



**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
OTOLARYNGOLOGY-  
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY**



July 24, 2013

The Honorable David P. Roe, MD  
U.S. House of Representatives  
407 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Roe:

On behalf of the approximately 12,000 members of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS) and more than 2700 members of the American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy (AAOA), thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 2094, the "School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act." This important legislation encourages states to adopt policies to increase access to epinephrine in school settings, thereby providing a common-sense protection for students who are at risk of anaphylaxis due to severe allergy to food, insect bites, or other allergens.

As background, the AAO-HNS is the national medical association of physicians dedicated to the care of patients with disorders of the ears, nose, throat (ENT), and related structures of the head and neck. The AAOA is the national medical specialty representing otolaryngologists and other healthcare providers who devote part of their practice to the diagnosis and treatment of allergic and other related disorders. **The AAO-HNS and AAOA support H.R. 2094 and urge the timely passage of this potentially lifesaving legislation.**

For children, food and other allergic reactions can often manifest quickly, and in some instances, can become life-threatening in the absence of immediate administration of epinephrine. This legislation is especially important because a large percentage of emergency epinephrine administrations are for those individuals who did not previously have a diagnosis. No student experiencing a severe allergic reaction at school should lose their life because they had not yet been prescribed an epinephrine auto-injector.

The AAO-HNS and AAOA applaud your leadership on this important issue and look forward to working with you to ensure passage of H.R. 2094. If you and your staff have any questions, please contact Megan Marcinko, Senior Manager for Congressional and Political Affairs, at 703-535-3796 or [mmarcinko@entnet.org](mailto:mmarcinko@entnet.org).

Sincerely,

David R. Nielsen, MD  
AAO-HNS Executive Vice President and CEO

Sandra Y. Lin, MD  
AAOA President