication];
- c. the board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil;
- d. the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district or the nonpublic school shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil; and
- e. the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in subsections a. through d. of this section.
- The policy developed by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school shall require the placement of

epinephrine in each classroom where a student who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis is in attendance.

4 (cf: P.L.1997, c.368, s.1)

- 6 3. Section 2 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.6) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. The policy for the administration of medication to a pupil shall provide that the school nurse shall have the primary responsibility for the administration of the epi-pen. The school nurse may designate, in consultation with the board of education, or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school [another employee] additional employees of the school district or nonpublic school to administer epinephrine via epi-pen to a pupil for anaphylaxis when the nurse is not physically present at the scene, provided that:
 - a. the [designated person has] <u>designees have</u> been properly trained in the administration of the epi-pen by the school nurse using standardized training protocols established by the Department of Education in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services;
 - b. the parents or guardians of the pupil consent in writing to the administration of the epi-pen by the [designated individual] designees;
 - c. the board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school informs the parents or guardians of the pupil in writing that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district and its employees or agents or the nonpublic school and its employees and agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil;
 - d. the parents or guardians of the pupil sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that if the procedures specified in this section are followed, the district or nonpublic school shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil and that the parents or guardians shall indemnify and hold harmless the district and its employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the epi-pen to the pupil; and
 - e. the permission is effective for the school year for which it is granted and is renewed for each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements in subsections a. through d. of this section.
- The Department of Education, in consultation with the
 Department of Health and Senior Services, shall establish a ratio of
 trained designees to students enrolled in a school who may require
 the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis. The
 number of designees trained by the nurse shall be in accordance
 with that ratio.

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Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the emergency administration of epinephrine via epi-pen to a pupil for anaphylaxis by the school nurse or other employees designated pursuant to this section when the pupil is authorized to self-administer epinephrine pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1993, c.308 (C.18A:40-12.3).

(cf: P.L.1997, c.368, s.2)

4. (New section) The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall establish guidelines for the development of a policy by a school district or nonpublic school for the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis. The guidelines shall address issues including, but not limited to, the responsibilities of the school, the parent or guardian, and the student for the emergency administration of epinephrine. The Commissioner of Education shall disseminate the guidelines to each board of education and chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, and the policy adopted by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5) shall conform to those guidelines.

5. (New section) The board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, in consultation with the parents or guardians of children enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, shall develop a district or school plan that outlines procedures to be followed to reduce the potential for student exposure to allergens. The school nurse shall work with the parents or guardians of affected students to develop the plan which shall be updated annually.

6. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill clarifies the provisions of law regarding the emergency administration of epinephrine. Under current law, a board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school must permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses provided that certain conditions are met. This bill clarifies that a pupil may also self-administer medication for a life-threatening allergic reaction.

A separate law directs school districts and nonpublic schools to develop a policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine. That law provides that the school nurse has the primary

responsibility for the administration of the epinephrine but also allows the nurse, in consultation with the board of education or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, to designate another employee of the school district or nonpublic school to administer the epinephrine for anaphylaxis when the school nurse is not physically present. Certain school districts and nonpublic schools have interpreted this law to prohibit the administration of epinephrine by the school nurse or other designated employee for pupils who are authorized to self-administer the epinephrine. This "either/or" policy adopted by some school districts and nonpublic schools may place a student who is authorized to self-administer the epinephrine in jeopardy if that student loses or misplaces the epi-pen or panics in an emergency situation and is unable to administer the epi-pen. This bill clarifies that authorization to self-administer epinephrine does not preclude the school nurse or a designee from administering the epinephrine in emergency situations.

This bill also allows the nurse to train multiple delegates for the emergency administration of epinephrine and requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, to establish a ratio of trained delegates enrolled in a school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis. The number of delegates trained by the school nurse is to be in accordance with the established ratio.

The bill also directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, to establish guidelines for the development of a school policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis. The guidelines would address issues such as the responsibilities of the school, the parent or guardian, and the student for the emergency administration of epinephrine. The policy on emergency administration adopted by a school district or nonpublic school would have to conform to those guidelines.

This bill also requires each board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, in consultation with the parents or guardians of children enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, to develop a district or school plan that outlines procedures to be followed to reduce the potential for student exposure to allergens. The school nurse is to work with the parents or guardians of affected students to develop the plan which is to be updated annually.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 961

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 6, 2006

This bill clarifies the provisions of law regarding the emergency administration of epinephrine. Under current law, a board of education or the governing board or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school must permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illnesses provided that certain conditions are met. This bill provides that a pupil may also self-administer medication for a life-threatening allergic reaction.

A separate law directs school districts and nonpublic schools to develop a policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine. That law provides that the school nurse has the primary responsibility for the administration of the epinephrine but also allows the nurse, in consultation with the board of education or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, to designate another employee of the school district or nonpublic school to administer the epinephrine for anaphylaxis when the school nurse is not physically present. Certain school districts and nonpublic schools have interpreted this law to prohibit the administration of epinephrine by the school nurse or other designated employee for pupils who are authorized to selfadminister the epinephrine. This "either/or" policy adopted by some school districts and nonpublic schools may place a student who is authorized to self-administer the epinephrine in jeopardy if that student loses or misplaces the epi-pen or panics in an emergency situation and is unable to administer the epi-pen. This bill clarifies that authorization to self-administer epinephrine does not preclude the school nurse or a designee from administering the epinephrine in emergency situations.

