



AAFA Commends the Passing of “The School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act”

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) commends President Obama for signing *The School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act* into law. We also thank Senators Ron Kirk (R-IL) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Representatives Phil Roe (R-TN) and Steny Hoyer (D-MD) for co-sponsoring the law.

The School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act creates a preference for states that require schools to maintain a supply of the epinephrine, allow trained school personnel to administer it in an apparent emergency, and offer limited protection from civil liability to those who act. Thus, states that require schools to meet these requirements will have an advantage in obtaining federal asthma program funding. “This law sends the right message about the serious risk of anaphylaxis in schools for those who have known risks for severe allergies and asthma, as well as those with undiagnosed cases,” says Bill McLin, AAFA’s President and CEO.

AAFA supports state initiatives that result in schools having epinephrine auto-injectors available to avert tragic deaths from anaphylaxis. So far in 2013, 17 states passed laws that either require or authorize schools to stock epinephrine auto-injectors, bringing the total number of states with such laws to 27. While AAFA is encouraged by this strong trend at the state level, federal incentives may help other states that are interested in federal asthma program funding.