

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY REPRESENTATIVE THIBAUT

SCHOOLS/NONPUBLIC: Requests state-approved nonpublic schools to consider keeping epinephrine on the school premises for emergency situations

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request each nonpublic school approved by the State Board of Elementary and
3 Secondary Education to consider storing auto-injectable epinephrine in the school
4 office for use in cases of emergency and to adopt policies and procedures for such
5 use.

6 WHEREAS, current law, R.S. 17:436.1(K), requires the governing authority of each
7 public elementary and secondary school to adopt a policy authorizing a school nurse or
8 trained school employee to administer auto-injectable epinephrine to a student who the
9 school nurse or trained school employee, in good faith, professionally believes is having an
10 anaphylactic reaction, whether or not such student has a prescription for epinephrine; and

11 WHEREAS, the law defines auto-injectable epinephrine as a medical device for the
12 immediate self-administration of epinephrine by a person at risk for anaphylaxis; and

13 WHEREAS, the law further requires that at least one employee at each public school
14 receive training from a registered nurse or a licensed medical physician in the administration
15 of auto-injectable epinephrine and authorizes the school nurse or trained employee to
16 administer the auto-injectable epinephrine to respond to a student's anaphylactic reaction
17 under a standing protocol from a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state; and

18 WHEREAS, the law permits each public elementary and secondary school to
19 maintain a supply of auto-injectable epinephrine at the school in a locked, secure, and easily
20 accessible location and further provides that a licensed physician may prescribe epinephrine

1 auto-injectors in the name of the school system or the individual school to be maintained for
2 use when deemed necessary; and

3 WHEREAS, according to the results of a national survey of over five thousand
4 schools, close to one thousand anaphylactic episodes occurred in those schools in 2014; and

5 WHEREAS, in twenty-two percent of those cases, anaphylaxis occurred in students
6 and teachers with no known allergies; and

7 WHEREAS, access to epinephrine is important because it is the only first-line
8 treatment for anaphylaxis; and

9 WHEREAS, according to the food allergy guidelines developed by the National
10 Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, if experiencing anaphylaxis, a person should
11 use an epinephrine auto-injector and seek immediate emergency medical care; and

12 WHEREAS, because state law provides for the use of auto-injectable epinephrine in
13 public schools in cases of emergency, it seems reasonable that the same should apply in
14 nonpublic schools.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 urge and request each nonpublic school that is approved by the State Board of Elementary
17 and Secondary Education to consider storing auto-injectable epinephrine in the school office
18 for use in cases of emergency and to adopt a policy to provide for the storage, use, and
19 administration of such device.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be provided to
21 the state superintendent of education who shall be responsible for disseminating copies of
22 this Resolution to each state-approved nonpublic school.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 188 Original

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Requests each nonpublic school that is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to consider having auto-injectable epinephrine available in the school office for use in cases of emergency.