

LATE



healthy
mothers
healthy
babies
COALITION
OF HAWAII

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Education
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 1:15 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 309
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in support of H.B. 458, HD1

Dear 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

LATE

**March 18, 2015-Wednesday
State Capitol**

To: Senators

From: Bliss Kaneshiro MD, MPH

Re: HB458, Relating to Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine Information

Position: Strongly Support

Dear Senators:

I am writing in strong support of HB458, which requires public schools to provide parents of incoming 6th grade public school students with information on HPV and the availability of the HPV vaccine.

By increasing the number of young people who are vaccinated against HPV in Hawaii, our goal is to prevent HPV infection and related cancers in Hawaii.

This law will help to increase HPV vaccine rates and lower cervical and other cancer rates by ensuring that parents and youth receive factual information from a trusted source about the vaccine.

Human papilloma virus vaccination has been supported by national organizations like the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) as well as by Hawaii ACOG, recommending that HPV vaccination routinely be targeted to females and males aged 11 years or 12 years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely

Bliss Kaneshiro MD, MPH

Associate Professor

University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine

Note: My views are my own and do not represent the John A. Burns School of Medicine of which I am a tenured faculty member.

LATE

From:
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT HB458 and HB459
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:21:49 PM

Aloha Committees on Education and Health,

I am writing in strong support of two important bills relating to health: HB458 and HB459. Hawaii's youth, both boys and girls, deserve accurate information about vaccine-preventable diseases such as the human papillomavirus (HPV), as well as accurate and comprehensive sex education. Please help to ensure that our youth and families have as many opportunities to learn and make informed, healthy choices.

Please pass both HB458 and HB459.

Respectfully,

Judy Kern

Honolulu, Hawaii 96825