



Representative John M. Rogers
60th House District
Representative Tracy Richardson
86th House District

Chairman Lipps, Ranking Member Boyd and members of the Ohio House Health Committee, thank you for allowing Representative Richardson and I the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 511, legislation that would permit schools and camps to procure and administer injectable or nasally administered glucagon in accordance with prescribed policies.

Under existing law, schools and camps are limited in how they may store and administer glucagon, an emergency medication for diabetics. Glucagon is a hormone that increases blood sugar levels, and is critically important to have readily available for cases where a hypoglycemic diabetic loses consciousness or does not respond to orally administered glucose in the form of candy, soft drinks or the like.

Currently, our children may be at risk, and school nurses placed in a moral dilemma. Our permissive bill would empower schools and camps to take steps that could address life-threatening situations, adding an additional layer of protection to Ohio's children living with diabetes.

Under our proposal, public and nonpublic schools, residential camps, day camps and municipal recreational camps would be permitted to obtain and store doses of glucagon to administer in an emergency. Schools and camps would be allowed to accept monetary donations for the glucagon, as well as actual donations of the drug from a drug wholesaler or manufacturer.

This legislation is modeled after Sub HB 96 from the 130th General Assembly, which granted schools and camps the same permissive ability to acquire and store epi-pens for administration during medical emergencies.

Under House Bill 511, glucagon doses stored by schools or camps would not have to be prescribed to any particular individual, and therefore nurses or other properly trained responders would not have to worry about legal or professional consequences if they need to administer the drug in an emergency. Rather, schools, camps, their governing authorities, employees, contractors and volunteers will be afforded a qualified immunity, in a vein similar as that afforded to epi-pens. To be eligible, schools and camps would be required to develop their own proper protocols involving the storage and administration of glucagon, including but not limited to the following considerations:

- where the glucagon is to be stored;
- under what conditions is it to be administered;
- who can administer it;
- what training must be completed before someone can administer the glucagon;
- what protocol should be in place to involve emergency medical providers after a dose has been administered; and
- when and to whom a dosage of glucagon may be administered.

As an important note, through outreach to interested parties made during the bill's development leading up to its introduction, this legislation has received the support of the American Camp Association, the Central Ohio Diabetes Association, Lifecare Alliance, the Ohio Education Association, the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association, parents of children with diabetes, a Columbus-based endocrinologist and a diabetes educator.

We thank you for your consideration and would respectfully ask you for your support of this legislation. At this time, we would welcome any questions you might have.

Thank you.