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FLOOR DEBATE

March 30, 2004      LB 868

on FA1634.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. This amendment that is before us actually doesn't have much to do with compulsory attendance laws, but since it is an amendment to LB 868, which is my priority bill, I thought perhaps I would participate in the discussion. I actually have, in my capacity, had children under my care who have very serious asthmatic conditions, allergic reactions. In fact, some of my own children carry single doses with them wherever they go and they are, in fact, trained by their own physician how to use those. But I think that the key that is really in the amendment that Senator Raikes has before us is in line 11 where it establishes that protocols must be adopted by the school. And I believe that we can assume that the protocols that schools would adopt would actually follow general criteria of cleanliness, sanitation, et cetera. But the one thing I will tell you is that in the dose that my daughter carries, it is a self-contained premeasured individual dose. It is enclosed in a bag. It's something that they can carry on the playground, on the soccer field, on the football field, so that, in fact, if they are on the field, even if they are dirty and sweaty, they can tear open that package, press it against their skin and administer the dose. Their hands do not touch the skin where it's injected. They are not trained by their doctor to run into the building and wash their hands thoroughly or put on latex gloves. They are, in fact, told how to recognize when it's an emergency situation and the airpipe is closing and when they should actually pull that dose out of their bag and administer it. So I think that the key really here is not about the standard, or who is sued or who isn't. I think the standard here is in line 11, the protocols that are established by the school. And I don't believe it would be our intent that the protocol that the school establishes that when faced with this emergency you dial 911, because 911 won't get there in time many times. And I see Senator Price shaking her head. She has nursing background and she knows that sometimes these children need attention right away. That's why we have school nurses. That's why we have health aides in the schools. That's why we train personnel to intervene in an emergency situation. Hopefully, the schools will establish protocols that are very