



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/25/2015
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0458, HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH.

Purpose of Bill: Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, requires public schools to annually provide information about the human papillomavirus and other vaccines to parents and guardians of students entering grade 6. Requires the Department of Health to develop the information and the Department of Education to disseminate the information. (HB458 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 458 HD1 and remains fully committed to working with other agencies and organizations to ensure families and youth learn about and maintain healthy lifestyles that support learning and achievement in school.

However, we have concerns as this would represent a mandate placed upon the Departments of Health and Education. If the mandate were adopted, the required funding needed to assist with the effective implementation of this measure would need to be included.

We also respectfully request that the language in this measure (p.2, lines 4-8, Section 2 (b)) be revised to read, as follows: "The department of health shall develop the information and produce materials for distribution based on recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The information and materials provided by the department of health shall be disseminated by the department of education, at minimum, to parents or guardians of public school students entering the sixth grade. Dissemination of subject information may also be accomplished by posting department of health's materials on the department of education's public website and school websites."

Further, the Department requests that the implementation of HB 458 HD1 would not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this measure



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
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**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 458, HD1
RELATING TO HEALTH**

REPRESENTATIVE ROY M. TAKUMI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Hearing Date: February 25, 2015

Room Number: 309

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** We appreciate the intent but defer to the Governor's Executive Budget
- 2 request for the Department of Health's appropriations and personnel priorities. An appropriation
- 3 for the Department is not included in this measure or in existing budget requests for the
- 4 development and printing of the educational materials. We estimate that the initial cost of the
- 5 development of printed and electronic educational materials will be approximately \$40,000.
- 6 Annual costs thereafter are estimated to be approximately \$15,000 per year.

- 7 **Department Testimony:** We support this measure and would be willing to collaborate with
- 8 DOE but require additional resources for the costs associated with implementation.
- 9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HAWAII
STATE
COMMISSION
ON THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN



Chair
LESLIE WILKINS

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February 25, 2015

To: Representative Roy M. Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Cathy Betts
Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support, HB 458, HD1, Relating to Health

The Commission is in strong support of HB 458, HD1, which would require public schools to annually provide all incoming 6th grade students with information about the human papiollomavirus ("HPV") and the availability of vaccines.

The HPV vaccine is widely utilized, yet remains underutilized in Hawaii. We have an opportunity to prevent cervical cancer by ensuring students are provided with important health information. There is no cure for HPV and cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide. Almost 70% of cervical cancer cases are linked to four strains of HPV that are protected through the two FDA approved vaccines on the market. Increased utilization of the HPV vaccine will assist in reducing our cervical cancer rates.

Further, under the Affordable Care Act, most private insurers cover the HPV vaccine with no out of pocket costs. Boundaries that previously prevented families from obtaining the vaccine have largely been eliminated. This means that the HPV vaccine is much more accessible and affordable. This bill doesn't require that young people receive the vaccine, it simply will allow the correct and medically accurate information about the vaccine to reach parents and guardians. We have the opportunity to share factual information about this vaccine with families in order to protect young people from cervical cancer. Please pass HB 458, HD1.

Thank you for your time.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education
Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 2:00 pm

By

Robert-Bley-Vroman, Chancellor

And

Jerris Hedges, MD, Professor and Dean

John A. Burns School of Medicine

Interim Director, UH Cancer Center

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 458 HD1 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee on Education:

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 458, HD1, which seeks to require public schools to annually provide all incoming sixth grade students with information about human papillomaviruses (HPV) and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

Our perspective is informed by scientific literature, including the recent President's Cancer Panel report (Feb 2014) "*Accelerating HPV Vaccination Uptake: Urgency for Action to Prevent Cancer*" (1), as well as research conducted by faculty at the UH Cancer Center and the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) Departments of Family Medicine and Community Health and Obstetrics-Gynecology.

Nearly 80 million people in the U.S. have HPV and nearly all sexually-active men and women will be infected in their lifetimes. The vast majority of HPV infections clear on their own and cause no disease. However, in some individuals, HPV can cause genital warts and certain types of cancer. HPV is the primary cause of cervical cancer and is also responsible for considerable proportions of vaginal, vulvar, anal, penile, and oropharyngeal (tonsil, base of the tongue) cancers.

