



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 133

January Session, 2019

Senate Bill No. 884

Senate, March 25, 2019

The Committee on Children reported through SEN. SLAP of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WILDERNESS SCHOOL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Appropriately trained" means the successful completion of (A)
- 3 the training requirements for the administration of injectable
- 4 medications by premeasured, commercially prepared autoinjectors
- 5 prescribed by the regulations adopted pursuant to section 19a-428 of
- 6 the general statutes, and (B) training in the preceding twelve-month
- 7 period conducted by a pharmacist, physician, physician assistant,
- 8 advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse to (i) identify
- 9 the common causes of allergic reactions, signs and symptoms of mild
- 10 and severe allergic reactions and the ways in which anaphylaxis differs
- 11 from other medical conditions, and (ii) execute appropriate follow-up
- 12 and reporting procedures after a child has experienced a presumed
- 13 allergic reaction;

14 (2) "Qualified employee" means an employee who is eighteen years
15 of age or older and is appropriately trained; and

16 (3) "Qualified medical professional" has the same meaning as
17 provided in section 10-212a of the general statutes.

18 (b) Any qualified employee of the Department of Children and
19 Families Wilderness School may administer epinephrine by a
20 premeasured, commercially prepared autoinjector for the purpose of
21 emergency first aid to a child enrolled in the Department of Children
22 and Families Wilderness School who experiences a presumed allergic
23 reaction in the absence of a written order from a qualified medical
24 professional, provided such child's parent or guardian has previously
25 authorized such administration in writing.

26 (c) The director of the Department of Children and Families
27 Wilderness School shall maintain epinephrine in premeasured,
28 commercially prepared autoinjectors for the purpose of emergency
29 first aid to children who experience presumed allergic reactions and do
30 not have a prior written order from a qualified medical professional
31 authorizing the administration of epinephrine.

32 (d) The director of the Department of Children and Families
33 Wilderness School shall ensure that (1) all epinephrine in
34 premeasured, commercially prepared autoinjectors are stored and
35 labeled in a manner consistent with the regulations adopted pursuant
36 to section 19a-428 of the general statutes; and (2) records concerning
37 the administration of epinephrine in commercially prepared
38 autoinjectors are maintained in a manner consistent with the
39 regulations adopted pursuant to section 19a-428 of the general statutes.

40 (e) No qualified employee administering epinephrine to a child
41 pursuant to this section shall be liable to such child or a parent or
42 guardian of such child for civil damages for any personal injuries that
43 result from acts or omissions of such employee that may constitute
44 ordinary negligence. This immunity does not apply to acts or
45 omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

KID *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Cost	7,524	7,524

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which authorizes qualified Wilderness School employees to administer epinephrine to a student for emergency first aid purposes and requires that auto-injectors be kept on the premises, results in an annually cost to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) of approximately \$7,524 for auto-injectors (24 units at \$313.5 each). No additional expense will be incurred to train staff in the use of epinephrine, as this training is already required within the scope of the annual contract entered between DCF and the Wilderness School's camp physician.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 884*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WILDERNESS SCHOOL.*****SUMMARY**

The Department of Children and Families Wilderness School is a prevention, intervention, and transition program for youth located in East Hartland, Connecticut and licensed as a youth camp by the Office of Early Childhood (OEC).

This bill authorizes qualified wilderness school employees (i.e., appropriately trained employees over age 18) to administer epinephrine by a premeasured commercially prepared auto-injector (e.g., EpiPen) for emergency first aid purposes to a student who experiences a presumed allergic reaction and does not have a prescription from a qualified medical professional. The injector may only be used if a parent or guardian has previously provided written authorization.

The bill requires the school director to keep injectors on the premises for emergency purposes. He must also ensure that the injectors are stored and labeled, and records concerning injector use are maintained, in a manner consistent with OEC youth camp regulations.

No qualified employee who administers an injector as permitted by the bill may be held liable to the student or the student's parent or guardian for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions that may constitute ordinary negligence in administering the injector. The immunity does not extend to acts or omissions that constitute gross, wilful, or wanton negligence.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

TRAINING

In order to be “appropriately trained” for the bill’s purposes, an employee must successfully complete:

1. youth camp staff member training requirements, as prescribed by OEC youth camp regulations on administering medication to a student attending camp (see BACKGROUND), and
2. training within the last 12 months conducted by a pharmacist, physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or registered nurse.

The latter training must cover (1) how to identify the common cause of allergic reactions, (2) signs and symptoms of mild and severe allergic reactions, (3) the ways anaphylaxis differs from other medical conditions, and (4) appropriate follow-up and reporting procedures after a child has experienced a presumed allergic reaction.

BACKGROUND***OEC Regulations***

OEC regulations require youth camp staff members to receive training from a pharmacist, physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or registered nurse before administering medication to a child attending a camp. Before staff members may administer a commercially prepared auto-injector, they must additionally complete a training program on their administration taught by one of the above mentioned health professionals. After completing the initial auto-injector training, staff members must annually have their skills and competency in administering an injector evaluated by a health professional (Conn. Agencies Reg. § 19a-428-6(a)(2)(A)(iv)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/07/2019)