

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1148

Approved by the Governor April 13, 2006

Introduced by Cornett, 45; Aguilar, 35; Baker, 44; Bourne, 8; Brown, 6; Byars, 30; Combs, 32; Connealy, 16; Cunningham, 40; Erdman, 47; Foley, 29; Heidemann, 1; Janssen, 15; Jensen, 20; Johnson, 37; Kruse, 13; Landis, 46; Pahls, 31; Dw. Pedersen, 39; Preister, 5; Price, 26; Schimek, 27; Schrock, 38; Smith, 48; Stuhr, 24; Stuthman, 22; Synowiecki, 7; Thompson, 14; Wehrbein, 2; Mines, 18; Redfield, 12

AN ACT relating to schools; to amend section 25-21,280, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2005; to provide for student possession and self-administration of prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication; to provide immunity; and to repeal the original section. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. (1) An approved or accredited public, private, denominational, or parochial school shall allow a student with asthma or anaphylaxis to self-manage his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition upon written request of the student's parent or guardian and authorization of the student's physician, upon receipt of a signed statement under subsection (5) of this section, and pursuant to an asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan developed under subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Upon receipt of a written request and authorization under subsection (1) of this section, the school and the parent or guardian, in consultation with the student's physician, shall develop an asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan for the student for the current school year. Such plan shall (a) identify the health care services the student may receive at school relating to such condition, (b) evaluate the student's understanding of and ability to self-manage his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition, (c) permit regular monitoring of the student's self-management of his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition by an appropriately credentialed health care professional, (d) include the name, purpose, and dosage of the prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication prescribed for such student, (e) include procedures for storage and access to backup supplies of such prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication, and (f) be signed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for treatment of the student's asthma or anaphylaxis condition. The school may consult with a registered nurse or other health care professional employed by such school during development of the plan. The plan and the signed statement required by subsection (5) of this section shall be kept on file at the school where the student is enrolled.

(3) Pursuant to the asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan developed under subsection (2) of this section, a student with asthma or anaphylaxis shall be permitted to self-manage his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition in the classroom or any part of the school or on school grounds, during any school-related activity, or in any private location specified in the plan. The student for whom an asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan has been developed under this section shall promptly notify the school nurse, such nurse's designee, or another designated adult at the school when such student has self-administered prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication pursuant to such plan.

(4)(a) If a student for whom an asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan has been developed under this section uses his or her prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication other than as prescribed, he or she may be subject to disciplinary action by the school, except that such disciplinary action shall not include a limitation or restriction on the student's access to such medication. The school shall promptly notify the parent or guardian of any disciplinary action imposed.

(b) If a student for whom an asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan has been developed under this section injures school personnel or another student as the result of the misuse of prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medication or related medical supplies, the parent or guardian of the student for whom such plan has been developed shall be responsible for any and all costs associated with such injury.

(5) The parent or guardian of a student for whom an asthma or anaphylaxis medical management plan has been developed under this section shall sign a statement acknowledging that (a) the school and its employees and agents are not liable for any injury or death arising from a student's self-management of his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition

and (b) the parent or guardian shall indemnify and hold harmless the school and its employees and agents against any claim arising from a student's self-management of his or her asthma or anaphylaxis condition.

Sec. 2. Section 25-21,280, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2005, is amended to read:

25-21,280 (1) Any person employed by a school approved or accredited by the State Department of Education, employed by an educational service unit and working in a school approved or accredited by the department, or employed by an early childhood education program approved by the department who serves as a school nurse or medication aide or who has been designated and trained by the school, educational service unit, or program as a nonmedical staff person to implement the emergency response to life-threatening asthma or systemic allergic reactions protocols adopted by the school, educational service unit, or program shall be immune from civil liability for any act or omission in rendering emergency care for a person experiencing a potentially life-threatening asthma or allergic reaction event on school grounds, in a vehicle being used for school purposes, in a vehicle being used for educational service unit purposes, at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, at a facility used by the early childhood education program, in a vehicle being used for early childhood education program purposes, or at an activity sponsored by the early childhood education program which results in damage or injury unless such damage or injury was caused by the willful or wanton act or omission of such employee.

(2) The individual immunity granted by subsection (1) of this section shall not extend to the school district, educational service unit, or early childhood education program and shall not extend to any act or omission of such employee which results in damage or injury if the damage or injury is caused by such employee while impaired by alcohol or any controlled substance enumerated in section 28-405.

(3) Any school nurse, such nurse's designee, or other designated adult described in section 1 of this act shall be immune from civil liability for any act or omission described in such section which results in damage or injury unless such damage or injury was caused by the willful or wanton act or omission of such school nurse, nurse's designee, or designated adult.

Sec. 3. Original section 25-21,280, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2005, is repealed.