Two vaccines that protect against HPV infection are currently available in the U.S. Both vaccines protect against HPV 16 and 18, which cause most cervical cancers as well as substantial proportions of other anogenital and oropharyngeal cancers. One of the vaccines also protects against HPV 6 and 11, which cause 90% of genital warts (2, 3). Routine HPV vaccination is recommended for girls and boys starting at ages 11-12.

HPV vaccines could dramatically reduce the incidence of HPV-associated cancers and other conditions among both females and males. Because progression from high-risk HPV infection to invasive cervical cancer can take decades, it may be many years before the effect of HPV vaccination on the incidence of cancer can be fully assessed. Nevertheless, recent studies have shown significant decreases in the incidence of precancerous lesions of the cervix and genital warts in areas of high vaccine usage.

However, recent data has shown that HPV vaccine coverage has fallen well short of target levels both in Hawai'i and across the U.S. Among girls aged 13-17 in Hawai'i, HPV vaccination coverage has dramatically declined by 28% since 2011 – *a trend counter to that on the U.S. mainland*. In 2013, only 53% of adolescent girls in HI aged 13-17 were vaccinated with one or more of the 3-dose series (4). The U.S. Healthy People 2020 target aims for 80% of 13-15 year old girls fully vaccinated against HPV (6), and according to the Centers for Disease Control, achieving an 80% coverage rate would prevent an additional 53,000 case of cervical cancers in the U.S. (1). The 2013 vaccination rate of 55% for adolescent girls (ages 13-17) in the U.S. is obviously well below the target. Among Hawai'i's boys aged 13-17, only 41% (2013) were vaccinated with 1 or more doses (4). While this is slightly better than the U.S. rate of 35% for boys (2013), it is equally concerning.

Given the low HPV vaccination rates for boys and girls in the U.S., leading research, public health and healthcare agencies/institutions are investing in strategies and interventions to increase HPV vaccination uptake in girls and boys. While the UH Cancer Center and JABSOM are partnering to identify barriers and facilitators of HPV vaccination in Hawai'i, results from the national 2013 NIS-Teen survey point to two main reasons teens aren't getting vaccinated against HPV: knowledge gaps among parents and the need for strong recommendations from clinicians (5).

HB 458 HD1 will help tremendously to close the knowledge gap among parents of age-eligible children, while contributing to increased HPV vaccination coverage and lower rates of cervical and other HPV-associated cancers and conditions. Healthcare providers and public health immunization programs cannot reach HPV vaccination targets alone; they need the support of the Department of Education, with its extensive reach into the community, to disseminate factual and up-to-date information to parents/guardians about this safe and effective cancer prevention vaccine. With a new HPV vaccine on the horizon (HPV9), parents will soon be turning to credible and trusted sources for information, including the DOE and its leadership.

We at the UH Cancer Center and JABSOM offer our assistance to the Department of Health in their efforts to develop science-based and user-friendly educational materials for parents and guardians about HPV as well as other routinely recommended vaccines for youth, namely tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap); meningococcal conjugate; and influenza. Because all 3 HPV vaccines can be safely co-administered with these routinely recommended vaccines (4), we support the bundling of HPV information together with information about Tdap, meningococcal and influenza vaccines.

With the numbers of some HPV-associated cancers on the rise (e.g. oropharyngeal, and anal cancer), our community cannot afford to wait to protect the health of our youth. With help from the Departments of Health and Education, we can reverse the current underutilization of HPV vaccination which threatens our progress against cancer.

We respectfully urge you to pass this bill.

The UH Cancer Center is one of only 68 institutions in the United States that hold the prestigious National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation, and is the only NCI-designated center in the Pacific. The NCI designation provides greater access to federal funding and research opportunities, and gives the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific region access to innovative and potentially life-saving clinical trials without the necessity of traveling to the mainland. Our passion at the UH Cancer Center is to be a world leader in eliminating cancer through research, education and improved patient care.

