



July 16, 2013

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The Honorable Phil Roe
The Honorable Steny Hoyer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Roe and Hoyer,

I am writing on behalf of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) to express support for H.R. 2094, legislation encouraging states to ensure that epinephrine is available in schools for the treatment of anaphylactic reactions to food or other allergen. AAEM is the specialty society of board certified emergency physicians. AAEM is a democratic organization committed to the principle of fair and equitable practice environments to allow emergency physicians to provide the highest quality of patient care.

It is estimated that close to 1 million American school children have had an allergic reaction to food while in school. Many have suffered anaphylaxis, a systemic allergic reaction that can kill within minutes unless epinephrine is administered promptly. It is vitally important that epinephrine auto-injectors are readily available to school personnel who may be present when an anaphylactic reaction occurs. This is important not only for students and staff with severe allergies to foods but also those at risk of anaphylaxis to bee stings, latex, or other allergens.

Most states do not have laws requiring schools to maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors and administer to students when required in an emergency. Your bill would encourage all states to adopt this policy. The American Academy of Emergency Medicine thanks you for your leadership in addressing this important issue and is pleased to endorse H.R. 2094.

Sincerely,

William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM
President, AAEM

American Academy of Emergency Medicine

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