



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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**Testimony COMMENTING on SB 841, SD2, HD1
Relating to School Health**

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 25, 2015

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unknown.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of SB841 SD2
3 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our
4 Executive Budget.

5 This Bill directs the Department of Education (DOE) and the DOH to convene an interagency
6 working group to create a comprehensive school health program. Although this appears to be an
7 excellent opportunity to examine how the current services provided are meeting the health needs
8 of the students and to explore innovative ideas to enhance school health services, DOH is not
9 prepared to discuss the transfer of public health nursing staff to DOE. The department is under
10 new leadership and requests the opportunity to establish new strategic priorities and objectives.
11 The Public Health Nursing Branch delivers an array of services to the most vulnerable of
12 Hawaii's residents, from keiki to kupuna in all settings, often being the provider of last resort for
13 those without access or means to healthcare. We appreciate the opportunity to reinforce the
14 relationship between health and education that will support the best interest of students, and
15 recommend the amendment offered below.

16 **Offered Amendments:** Page 2, Bill Section 2, Lines 13 – 17 to read as follows:

17 (2) The [~~transfer of public health nurses from the department of health to the department of~~
18 ~~education, including supervisory issues that may arise and possible career pathways for public~~
19 ~~health nurses that are transferred;~~] development of strategic workforce development options

- 1 including innovative inter-government and public-private partnerships which leverage medical
- 2 homes, community health workers, and other emerging models.
- 3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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

Date: 03/25/2015
Time: 08:45 AM
Location: 329
Committee: House Health

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0841, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO SCHOOL HEALTH.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education and Department of Health to jointly establish an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program. Appropriates funds. (SB841 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 841 SD2 HD1 which establishes an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program.

The Department has initiated a productive dialog with the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, the University of Hawaii School of Nursing, and other key stakeholders on this measure. The Departments recommend narrowing the membership of the task force, narrowing the focus of the work towards the establishment of school based health, and then broadly incorporating elements of the areas that will need to be addressed through school-based health into the language.

We respectfully request consideration for an appropriation of \$100,000 a year towards supporting this important foundational work for the next two years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health
March 25, 2015 at 8:45 a.m.

by

Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor
and

Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor

School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 841 SD2 HD1 - RELATING TO SCHOOL HEALTH

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and members of the House Committee on Health, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 841 SD2 HD1.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing (UH Mānoa Nursing) is in support of SB 841 SD2 HD1, with amendments, which establishes an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program.

Earlier this school year, UH Mānoa Nursing engaged with the Department of Education (DOE) in the Hawai'i Keiki Program: Healthy and Ready to Learn to place a school nurse in five complex areas across the State. Over the past eight months since its inception, Hawai'i Keiki nurses in the five complex areas have created school and student health policies, integrated school wellness planning, participated in Hawai'i Smiles, developed health content for newsletters and blogs, and enhanced regular communication with Public Health Nursing (PHN) and the Department of Health (DOH). This effort is a safety net partnership to increase access to healthcare for a vulnerable population – pre-kindergarten to high school keiki – by providing school health nursing and when required, primary care services in the public schools.

School health nurses are the coordinators of health in the schools. With the Hawai'i Keiki Program, UH Mānoa Nursing looks forward to contributing to the school health dialogue from the school nurse perspective and academic partner perspective. This bill adds depth and breadth to the school based health conversation and a cross-agency venue to discuss and develop system-wide strategies and school or complex area strategies, alike.

UH Mānoa Nursing agrees with the DOE and DOH recommended amendments and further requests that the House Committee on Health consider removing the section on Page 2, lines 13-17 that indicates “the transfer of PHN from the DOH to the DOE including supervisory issues that may arise and possible career pathways for PHN that

are transferred". PHNs offer an array of services well beyond school health, thus the discussion to plan a transfer of PHNs to DOE may limit their current scope of practice.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 841 SD2 and to submit recommended amendments.



COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL OF HAWAII
1177 Alakea Street • B-100 • Honolulu • HI • 96813
TEL: (808) 586-5363 • TOLL FREE: 1-800-437-8641 • FAX: (808) 586-5366

March 23, 2015

Representative Della Au Belatti
Chair House Committee on Health – Hawaii State Capitol

RE: SB841 SD2 HD1 - RELATING TO SCHOOL HEALTH

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice-Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committees,

The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) of Hawaii **supports SB 841** which requires the Department of Education and Department of Health to jointly establish an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program.