References

1. NCI. President's Cancer Panel Report, The Future of Cancer Research: Accelerating Scientific Innovation. Bethesda, MD: 2012.
2. CDC. Quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccine: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2007;56(No. RR-2).
3. CDC. FDA licensure of bivalent human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV2, Cervarix) for use in females and updated HPV vaccination recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2010;59:626–9.
4. CDC. 2013 National Immunization Survey–Teen (NIS-Teen). Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nis/data_files_teen.htm
5. CDC. Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents, 2007–2013, and Postlicensure Vaccine Safety Monitoring, 2006–2014 — United States. MMWR 2014;63:620-4.



Date: February 24, 2015

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Education

From: Hawaii Immunization Coalition

Subject: Testimony Relating to HB 458

The Hawaii Immunization Coalition (HIC) supports the intent of SB 394 in requiring the Hawaii State Department of Education (HDOE), in collaboration with the Hawaii State Department of Health (HDOH), to provide information relating to human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to all students entering the 6th grade and their parents/guardians.

Hawaii Immunization Coalition understands the importance of educating parents and preteens regarding the prevention of cervical cancer through HPV vaccination. HIC is aware that cervical cancer is the second leading cause of cancer in women worldwide and that HPV vaccination is an effective method of protecting girls and young women against cervical cancer. One of the HPV vaccines also protects against genital warts and anal cancer in both females and males.

HIC agrees with the recommendation of the HDOH to include information relating to all other vaccines for pre-teens recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to parents/guardians of 6th graders entering school in Hawaii. Additional vaccines recommended by the ACIP include those for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, meningococcal meningitis, and influenza.

According to 2013 National Immunization Survey, only 80.2% of Hawaii teens aged 13-17 years received their Tdap (tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis) vaccination, and 75.0% received a dose of MenACWY (meningococcal meningitis). In 2013, the coverage rate for Hawaii's teens with series completion of HPV vaccine was 70.3% for females and 47.2% for males. Hawaii's teen vaccination rates for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, meningococcal meningitis and influenza are below the national average. Support is needed to improve the immunization rates for our teens in order to provide the protection they need.

The Hawaii Immunization Coalition (HIC) is a state-wide, community-based non-profit 501(c)3 coalition of public and private organizations and concerned individuals whose mission is to promote effective

strategies to ensure that all of Hawaii's families are appropriately vaccinated against vaccine-preventable diseases.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony relating to HB 458. If there are further questions, please contact us through our President Maricel Abad at (808)383-4963.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 531-2198 Fax: (808) 534-1199

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Daryl Selman, President
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director
Aloha House
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
Bay Clinic, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Blueprint for Change
Bobby Benson Center
Catholic Charities Hawaii
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
Family Support Hawaii
Hale Kipa, Inc.
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
Hawaii Behavioral Health
Hawaii Student Television
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
Hina Mauka Teen Care
Hui Malama Learning Center
Kaanalike
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeiea Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kalihi Valley
Life Foundation
Marimed Foundation
Maui Youth and Family Services
Palama Settlement
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
REAL
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community Center
The Catalyst Group
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii
Waikiki Health Center
Women Helping Women
YWCA of Kauai

February 23, 2015

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
And members of the Committee on Education

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 458 HD 1 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 458 HD 1 Relating to Health.

HYSN supports the provision of information about all of the immunizations discussed in the bill, but will focus its testimony on the benefits of HPV vaccine information.

The human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common of all sexually transmitted infections and persistent HPV infection can cause cervical cancer and genital warts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that there are 6.2 million new HPV infections each year, and that over 20 million Americans are currently infected. The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) estimates that women ages 15-24 account for 74% of incident cases.

HPV is accepted as the virus responsible for virtually all cases of cervical cancer. Nationwide, the direct annual cost of HPV-related disease prevention and treatment was \$4.6 billion in 2005.

The introduction of the HPV vaccine broke new ground in public health as it is the first vaccine that can prevent certain cancers. The HPV vaccine has the potential to offer extra protection to low-income and minority women who are least likely to receive frequent screening.

This bill only requires education, not a mandate to provide the vaccine. Increasing education about this virus and its associated diseases through a careful public education campaign is imperative.

