



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

Date: 01/31/2018

Time: 02:55 PM

Location: 016

Committee: Senate Human Services
Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2211 RELATING TO CONCUSSIONS.

Purpose of Bill: Further expands the concussion educational program established under Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, and expanded under Act 262, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, to include all youth athletes, regardless of age.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2211. This measure recognizes the importance of concussion educational programs for youth.

The Department's multi-year collaboration with the department of kinesiology and rehabilitation science of the University of Hawaii has led to successful implementation of a concussion awareness and management program in Hawaii high school athletic programs statewide. The Department looks forward to continuing its collaboration with the University of Hawaii to expand the scope of the concussion educational program established under Act 197 (SLH 2012) and Act 262 (SLH 2016).

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2211.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Human Services and
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 2:55 p.m.

By

Nathan Murata, PhD
Dean, College of Education
and

Michael Bruno
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2211 – RELATING TO CONCUSSIONS

Chairs Green and Baker, Vice Chairs Chang and Tokuda, and members of the committees:

The University of Hawai'i, College of Education (COE) supports the intent of the SB 2211. Act 197 in 2012 addressed the Concussion Management Program (CMP) and concussion education for coaches, parents, school personnel, and high school student athletes which continues to be implemented and supported by the COE, Kinesiology & Rehabilitation Science Department (KRS), Hawai'i High School Athletic Association and Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE). Act 262 in 2016 expanded the scope of concussion education to age 11. The COE KRS has developed educational programs for high school and youth organizations and will be studying the effectiveness of these educational programs.

The UHM COE would like to offer the following amendments:

1. Delay the implementation of this bill to FY20. KRS is currently developing middle and elementary school-level curricula to address head injuries and spinal cord trauma including concussion education.
2. Increase the appropriation of funds section to manage the effectiveness of the concussion education for under 19 years of age to support updates of education as new research develops.
3. Add to Section 2, number 9. All youth organizations utilizing City and County and or State facilities must submit a concussion action plan, which includes concussion education, to permitting agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2211.



Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

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Phone: (808) 521-8995

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
and

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SB2211

January 31, 2018, 2:55 pm, Room 016

The Hawai'i Psychological Association endorses SB221, which further expands the concussion educational program and regulations removing injured athletes from game play established under Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, and expanded under Act 262, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016.

Young athletes may incur hundreds of repetitive head impacts (RHI) in one season. Even non-concussive head impacts can cause permanent brain damage. There is a growing consensus among neurologists specializing in CTE that participation in youth sports programs creates a significant risk of permanent brain damage that can lead to clinical depression, behavioral regulation difficulties, and cognitive impairment later in life. Research evidence indicates that the risk for such impairment is correlated with earlier starting ages for participation in youth sports programs.

SB2211 specifically address this concern by including all youth athletes, regardless of age.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB2211.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Folen, Ph.D., ABPP
Executive Director

Testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Athletic Trainers' Association (HATA)

Comments regarding S.B. 2211

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

2:55 PM, Room 016

To: Chair Josh Green and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, and Chair Rosalyn H. Baker and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health:

My name is Darryl Funai and I am testifying for the members of the Hawaii Association of Athletic Trainers' (HATA) regarding S.B. 2211.

HATA is the professional membership association for Certified Athletic Trainers in our state. Certified Athletic Trainers are health care providers who specialize in the prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and illnesses of athletes participating in various athletic events in Hawaii. Athletic Trainers are employed in all Hawaii's public schools, some private schools, colleges, Universities, hospitals, physician offices, clinics, and by the military.

This measure is intended to broaden the current concussion educational awareness program by removing the current age restriction so that the program would apply to all students below the age of nineteen. HATA supports the intent of this measure, however, would like to highlight some concerns with regards to mandating an expanded program without providing the necessary additional funding required for effective implementation. In addition,

further clarification is needed to identify what activities at the elementary school level would be considered “school athletics” and “youth athletic activity”.

HATA suggests further collaboration should be had with the Hawaii Concussion Awareness Management Program (HCAMP) to determine the cost of expanding the program, the method of monitoring and tracking that would be employed, and how school athletic activities would be identified for children under the age of 11. Further discussion would allow for these concerns to be addressed and for the expansion of the program to be a success.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure and please let me know if you have any questions.

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/23/2018 11:19:45 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 10:58:17 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

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

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Josh Green, Chair
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and
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SB2211

January 31, 2018, 2:55 pm, Room 016

Dear Committee Chairs:

I am a licensed psychologist in Hawai'i. For over 35 years I have treated adults, families, adolescents, and children.

