

**Written Comments**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 02/25/2015

**Time:** 09:00 AM

**Location:** 211

**Committee:** Senate Ways and Means

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 0841, SD1 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. (SD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 841 SD1 which establishes an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program. However, we suggest that the intent of the working group be adjusted to allow for a broader, ongoing health - education discussion for all related agencies to collaboratively address, explore, and work on various issues related to school health.

We respectfully request consideration for an appropriation of \$100,000 to support this large working group with staff, materials, and travel expenses related to meeting costs.



To: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director

Date: February 24, 2015

Hrg: Senate Committee on Ways and Means; Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Rm 211

Re: **Support for SB 841, SD1, Relating to School Health**

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **support of** Senate Bill 841, SD1, 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 healthy 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.

The Hawaii Public Health Institute supports Senate Bill 841, SD1 and feels this will help to address health concerns within the school system. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yamauchi'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Jessica' being more prominent.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA  
Executive Director



**HPCCA**

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

The Hon. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

The Hon. Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

**Testimony on Senate Bill 841 SD1**

**Relating to School Health**

**Submitted by Nani Medeiros, Public Affairs and Policy Director**

**February 24, 2015, 9:00 am, Room 211**

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association, which represents community health centers in Hawai'i, supports Senate Bill 841 SD1, 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 HPCCA 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. For these reasons we support this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

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February 25, 2015

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*  
Ms. Martha Guinan, *Vice  
Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta  
Dr. Tammy Bopp  
Dr. Robert Campbell  
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman  
Ms. Annette Cooper  
Ms. Shari Dela Cuadra-Larsen,  
*liaison to the Superintendent*  
Ms. Gabriele Finn  
Ms. Jenny Gong  
Ms. Natalie Haggerty  
Ms. Barbara Ioli  
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Ms. Rosie Rowe  
Dr. Patricia Sheehey  
Mr. Tom Smith  
Ms. Lani Solomona  
Dr. Daniel Ulrich  
Dr. Amy Wiech  
Ms. Jasmine Williams  
Ms. Susan Wood

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff  
Susan Rocco, Staff

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 841, SD 1 - Relating to School Health

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **strongly supports** the intent of SB 841, SD 1 that requires the Department of Education and Department of Health to jointly establish an interagency working group to create a comprehensive school health program.

Students with disabilities are more likely than students without disabilities to experience serious health issues, including mental health disorders. Many of these students may be prescribed medication, including emergency medication for anaphylaxis, seizures or diabetes. SEAC is supportive of the inclusion of training for the administration of medication and trained personnel to address the mental health of all students, including students with disabilities, as components of a comprehensive school health plan.

SEAC has a diverse membership representing a wide range of disabilities and stakeholder organizations. We would be happy to offer our expertise as a resource to the interagency working group once it is constituted.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter. If you have questions or concerns, I would be happy to address them.

Respectfully,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair

**SB841**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brendon Friedman	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

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The Senate

Hearing Date: 02/25/15

Twenty-Eighth Legislature, 2015

Time: 09:00 AM

State of Hawaii

Location: 211

Senate Bill 841

Relating to School Health

### **Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair

Erin K. Foley

Testifying as Individual

Traditional, Full-time Student

Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work

University of Hawaii Manoa

Tel.: (808)-352-9212

Email: efoley@hawaii.edu

### **RE: IN SUPPORT WITH SB 841**

Purpose: Requires the Department of Education and Department of Health to jointly establish an interagency working group to create a comprehensive health program.

I find the development of a comprehensive school health program with the intent to provide what is best for the students tremendous. I particularly find the inclusion of additional training for administering medications, increased attention to student's with diabetes and more rights for the Department of Education employees concerning the well-being of our keiki very important. However, what I find most crucial is the idea of employing mental health counselors in part with nurses and health aides.

As a benefactor of Hawaii public education for 17 some years, I have found my good health comprised by that of mind, body and spirit to have helped me flourish within the academic community. Moreover, for many years I volunteered and worked at Palolo Elementary as a Paraprofessional Tutor with both the General Ed. and Special Needs students. From these experiences I've learned that a student's performance in school is directly related to his/her health and societal, as well as economic conditions. Therefore, in support of SB 841 I hope that the DOE successfully establishes an interagency to create this all-inclusive school health program in order to revamp education in Hawaii. This bill is part of a much larger discussion about the health, well-being and education of this island's keiki. The collaboration to improve the health of our keiki is an investment in the collective success and intelligence of our local communities that I believe will ensure a thriving future for the people of the Hawaiian Islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and your cooperation in this matter.

Very Respectfully,

Erin K. Foley

**SB841**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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