This bill also allows the nurse to train multiple delegates for the emergency administration of epinephrine and requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, to establish a ratio of trained delegates to students enrolled in a school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis. The number of delegates trained by the school nurse is to be in accordance with the established ratio.

The bill directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, to establish guidelines for the development of a school policy for the emergency administration of epinephrine to students for anaphylaxis. The guidelines would address issues such as the responsibilities of the school, the parent or guardian, and the student for the emergency administration of epinephrine. The policy on emergency administration developed by a school district or nonpublic school would have to conform to those guidelines; and would also have to require the placement of epinephrine in each classroom where a student who may require its emergency administration is in attendance.

Finally, this bill requires each board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school, in consultation with the parents or guardians of children enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school who may require the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, to develop a district or school plan that outlines procedures to be followed to reduce the potential for student exposure to allergens. The school nurse is to work with the parents or guardians of affected students to develop the plan which is to be updated annually.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2006-2007 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 961

with Assembly Floor Amendments (Proposed By Assemblyman MUNOZ)

ADOPTED: MAY 22, 2006

These floor amendments do the following:

- 1) replace reference to epi-pen to pre-filled auto-injector mechanism in recognition of the fact that there are a variety of injectable epinephrine devices on the market;
- 2) require that the policy developed by a board of education or chief school administrator of a nonpublic school on the emergency administration of epinephrine provide for the placement of a student's prescribed epinephrine in a secure but unlocked location easily accessible by the school nurse and designees; that the location be indicated on the student's emergency care plan; that back-up epinephrine also be available; that the school nurse or a designee be promptly available on site at the school and school-sponsored functions in the event of an allergic reaction; and that the pupil be transported to the hospital by emergency medical services personnel following the administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis, even if the student's symptoms appear to have resolved;
- 3) require a school district and a nonpublic school to designate and train employee volunteers to administer epinephrine to a student for anaphylaxis in emergency situations when the nurse is not physically present at the scene. Current law authorizes such designation but does not require it;
- 4) provide that nothing under the law will be construed to prohibit the emergency administration of epinephrine to a student for anaphylaxis when there is a coexisting diagnosis of asthma or when a prescription is received from a licensed health care professional for epinephrine coupled with another medication;
- 5) provide for the inclusion of appropriate medical experts and professional organizations representing school nurses, principals, teachers, and the food allergy community in the establishment of Department of Education guidelines required under the bill for the development of school policies on the management of food allergies in the school setting and the emergency administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis;
- 6) specifically direct each board of education and nonpublic school to implement the guidelines established by the department;
- 7) in an effort to assist the certified school nurse in recruiting and training additional school employees to volunteer as designees to administer epinephrine, direct the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Senior Services to jointly develop training

protocols, in consultation with the New Jersey School Nurses Association;

- 8) specifically direct the certified school nurse to recruit and train volunteer designees to administer epinephrine for anaphylaxis who are determined acceptable candidates by the school nurse within each school building; and,
- 9) specifically provide that no action of any kind in any court or before the New Jersey State Board of Nursing will lie against any school employee, including the school nurse, or any other officer or agent of a board of education or nonpublic school as the result of any action taken in accordance with the law on the administration of epinephrine.

SENATE BILL NO. 79 (First Reprint)

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey State Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 79 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

This bill seeks to increase protections for children with special sensitivities or allergies while they are in a school setting. The bill would clarify existing law regarding the emergency administration of epinephrine to students with anaphylaxis while also increasing the number of school employees in addition to the school nurse who can be trained to administer epinephrine in emergency situations. Finally, the bill would immunize all school employees from any liability associated with the administration of epinephrine under any circumstances.

I commend the sponsors of this bill for their efforts. Improving the safety of school children -- especially those in need of emergency medical attention -- is an important public goal. I also recognize the necessity of allowing school employees, who have volunteered to assist a child in need, to be able to act without fear of incurring legal liability. Nonetheless, I cannot approve a bill that will immunize a school nurse or other employee from both civil liability and Board of Nursing review, even if a child is harmed as a result of a school employee's bad faith or gross negligence.

The limitation of liability contained in this bill is overly broad and as a result could have the unintended consequence of failing to protect the health, safety and welfare of the State's school children. It is essential that an appropriate balance be struck between encouraging school

employees to volunteer to help a child in need on the one hand and total immunization from any and all reckless, intentional or bad faith acts and omissions on the other. As a result, I recommend that the bill be amended consistent with the type of liability protection that are contained in New Jersey's Good Samaritan Laws. Accordingly, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 79 (First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 6, Section 7, Line 42 to
Page 7, Section 7, Line 2:

Delete Section 7 in its entirety

Page 6, Section 7, Line 42:

Insert: "No school employee, including a school nurse, or any other officer or agent of board of education or nonpublic school shall be held liable for any good act or omission faith consistent with provisions of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.5 et seq.), nor shall an action before the New Jersey State Board of Nursing lie against a school nurse for any such action taken by a person designated in good faith by the school nurse pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1997, c.368 (C.18A:40-12.6). Good faith shall not include willful misconduct, negligence gross recklessness."

Respectfully,

/s/ Jon S. Corzine

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Kenneth H. Zimmerman

Chief Counsel to the Governor