There is a long way to go in combating cancer, but this bill provides an exciting opportunity to affect women's health through informed education.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in support of H.B. 458, HD1



healthy
mothers
healthy
babies
COALITION
OF HAWAII

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Education,

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii ("HMHB") writes in support of H.B. 458, which seeks to require public schools to annually provide all incoming 6th grade students with information about human papillomavirus ("HPV") and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

HMHB is dedicated to helping Hawaii's women access high quality, affordable and confidential sexual and reproductive health care and education. Our goal is to prevent HPV infection and related cancers in Hawaii by increasing the number of young people who are vaccinated against HPV, reducing cervical and other cancer rates by ensuring that parents and youth are given factual information from a trusted source about the vaccine.

HPV vaccine is cancer prevention. HPV is safe and effective. HPV is a regular pre-teen vaccine. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends routine vaccinations for all youth between the ages of 11 and 12 (a series of three shots over the course of six months). Yet, too few adolescents in Hawaii are receiving HPV vaccines, which results in more cases of HPV and cervical and other cancers and diseases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV infects approximately 79 million people in the United States with 14 million new cases each year. HPV is so common that nearly all sexually-active men and women will get at least one type of HPV at some point in their lives. There is no cure for HPV, only treatment for related health problems.

Cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide. In the United States, nearly 10,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year and 3700 women die. Since almost 70% of cervical cancer cases are linked to four strains of HPV that are protected through the two FDA-approved vaccines on the market (Merck's Gardasil and GlaxoSmithKline's Cervarix), increased utilization of the HPV vaccine would greatly reduce our current cervical cancer rates.

In Hawaii, 55-64% of adolescent girls 13-17 years in Hawaii are covered with one or more doses of the HPV vaccine (National Center for Immunizations and Respiratory Diseases, Immunization Services Division, June 11, 2014). We can do better to protect their health.

With the Affordable Care Act, most private health insurance plans cover the HPV vaccine with no out-of-pocket costs. Although at least 25 states have enacted legislation to either require, fund or educate the public about the HPV vaccine, Hawaii is not one of them.

While this bill does not require youth to be vaccinated, it does at least ensure that parents receive factual information about HPV and the vaccines from a trusted source, our public schools. Until all youth are regularly and routinely vaccinated, HMHB will continue to work with our community health partners to educate parents and youth, increase access to and utilization of the HPV vaccine and prevent the spread the HPV and related cancers and other diseases.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kimura
Executive Director

310 Paoakalani Ave., Suite 202A, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
(808) 737-5805 lisak@hmhb-hawaii.org www.hmhb-hawaii.org



Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in support of H.B. 458, HD1

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Education,

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii (“PPHI”) writes in support of H.B. 458, HD1, which seeks to require public schools to annually provide all incoming 6th grade students with information about human papillomavirus (“HPV”) and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii is dedicated to providing Hawaii’s people with high quality, affordable and confidential sexual and reproductive health care, education, and advocacy and we see firsthand the effects of HPV and cervical cancer on our communities. PPHI’s goal is to prevent HPV infection and related cancers in Hawaii by increasing the number of young people who are vaccinated against HPV. H.B. 458 will help to increase HPV vaccine rates and lower cervical and other cancer rates by ensuring that parents and youth are given factual information from a trusted source about the vaccine.

The HPV vaccine is cancer prevention. It is a safe and effective regular pre-teen vaccine.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends routine vaccinations for all youth between the ages of 11 and 12 (a series of three shots over the course of six months). Yet, too few adolescents in Hawaii are receiving HPV vaccines, which results in more cases of HPV and cervical and other cancers and diseases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV infects approximately 79 million people in the United States with 14 million new cases each year. HPV is so common that nearly all sexually-active men and women will get at least one type of HPV at some point in their lives. There is no cure for HPV, only treatment for related health problems.

Cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide. In the United States, nearly 10,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year and 3700 women die. Since almost 70% of cervical cancer cases are linked to four strains of HPV that are protected through the two FDA-approved vaccines on the market (Merck’s Gardasil and GlaxoSmithKline’s Cervarix), increased utilization of the HPV vaccine would greatly reduce our current cervical cancer rates.

Currently, there are 26 million girls under 13 years of age in the United States.

HONOLULU
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168,400 will develop cervical cancer if none are vaccinated.
51,100 will die from cervical cancer if none are vaccinated.

In Hawaii, 55-64% of adolescent girls 13-17 years in Hawaii are covered with one or more doses of the HPV vaccine (National Center for Immunizations and Respiratory Diseases, Immunization Services Division, June 11, 2014). We can do better to protect their health.

