
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1709

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Callan, Steele, Goodman, Reed, and Hill)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to the care of students with adrenal
2 insufficiency by parent-designated adults; amending RCW 28A.210.350;
3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.210 RCW; and creating a new
4 section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The legislature recognizes that not
7 every public school has a full-time school nurse and that there are
8 restrictions on who can provide nursing care, including medication
9 administration, to students.

10 (b) The legislature further recognizes that parent-designated
11 adults are volunteers, who may be school employees, and who provide
12 care for the student consistent with the student's individual health
13 plan. Legislation enacted in 2002 authorized parent-designated adults
14 to provide care for students with diabetes. Legislation enacted in
15 2013 authorized parent-designated adults to provide care for students
16 with seizure disorders, including epilepsy.

17 (2) The legislature finds that adrenal insufficiency is a rare
18 condition in which the adrenal glands do not produce enough cortisol.
19 If cortisol levels drop too low, which can happen when a person is
20 stressed, ill, or injured, a person will experience abdominal pain,
21 fatigue, dizziness, and ultimately go into shock. Acute severe

1 adrenal insufficiency is a life-threatening situation that requires
2 emergency treatment with cortisol or similar medication to prevent
3 shock or other severe complications.

4 (3) Therefore, the legislature intends to authorize parent-
5 designated adults to provide care for students with adrenal
6 insufficiency.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.210
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) School districts shall provide individual health plans for
10 students with adrenal insufficiency, subject to the following
11 conditions:

12 (a) The board of directors of the school district shall adopt and
13 periodically revise policies governing the care of students with
14 adrenal insufficiency. At a minimum, the policies must address:

15 (i) The acquisition of parent requests and instructions;

16 (ii) The acquisition of orders from licensed health professionals
17 prescribing within the scope of their prescriptive authority for
18 monitoring and treatment of adrenal insufficiency at school;

19 (iii) The provision for storage of medical equipment and
20 medication provided by the parent;

21 (iv) The establishment of necessary exceptions to school policies
22 to accommodate the specific needs of students with adrenal
23 insufficiency, as described in the students' individual health plan;

24 (v) The development of emergency care plans;

25 (vi) The distribution of individual health plans and emergency
26 care plans to appropriate staff based on the students' needs and
27 staff level of contact with the student;

28 (vii) The possession of legal documents for parent-designated
29 adults to provide care, if needed; and

30 (viii) The updating of the individual health plan at least
31 annually;

32 (b) The administration of medications under the policies required
33 in (a) of this subsection (1) must also comply with conditions
34 outlined in RCW 28A.210.260; and

35 (c) The policies required by (a) of this subsection (1) may be
36 incorporated into school district policies related broadly to
37 students with health conditions or those concerning parent-designated
38 adults.

1 (2) (a) Parents of a child with adrenal insufficiency who assign a
2 parent-designated adult to care for the child shall authorize the
3 parent-designated adult to perform procedures consistent with the
4 child's individual health plan.

5 (b) Parent-designated adults must complete training selected by
6 the child's parents in the proper procedures to care for the child,
7 including in the administration of an emergency injection of
8 corticosteroid during an adrenal crisis, that are consistent with the
9 child's individual health plan. The training may be provided by any
10 of the following: The child's parents, an organization that offers
11 training for staff caring for students with adrenal insufficiency, or
12 an organization that offers training for caretakers of children with
13 adrenal insufficiency.

14 (c) To be eligible to be a parent-designated adult for a child
15 with adrenal insufficiency, a school district employee not licensed
16 under chapter 18.79 RCW shall file, without coercion by the employer,
17 a voluntary written, current, and unexpired letter of intent stating
18 the employee's willingness to be a parent-designated adult. If a
19 school district employee who is not licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW
20 chooses not to file a letter under this section, the employee may not
21 be subject to any employer reprisal or disciplinary action for
22 refusing to file a letter.

23 (3) (a) For the purposes of this section, "parent-designated
24 adult" means an adult who: (i) Is authorized by the parents of a
25 child with adrenal insufficiency to provide care for the child
26 consistent with the child's individual health plan; (ii) volunteers
27 for the designation; (iii) receives additional training selected by
28 the parents; and (iv) provides care for the child consistent with the
29 child's individual health plan.

30 (b) A parent-designated adult may be a school district employee.

31 (4) Nothing in this section is intended to supersede or otherwise
32 modify nurse delegation requirements established in RCW 18.79.260.

33 (5) This section applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

34 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.210.350 and 2021 c 29 s 3 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 A school district, school district employee, agent, or parent-
37 designated adult who, acting in good faith and in substantial
38 compliance with the student's individual health plan and the
39 instructions of the student's licensed health care professional,

1 provides assistance or services under RCW 28A.210.330 ~~((or))~~,
2 28A.210.355, or section 2 of this act shall not be liable in any
3 criminal action or for civil damages in his or her individual or
4 marital or governmental or corporate or other capacities as a result
5 of the services provided under RCW 28A.210.330 to students with
6 diabetes ~~((or))~~, under RCW 28A.210.355 to students with epilepsy or
7 other seizure disorders, or under section 2 of this act to students
8 with adrenal insufficiency.

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