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Kansas Action for Children
Written-only proponent testimony for SB 328
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 SB 328, which would update state law for schools to stock any FDA-approved epinephrine delivery system.

Kansas schools care for thousands of kids. School nurses are on the front line of health care in school settings and must be equipped with the necessary supplies to respond to life-threatening situations, like allergic reactions. This includes new and approved delivery methods for responding to anaphylaxis, like a now-available nasal spray, instead of the only previously authorized injection method. At times, other school staff are the first on the scene before a medical provider (like the school nurse) can arrive and must deliver timely, critical response for an allergic reaction.

SB 328 updates language to allow schools to stock the new nasal spray epinephrine delivery method by future-proofing the language to now include any FDA-approved epinephrine delivery system.

The bill would authorize schools to stock any FDA-approved epinephrine delivery method, which allows schools to evolve along with medical and technological advances without changing state law each time. This will keep schools responsive and flexible to respond to emergency situations, like allergic reactions. Having the newly available nasal spray available in schools makes it easier to train more adults to administer a responsive nasal spray instead of the previously approved injection method that can be more intimidating.

Further, providing schools with flexibility to select the best delivery method for epinephrine gives them options for the medication source, instead of one vendor. Several

states have already pursued or are discussing this type of change to their state laws, including Ohio, Missouri, Texas, New York, and Washington. Wisconsin was the first state to make this change to state law in 2023.¹

Regardless of the delivery method for the epinephrine, reversing severe allergic reactions is extremely time-sensitive, and immediate help is crucial, especially for kids in rural areas where emergency services may take longer to arrive. Giving schools the ability to stock additional delivery methods 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 SB 328, as it will provide important additional tools to our schools as they respond to allergic reactions, now and into the future. 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 2026 legislative session.

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

About Kansas Action for Children

KAC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization working to make Kansas a place where every child has the opportunity to grow up healthy and thrive. KAC does not receive any funding from local, state, or federal government sources; however, we have a keen interest in the state budget because of its impact on children and families.

¹ Asthma and Allergy Network. (2023). <https://allergyasthmanetwork.org/news/wisconsin-stock-epinephrine-dillons-law/>