



National Alliance for Hispanic Health

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PRESS RELEASE

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Alliance Urges Passage of California Epinephrine Bill

Bill Would Provide Greater Access to Epinephrine Auto-Injectors for Severe Allergic Reactions

Washington, DC— “Severe allergic reactions are serious, and they can be life-threatening if not treated immediately. Access to epinephrine auto-injectors could mean the difference between life and death,” said Dr. Jane L. Delgado, President and CEO of the National Alliance for Hispanic Health.

Today, the Alliance submitted a letter in support of the Emergency Medical Care: Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (California Assembly Bill No. 1386). The bill would allow “authorized entities” to stock epinephrine auto-injectors for use by a trained professional in an emergency. “Authorized entity” can be any entity or organization at which allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, such as: recreation camps, colleges and universities, day care facilities, youth sport leagues, amusement parks, restaurants, places of employment, and sports arenas. Anaphylaxis, or severe allergic reactions, can be triggered by food allergies, medications and other allergens and can be deadly if left untreated.

Nationally, around 1 in 13 children and 1 in 20 adults has a food allergy, resulting in 1,500 annual deaths. “Even one death is too many. We have the ability to treat severe allergic reactions and we must take this simple step of expanding access to live-saving auto-injectors,” concluded Dr. Delgado.

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The National Alliance for Hispanic Health is the nation's foremost science-based source of information and trusted non-partisan advocate for the best health outcomes for all. The Alliance represents thousands of Hispanic health providers across the nation providing services to more than 15 million each year. For more information, visit <http://www.hispanichealth.org>, call the Alliance's Su Familia Helpline at 1-866-783-2645, or find us on Facebook at healthyamericas or on Twitter at health4americas.