In 2009, the state convened a working group to assess whether to require cervical cancer vaccinations for girls before they entered the 7th grade. The group did not recommend requiring the HPV vaccine for girls prior to 7th grade entry because of a number of barriers, including inconsistent health insurance coverage, the high cost of the vaccine, inequality of access to the vaccination and the substantial administrative burden that would be placed on school personnel. Since then, these barriers have been reduced or eliminated entirely. With the Affordable Care Act, most private health insurance plans cover the HPV vaccine with no out-of-pocket costs. Although at least 25 states have enacted legislation to either require, fund or educate the public about the HPV vaccine, Hawaii is not one of them.

While this bill does not require youth to be vaccinated, it does at least ensure that parents receive factual information about HPV and the vaccines from a trusted source, our public schools. Until all youth are regularly and routinely vaccinated, PPHI will continue to work with our community health partners to educate parents and youth, increase access to and utilization of the HPV vaccine and prevent the spread the HPV and related cancers and other diseases. Our youth rely on us to help protect them. Let's make sure we have the right information to keep our youth healthy and safe.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 458.

Sincerely,
Laurie Field
Director of Public Affairs & Government Relations



February 25, 2015

To: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair; Representative Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair; Representative Roy M. Takumi, Chair; and Representative Takashi Ono, Vice Chair
and
Members of the **House Committees on Education and Health**

From: Dr. Susan J. Wurtzburg
Policy Chair, **American Association of University Women – Hawaii**

Re. **Testimony in Support, HB 458 HD1, Relating to Health (specifically, the HPV Vaccine and Public Schools)**

I am grateful for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 458 HD1, requiring that public schools provide information about the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine and several other vaccinations to parents and guardians of incoming grade 6 students. My testimony is on behalf of the approximately 400 members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in Hawai'i, who list choice and women's reproductive health as an important current concern.

Vaccinations are key components of public health, and this hearing is especially timely given the measles outbreak and consequent public attention to herd immunity and parental misinformation about vaccinations. Provision of the HPV and other vaccines save lives, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) remind us that "HPV is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. Almost every sexually active person will acquire HPV at some point in their lives." Given the inevitability of this process, and the risk that HPV may lead to cervical cancer for women (with 11,000 women diagnosed with cervical cancer annually, according to the CDC), it makes sense to provide accurate, medically informed education about this vaccination. According to the CDC, HPV vaccines "are safe, effective, and offer lasting protection against most cancers caused by HPV infection." It is also logical to include the full complement of childhood vaccinations in this bill. Indeed passage of this bill is essential for a responsive and responsible public health program for school age children.

This bill is especially important for the dissemination of information about HPV and this vaccination since without legal encouragement to provide information about this particular vaccine, public schools are less likely to incorporate the information in their health messages to students' caregivers. The Department of Education needs

to provide medically accurate information to parents, rather than act as a gatekeeper. Withholding information results in unnecessary deaths when these youngsters reach adulthood.

I would also like to see this information made available to students, in addition to their parents or guardians. Students age into adults who make their own health decisions, and it is provident to incorporate medically-accurate vaccine information in the education provided to this cohort, so they can mature into adults who look after their own children prudently, and also so they can rectify their own vaccination record as adults, if their parents proved unresponsive.

The HPV vaccine has been available since 2006, and Hawaiian vaccination rates are low. Please move HB 458 HD1 forward, with the goal of educating youth's caregivers, increasing HPV vaccination rates, and ultimately reducing cancer deaths in particular, and with the broader aim of increasing all childhood vaccination rates.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB458

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betty Sestak	AAUW windward	Support	No



February 24, 2015

House Committee on Education
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Hawaii State Capitol

Re: H.B. 458, HD1 Relating to Health
Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 pm., Room 309

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Education:

Hawai'i Women Lawyers submits this testimony in **strong support** of H.B. 458, HD1. This bill would require public schools to annually provide all incoming 6th grade students with information about human papillomavirus ("HPV") and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

By ensuring that parents and youth are given factual information from a trusted source about the vaccine, H.B. 458 will increase the number of young people who are vaccinated against HPV, and will help to prevent HPV infection and related cancers in Hawai'i. Cervical cancer, which is closely linked to HPV, is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in women worldwide. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV infects approximately 79 million people in the United States with 14 million new cases each year.

