



June 2, 2023

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The Honorable Talamantes Eggman  
Chair, Senate Health Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8530  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1283 (Chen) Pupil health: emergency stock albuterol inhalers - SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Talamantes Eggman,

The Health Officers Association of California (HOAC), which represents the physician health officers of California's sixty-one city and county jurisdictions, supports your AB 1283 which would allow schools to stock albuterol inhalers at school sites and authorizes school nurses or other personnel to administer an albuterol inhaler to students suffering from respiratory distress.

Asthma attacks can be triggered by a variety of factors, most of which may be present in school settings, including emotions and stress, allergens, irritants, respiratory infections, exercise, and weather changes. Albuterol inhalers are important in the treatment of asthma and other respiratory conditions as they are used to relieve symptoms such as wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness, and asthma attacks, which can cause distress and learning interruptions.

Low-income and disadvantaged communities may not have access to an albuterol inhaler due to cost, which can be a significant burden for those without adequate health insurance. In rural areas, there may be a shortage of healthcare providers, making it difficult for families to obtain access to a prescription for an inhaler. Additionally, language barriers, cultural differences, and mistrust of the healthcare system can also contribute to disparities in albuterol inhaler access among certain populations. Allowing trained personnel at schools to administer an inhaler to a student in distress will take a small but important step in addressing these disparities, creating a safer and healthier environment to attend school.

HOAC is dedicated to promoting practices that improve the health of all Californians. For these reasons, HOAC supports AB 1283 and respectfully requests your "aye" vote on this important measure.

Sincerely,

Kat DeBurgh, MPH  
Executive Director  
Health Officers Association of California