

Committee on Children JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-884

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

Vote Date: 3/7/2019

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/28/2019

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Committee on Children

REASONS FOR BILL:

To allow employees of the Department of Children and Families Wilderness School to provide epinephrine for emergency first aid purposes to children enrolled in the program who are suffering from a presumed allergic reaction.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

The Department of Children and Families expressed its support for this bill. They mention that the Wilderness School programs are held in wooded areas without access to emergency medical care. Therefore, the Department of Children and Families believes that allowing the employees to administer epinephrine provides support for the children in emergency situations.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

The Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association expressed its opposition to this bill. The association expressed concerns that this bill would broaden the Good Samaritan immunity laws and thus provide immunity to these employees which is unnecessary since they would not be held liable in the first place. The association mentions that a jury will better protect an individual seeking protection under this bill by evaluating their conduct. For the reasons stated above the association finds this bill unnecessary.

Mary Jane Williams from the Connecticut Nurses Association expressed her opposition to this bill. She mentions that although the administration of epinephrine could save lives, if not done properly it can cause harm to the person administering it and the person receiving it. She expressed that proper training is essential to the wellbeing of all members in the Wilderness School program.

Reported by: Dea Ballij

Date: 03/11/2019