Due to federal health care reforms, the HPV vaccine is now covered under most private insurance plans. This bill promotes education about HPV by ensuring that parents receive factual information about HPV and the vaccines from our public schools. It does not require that the vaccine be given, but will ensure that accurate health information is given so that young women and their families can make educated choices.

Hawai'i Women Lawyers is committed to enhancing the status of women and providing equal opportunities for all of Hawai'i's people, and believes this measure will help to address an important public health need facing young women in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Tricia M. Nakamatsu, President



February 25, 2015

Page | 1

To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Education

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Co-Chair

RE: HB 458 HD1 Relating to Health
Hearing: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m., Room 309

POSITION: Strong Support

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus writes in strong support of HB 458 HD1 Relating to Health which would require public schools to annually provide information to parents on the human papilloma virus (HPV) and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

The Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus is a catalyst for progressive, social, economic, and political change through action on critical issues facing Hawaii's women and girls it is because of this mission that the Caucus strongly supports this measure.

HB 458 will help to increase HPV vaccine rates and lower cervical and other cancer rates by ensuring that parents and youth are given factual information from a trusted source about the vaccine. HPV vaccine is cancer prevention; it is safe and effective; and is a regular pre-teen vaccine.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends routine vaccinations for all youth between the ages of 11 and 12. Yet, too few adolescents in Hawaii are receiving HPV vaccines, which results in more cases of HPV and cervical and other cancers and diseases.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV infects approximately 79 million people in the United States with 14 million new cases each year. HPV is so common that nearly all sexually-active men and women will get at least one type of HPV at some point in their lives. There is no cure for HPV, only treatment for related health problems.

Cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide. In the United States, nearly 10,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year and 3700 women die. Since almost 70% of cervical cancer cases are linked to four strains of HPV that are protected through the two FDA-approved vaccines on the market, increased utilization of the HPV vaccine would greatly reduce our current cervical cancer rates. Currently, there are 26 million girls under 13 years of age in the United States.

In 2009, the state convened a working group to assess whether to require cervical cancer vaccinations for girls before they entered the 7th grade. The group did not recommend requiring the HPV vaccine for girls prior to 7th grade entry because of a number of barriers, since then, those barriers have been reduced or eliminated entirely. With the Affordable Care Act, most private health insurance plans cover the HPV vaccine with no out-of-pocket costs. Although at least 25 states have enacted legislation to either require, fund or educate the public about the HPV vaccine, Hawai'i is not one of them.

While this bill does not require youth to be vaccinated, it does at least ensure that parents receive factual information about HPV and the vaccines from a trusted source, our public schools. Parents then are able to make an informed decision about their children's health,

We ask that the committee pass this measure and we thank the committee for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Hawaii Women's Coalition

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education
Date/Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 2:00 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309

Strong Support for H.B. 458, HD1

Aloha Chair Takumi and Members,

The Coalition supports H.B. 458, HD1, which seeks to require public schools to annually provide all incoming 6th grade students with **information** about human papillomavirus (“HPV”) and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

The HPV vaccine is cancer prevention. It is a safe and effective regular pre-teen vaccine. The education campaign advocated by this bill will help to increase HPV vaccine rates and lower cervical and other cancer rates by ensuring that parents and youth are given factual information about the vaccine. Furthermore, giving the vaccine to pre-teens is important because it is the most effective age at which the necessary anti-bodies will build up by the time the youth reaches adulthood.

Cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide. In the United States, nearly 10,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year and 3700 women die. Since almost 70% of cervical cancer cases are linked to four strains of HPV, increased utilization of the HPV vaccine would greatly reduce our current cervical cancer rates.

HPV is so common that nearly all sexually-active men and women will get at least one type of HPV at some point in their lives. There is no cure for HPV, only treatment for related health problems.

Currently, there are 26 million girls under 13 years of age in the United States.

168,400 will develop cervical cancer if none are vaccinated.

51,100 will die from cervical cancer if none are vaccinated.

In Hawaii, just 55-64% of adolescent girls 13-17 years in Hawaii are covered with one or more doses of the HPV vaccine (National Center for Immunizations and Respiratory Diseases, Immunization Services Division, June 11, 2014). We can do better to protect their health.

With the Affordable Care Act, most private health insurance plans cover the HPV vaccine with no out-of-pocket costs. Although at least 25 states have enacted legislation to either require, fund or educate the public about the HPV vaccine, Hawaii is not one of them.

We need to emphasize that this bill does NOT require vaccination it seeks to educate. It seems a simple measure that should have no opposition if we truly care about preventing HPV caused cancers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawaii Women 's Coalition
Contact: annsfreed@gmail.com Phone: 808-623-5676

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tia pearson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The handouts will not give accurate information as to the harm our kids can endure that can affect them the rest of their lives based upon those who have already taken these vaccinations and reported their adverse reactions. At least include the full inserts that come with the vaccinations showing the warnings and horrible chemicals and metals that are included.

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aurora Lemke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Young people today have been unnecessarily put at risk for the HPV virus, simply because their families are uneducated about their options. I support this bill to educate families about this potentially life saving vaccine. Thank you.

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Rich	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Information can save lives. Please pass this bill. Mahalo!

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie Wallsgrove	Individual	Support	No

HB458

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Robinson	Individual	Support	No

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jamie Louis	Individual	Support	No

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

HB458

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
L.M. Holmes	Individual	Support	No

February 24, 2015

Re: Testimony for H.B. 458

I am writing my testimony to support bill H.B. 458. I agree that the department of health needs to develop accurate information of vaccines for:

- Human papilloma virus
- Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis
- The meningococcal conjugate vaccine and
- The annual influenza vaccine

Children that do not get vaccinated put others at risk. Being a brain, neck and spinal cord cancer survivor, I agree with the human papilloma virus vaccine 100%. At the age of 24, when the vaccine was first introduced, I was only able to have 1 dose as it is a 3 dose series. I was early diagnosed with HPV but lucky enough I was able to receive cryotherapy to get rid of the existing warts. Being that young adults are sexually active earlier than before, I do feel the need of the vaccine being mandatory. Over the years I have heard of so many positive and negative cases, if one little vaccine can help reduce the incidence of the virus, than I am all for it. Being a cancer survivor, I know what it feels like to feel emotionally, spiritually and physically sick.

Thank You for your time and consideration of bill H.B. 458

HB458

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimi Ide-Foster	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I testify in support of this Bill. Information is the basis of making good choices, and Hawaii's keiki should have access to learning about issues that affect their health. Although information ideally starts at home, implementing this bill catches the gaps in parental knowledge and improves society overall.

HB458

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristy Phillips	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I would like to share my viewpoint on this bill. I was personally affected by this disease In 1991. During this time HPV was not widely known. I unfortunately was not able to have any vaccine to help prevent this virus. I was in my mid 20's and newly married. I did not have any children at this time. I was told that I had precancerous cells in my cervix. HPV was the catalyst to these cancerous cells and made them spread at a rapid rate. I went through many biopsies and it was found to be in my whole cervix. It could not be contained. I was faced with a hard decision of having a total hysterectomy or be prepared to have Cervical Cancer within 6 months. I was devastated so I got a second opinion. I was given the same prognosis. My decision was very hard to make since I never will be able to bear children. I choose the decision to get the hysterectomy. I was very sad and bitter over my loss of not becoming a parent to a biological child. Every day I think about my inability to be a biological parent and not being able to give my current husband a child. I deal with friends and family asking why I do not have children. I try to not hate these people however I am so jealous of them when they say this to me. I usually have to tell them that I cannot have children and that you are very lucky to have this gift of becoming pregnant. Most people that I tell about my situation will say adoption is always a great alternative. I have to try and not react harshly but mentally I am just overwhelmed. Our society will sometimes start a conversation of do you have any kids? This brings me to tears that I am not "normal" in this society. HPV information given in schools at the 6th grade will allow parents and children to be more aware of this virus. I want to make sure that this bill will pass and save our future generations from a decision that will emotionally affect them for the rest of their lives. I strongly support this bill.

HB458

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sonia Blackiston	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this important measure. It is vital to the health and well-being of our youth.

HB458

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for EDN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Flores	Individual	Support	No