



February 11, 2020

The Honorable Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 329  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

On behalf of the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii and the Epilepsy Foundation of America, we urge your support of House Bill 141, HD2. This bill supports a critical priority for the epilepsy community – safety and continuity of care in the event of a seizure. This legislation makes certain that school personnel, including nurses, teachers, and volunteers, are not only prepared but can recognize and respond appropriately and efficiently to a student experiencing a seizure. Even more importantly, the legislation safeguards physician-directed care in the school setting, allowing students to access necessary and potentially life-saving medication. The legislation would also mandate the use of a Seizure Action Plan, to be distributed to all personnel charged with the care of a student, to ensure that they have access to information that may be specific or unique to that student. Taken together, provisions in this bill represent important protections necessary to ensure the safety of students living with epilepsy while they are attending school or a school-related function.

The Epilepsy Foundation is the leading national voluntary health organization that speaks on behalf of the at least 3.4 million Americans with epilepsy and seizures. The Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii, advocates and provides services for the almost 14,000 individuals living with epilepsy throughout Hawaii. Collectively, we foster the wellbeing of children and adults affected by seizures through research programs, educational activities, advocacy, and direct services. Epilepsy is a medical condition characterized by seizures, which are sudden surges of electrical activity in the brain, that affects a variety of mental and physical functions. Approximately 1 in 26 Americans will develop epilepsy, and approximately 1 in 10 people will experience a seizure, at some point in their lifetime. A seizure can happen to any person, in any place, at any time, and it is vital that school personnel are prepared to appropriately and effectively respond in this event. Compared to students with other health concerns, one Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study showed that students aged 6-17 years living with epilepsy were more likely to miss 11 or more days of school in the past year.<sup>1</sup> For these students, proper seizure first aid and continuity of care while they are at school is crucial to ensuring they can reach their full potential with as minimal disruption to their learning environment as possible.

House Bill 141, HD2 would require school personnel, including school nurses, to undergo a short training to learn how to recognize a seizure and how to properly administer seizure first aid. The seizure recognition and first aid training, developed by Epilepsy Foundation of America, and available online or through in-person training provided by Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii, would come at no additional cost to schools, school personnel, or the

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017, May 09). Healthy Schools. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/npao/epilepsy.htm>

Our mission is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives. **Please learn more about our advocacy work at [epilepsy.com/advocacy](http://epilepsy.com/advocacy).**



state, and would educate personnel on different seizure types, general seizure first aid, how to recognize a seizure emergency, and how to best socially and academically support students living with epilepsy. Knowing what to do in the event of a seizure is just as important as knowing what not to do. For instance, it is a fairly common misconception that you must put something in the person's mouth who is experiencing a seizure to prevent them from biting, or even swallowing, their tongue. This is false, dangerous and could cause more harm to the person experiencing a seizure – and the person administering first aid.

House Bill 141, HD2, if passed, would also facilitate continuity of care while a student is at school by providing school personnel with a Seizure Action Plan, containing information specific to the student's unique disorder and by preserving access to physician-prescribed medication while on school grounds. While seizure first aid is largely consistent no matter who the student is, there are times when a particular student may have specific triggers or treatment protocols that are individual to them. The Seizure Action Plan, which would be filled out in consultation with the child's physician, provides school personnel with important considerations, precautions, and contact information to help ensure aid is timely, tailored to the student's needs, and properly administered. Further, HB 141, HD2 would mandate that children have access to their anti-seizure medications or seizure rescue medications on school grounds which is critical to ensuring continuity of care, and in the case of seizure rescue medication, necessary to stop a seizure emergency.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii and Epilepsy Foundation of America urge your support for HB 141, HD2 which will ensure school personnel are equipped with the information and skills necessary to keep children safe at school. Please feel free to contact Abbey Roudebush, Esq., Senior Manager, