



Elijah-Alavi Foundation

348 West 57street Suite 276

New York, New York 10019

tsilvera@elijahalavifoundation.org

April 21, 2026

**RE: Letter of Support for H.574 – Stock Epinephrine in Child Care Facilities**

Dear Honorable Members of the Education House Committee,

My name is Thomas Silvera, Co-Founder and Vice President of the Elijah-Alavi Foundation. I write in strong support of H.574, an act relating to the use and maintenance of epinephrine at child care facilities. Our foundation was created in memory of my son, Elijah, who tragically passed away after being exposed to a known allergen in a childcare setting. His death was preventable. Since then, we have dedicated our lives to ensuring that no family experiences such a loss again, working across the country to pass laws in his name that protect our most vulnerable, especially children.

Through our advocacy, Elijah's Law has been enacted in multiple states, strengthening food allergy policies, training, and emergency preparedness in childcare environments. Yet, one critical gap remains. Many children, particularly those ages 0 to 4, experience their first allergic reaction in childcare settings, often without a prior diagnosis. This means reactions can occur unexpectedly, without a prescribed epinephrine device on hand, leaving staff unprepared in a life-threatening moment.

H.574 addresses this urgent need by allowing childcare providers to maintain an undesignated stock supply of epinephrine and train designated personnel to administer it in emergencies. This is not just policy, it is protection. Having weight-based, appropriately dosed epinephrine readily available can mean the difference between life and death in those critical first moments of anaphylaxis.

Epinephrine is the first-line treatment for anaphylaxis. Delayed administration significantly increases the risk of severe outcomes. By empowering trained childcare staff to recognize and respond to allergic reactions, regardless of whether a child has a known diagnosis, this legislation closes a life-threatening gap in care. This bill aligns with the very mission we have carried forward in Elijah's name: education, preparedness, and access. It ensures that "we didn't know" is no longer an excuse, and that every child, diagnosed or not, has a chance at survival. I urge you to support H.574 and take this critical step in protecting children in your state.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to child safety.

Respectfully,

Thomas Silvera

Co-Founder & Vice President

Elijah-Alavi Foundation