

**Maryland Association of School Health Nurses**



**Committee:** Senate Finance Committee

**Bill Number:** Senate Bill 459 – Education and Health – Emergency Use – Epinephrine - Alterations

**Hearing Date:** February 6, 2025

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Association of School Health Nurses strongly support *Senate Bill 459 - Education and Health – Emergency Use – Epinephrine – Alterations*. The bill updates the statute on the emergency use of epinephrine in schools. Under the emergency use program, school nurse, other school personnel, and certain volunteers (e.g. coaches) may administer auto-injectable epinephrine to students in emergency situations. School health guidelines, developed jointly by the Departments of Education and Health, outline the parameters of the program and include training requirements.

In August 2024, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a new form of epinephrine that may be administered by nasal spray to adults and children over 66 pounds.<sup>i</sup> Called Neffy, this new form of epinephrine is easier to administer. However, Maryland law only authorizes the emergency use of auto-injectable epinephrine. The legislation updates this outdated terminology, allowing for the use of Neffy and other forms of epinephrine that could be approved by the FDA in the future.

We ask for a favorable vote. If we can provide any information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).

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<sup>i</sup> [https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-nasal-spray-treatment-anaphylaxis#:~:text=For%20Immediate%20Release:%20August%2009,kilograms%20\(about%2066%20pounds\).](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-nasal-spray-treatment-anaphylaxis#:~:text=For%20Immediate%20Release:%20August%2009,kilograms%20(about%2066%20pounds).)