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**TESTIMONY ON HB#/0086 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**Public and Nonpublic Schools - Auto-Injectable Epinephrine and Bronchodilators - Use, Availability, Training, and Policies**

**TO:** Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#/0086, Public and Nonpublic Schools - Auto-Injectable Epinephrine and Bronchodilators - Use, Availability, Training, and Policies**

The Maryland Department of Environmental Health has issued guidelines for Asthma Care. Among their recommendations are:

**What can you do?**

- Make sure your child is being treated with their [inhaler properly](#).
- Check the air quality so that you can avoid exposure to ozone, particulate matter, and other asthma triggers during bad air quality days.
- Develop an [Asthma Action Plan](#), which is a communication tool and a key component of a comprehensive education program for asthma management. The Asthma Action Plan includes information related to treatment schedule and patient self-management.
- Prepare for asthma care during an [emergency](#).

This bill will bring training and knowledge of how to properly care for children in a respiratory medical emergency and facilitate the availability of knowledgeable personnel to administer emergency medications. The life of a child can be saved if prompt action can be taken and is taken. This bill permits alleviation of symptoms that, left untreated, could have serious debilitating or fatal consequences for a child in an emergency.

The protection of the life, health and safety of children in an educational environment is a primary responsibility of every educational facility in Maryland. This bill expands the capability of trained personnel to meet that responsibility. **I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/0086**