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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: June 18, 2013

SUBJECT: 2013 Legislation: Senate Bill 284

Contact Information

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The 2013 Florida Legislature passed the committee substitute for Senate Bill 284 (CS/SB 284): School Emergencies. Certain provisions of this legislation specifically pertain to epinephrine auto-injectors, a prescription drug for students with life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis). CS/SB 284 provides public and private schools with the option to purchase and maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors from a wholesale distributor licensed in Florida, as defined in Section 499.003, Florida Statutes. The enrolled bill text is available at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/0284>.

For those districts choosing to maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors, key provisions of the approved legislation include the following:

- Requires participating school districts and private schools to adopt a protocol by a licensed physician;
- Requires the school-supplied epinephrine auto-injectors to be maintained in a locked, secure location;
- Allows an authorized student to self-administer an epinephrine auto-injector that was purchased by the school;
- Requires training for school personnel to recognize when a student is having an anaphylactic reaction and allows trained school personnel to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a student without parent authorization;
- Removes school employees' liability arising from administration of an epinephrine auto-injector unless done in a willful or wanton manner and removes liability from the physician who developed the protocol; and
- Provides an effective date of July 1, 2013.

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We appreciate your continued efforts to ensure a safe learning environment for all students. If you have questions regarding the epinephrine auto-injector provisions of this legislation, please contact Dianne Mennitt, school nurse consultant, at Dianne.Mennitt@fldoe.org or 850-245-7851.

PS/bw

cc: Exceptional Student Education Directors
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School District Health Coordinators
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