A comprehensive school health program is critical to improve student success and ensure that both Departments are working in a joint, cohesive manner. This change will create a deep cultural impact in both Departments as the singular focus is serving Students. We would be happy to offer our expertise as a resource to the interagency group once it is constituted.

The CCCs are community-based bodies comprised of parents, professionals in both public and private agencies and other interested persons who are concerned with specialized services provided to Hawaii's students. Membership is diverse, voluntary and advisory in nature. The CCCs are in rural and urban communities organized around the Complexes in the Department of Education.

We respectfully request your consideration of **SB841 SD2 HD1**. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Community Children's Council Office (CCCO) at 586-5363. Thank you for considering our testimony,

Tom Smith, Co-Chair

Jessica Wong-Sumida, Co-Chair

(Original signatures are on file with the CCCO)



HPCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

House Committee on Health

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair

The Hon. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Testimony on Senate Bill 841 SD2 HD1

Relating to School Health

Submitted by Nani Medeiros, Public Affairs and Policy Director

March 25, 2015, 8:45 am, Room 329

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association, which represents community health centers in Hawai'i, supports Senate Bill 841 SD2 HD1, which calls for an interagency working group between the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to create a school health program.

The HPCA is a staunch believer in the social determinants of health, those economic and social conditions that influence an individual and a community's health status. These conditions serve as risk factors endemic to a person's living and working environment, rather than their behavioral or genetic histories. Factors such as home life, income, education, access to recreation and healthy foods, and housing environments can and do have measurable impacts on a person and a community, both in health and financial outcomes. Our youth need healthy, safe after-school opportunities that engage and connect them with positive experiences and outcomes in their lives. The health of our communities and the health of our future largely depend on the environments we provide our keiki to grow up in. The REACH program created by this measure is a good start to address this vital need for our youth while addressing social determinants of health.

This bill speaks directly to several key social determinants, seeking to bolster the education system as well as provide invaluable training and assistance for health and well-being to Hawaii's schoolchildren. It also calls for the active participation of a community health center representative, which is both appreciated and conducive to community involvement.

For these reasons we support this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



To: The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair, Committee on Health
The Honorable Richard P Creagan, Vice Chair, Committee on Health
Members, House Committee on Health

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director

Date: March 24, 2015

Hrg: House Committee on Health; Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 8:45 a.m. in Rm 329

Re: **Support with recommendations for SB 841, SD 2, HD 1; Relating to School Health**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **support and offer recommendations** for Senate Bill 841, SD 2, HD 1, which will improve the delivery of school health services by establishing an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program.

The Hawaii Public Health Institute (HIPHI) supports and promotes policy efforts to create a health Hawaii. HIPHI weaves silos into working relationships as an effective network, ensuring that we come together across sectors to advance collaboration and innovation in public health and work towards making Hawaii the healthiest place on earth.

In 2004, Act 51 was enacted to revamp education in Hawaii by creating an interagency working group. These interagency working groups allow for the development of plans for transferring of certain rights, powers, functions, duties, and resources from various State Departments to the Department of Education. This will enable a revamping of the education system in Hawaii. The establishment of these interagency working groups will also facilitate interagency communication and help address various issues that may have not been resolved since Act 51, or may have arisen as a result of the transfers implemented pursuant to Act 51.

This bill will require the Department of Education and the Department of Health to jointly convene an interagency working group to discuss and create a comprehensive school health program. With rising health concerns and needs we believe this interagency working group is essential. Findings and recommendations from this group will allow for either the Department, and/or the Legislature, to address concerns regarding infrastructure necessary to establish a comprehensive, sustainable school health program and provide a sustainability plan with quality assurance and quality improvement parameters.

After discussion with the Department of Health, we do recommend removing Section 2, (a) (2), "...the transfer of public health nurses from the department of health to the department of education including supervisory issues that may arise and possible career pathways for public health nurses that are transferred." If public health nurses were transferred it will limit their scope of public health practice and supporting communities.

The Hawaii Public Health Institute supports Senate Bill 841, SD 2, HD 1 and we ask you to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yamauchi'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Executive Director