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MEMORANDUM

TO: District Student Services Directors

FROM: Bambi J. Lockman

DATE: May 24, 2006

SUBJECT: Technical Assistance Paper on Implementation of 2005 Legislation: HB 279 "Kelsey Ryan Act"

Contact Information:

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K12: 2006-68

The Florida Department of Education is committed to a seamless education system to improve student learning in a safe learning environment. The 2005 Legislature amended Section 1002.20, Florida Statutes, to create the Kelsey Ryan Act. A previous memorandum dated July 21, 2005, K12: 2005-93, addresses key provisions of the Kelsey Ryan Act. This legislation specifies that a public school student who has life-threatening allergic reactions may carry an epinephrine auto-injector and self-administer epinephrine by auto-injector while in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to or from school or school-sponsored activities if the school has been provided with parental and physician authorization. This legislation became effective on January 1, 2006.

An increasing number of students and staff have anaphylaxis, a severe life-threatening allergic reaction. An interagency task force developed and reviewed the attached technical assistance paper (TAP 2006-7) in order to address the care of students with anaphylaxis in Florida schools. This TAP focuses on a team approach to ensure a safe and supportive educational environment.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the Department of Education, Student Services Office, at (850) 922-3727 or the Department of Health, School Health Program, at (850) 245-4445.

BJL:dm

Attachment: Technical Assistance Paper on Implementation of 2005 Legislation: "Kelsey Ryan Act"

cc: District Exceptional Student Education Directors
District School Health Coordinators
District Transportation Directors
District Food Service Directors
Sylvia Byrd, Executive Nursing Director for School Health

BAMBI J. LOCKMAN

Chief

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services