

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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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*