

State of Washington Camp Access to Epinephrine Autoinjectors Key Messages Updated 2/17/2016

The Bill

SB 6421 was introduced into the Washington State Legislature by Senators Kevin Ranker, Randi Becker, Rosemary McAuliffe, and Mark Mullet on 2/5/2016. **The bill passed the State Senate and is currently under consideration by the Health and Wellness Committee. It will subsequently need to be voted upon by the House.** (Read the entire text of the bill: <http://lawfilesexet.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/6421-S.pdf>)

The Issues

- In the state of Washington, camps and other youth serving programs are not legally authorized to have epinephrine autoinjectors in stock in their health center. Under current law, a prescription for this life-saving medication cannot be written for an “entity,” only an individual.
- Childhood allergies are on the rise. According to research conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, twenty-five percent of children have their first allergic reaction at school or while participating in out-of-school activities — such as camp.
- In the case of a campers (or anyone on camp property) having an anaphylactic response, the only option is to call for emergency help (9-1-1) and hope that medical personnel with the appropriate medication can reach the patient quickly.

The Solutions Presented in This Bill

- This bill will amend the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) by adding a provision that allows for authorized health care providers to prescribe epinephrine autoinjectors in the name of authorized entities.
- Authorized entities include: “any entity or organization at or in connection with which allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, including, but not limited to, restaurants, recreation camps, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, colleges, universities, and sports arenas.”
- Authorized entities must first complete training as described in the bill, then the entity may seek out an authorized prescriber, and stock the epinephrine autoinjectors in their health center.

Call to Action

Advocating for the passage of this important legislation is very easy! ACA has an online tool with a template message you can edit and send immediately to your State Representatives. Participate today by visiting:

<http://www.capwiz.com/acacamps/issues/alert/?alertid=70077626>