I am writing to endorse SB221, which expands the concussion educational program and regulations removing injured athletes from game play established under Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, and expanded under Act 262, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016.

Research demonstrates that even non-concussive head impacts can cause permanent brain damage. Young athletes can experience hundreds of head impacts during a single season of play. Participation in youth sports programs creates a significant risk of permanent brain damage that can lead to clinical depression, behavioral regulation difficulties, and cognitive impairment later in life. The risk for such impairment is correlated with earlier starting ages for participation in youth sports programs.

SB2211 will protect the long-term health and welfare of children and young adults by expanding the scope of existing legislation to include all youth athletes, regardless of age.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB2211.



Charles M. Lepkowsky, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist PSY 1529

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/29/2018 9:00:16 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Gannon	West Hawaii CHC	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2211

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 6:06:25 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Spira	Pacific Behavioral Health	Support	No

Comments:

I am a researcher in concussion, former Professor, Department of Psychiatry at UH School of Medicine and US Department of Veterans Affairs Director - National Center for PTSD. My research and those of many others demonstrates that THREE OR MORE LIFETIME CONCUSSIONS leads to an average of 20% slower and less accurate information processing, more lifetime physical complaints, and greater impulsivity and emotional lability than those with zero or one concussion in their lifetime (Spira et al, Journal of NeuroTrauma, November 2015). Further, those who have had a concussion in the prior six months are at far greater risk of substantial permanent injury if they have a second concussion during that six month period than at a later time. Finally, children and adolescents have much greater risk of concussion than adults.

Therefore, I urge passage of this bill which applies current precautions to youth of ALL ages.

I hope that future legislation will enforce removal of a child from sport for the rest of the season if they have a concussion. Not to do so is child abuse, since it is likely lead to permanent brain damage if they have a second concussion within that same season.

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 9:12:46 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanya Gamby		Support	No

Comments:

As president of the Hawaii Psychological Association, I strongly support this legislation. All of our young athletes should be protected from the lifelong, devastating impacts of head trauma.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony.

Tanya Gamby, Ph.D.

Licensed Psychologist

President of the Hawaii Psychological Association

**THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SEN. JOSH GREEN, CHAIR

SEN. STANLEY CHANG, VICE CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION, & HEALTH

SEN. ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR

SEN. JILL N. TOKUDA, VICE-CHAIR

Testimony in support of SB 2211, Relating to Concussions

Hearing: Jan. 31, 2018 2:55 P.M. Conference Room Number: 16

January 30, 2018

Honorable Chairs Green and Baker, Vice Chairs Chang and Tokuda, and members of the State Senate committees on Human Services and Commerce and Consumer Protection, and Health. As a psychologist working almost exclusively with children and as the Director of Social and Emotional Health at 'Iolani School in Honolulu, Hawaii, I **strongly support SB2211** which seeks to expand the current concussion education program to all children under the age of 19 engaged in organized youth athletic activity. I submit this testimony as an individual, my opinion is not necessarily that of 'Iolani School.

In my capacity as the Director of Social and Emotional Health at 'Iolani School, I have the responsibility of reviewing ImPACT reports of students that have been evaluated for concussions. While I have not seen a marked increase in concussions among elementary-aged children, I have seen a handful. I would ask the legislature to consider making it mandatory for parents to attend educational sessions (and not just sign educational forms) in order for their children to participate in organized sports for their educational institutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey D. Stern, Ph.D.

Past President, Hawai'i Psychological Association

Director of Social and Emotional Health, 'Iolani School

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 4:41:20 AM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Hufano	Alaka'i Na Keiki	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

SB-2211

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 4:15:55 PM

Testimony for HMS on 1/31/2018 2:55:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph D. Eubanks		Support	No

Comments:

Concussions are highly individualized injuries of the brain. Symptoms are variable. They are treatable and the efficacy of treatment is best with early diagnosis. There is also evidence that younger individuals are more likely to have symptoms than older, but not elderly, individuals. Most concussions in children and adolescents are due to sports and recreational injuries, consequently, it is important that a concussion be diagnosed by an appropriate individual as soon as possible following a potential concussion inducing event, for example, a blow to the head in a football game. Please support this bill for the protection of our young athletes.

Joseph D. Eubanks, Ph.D., ABPP/CN

Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology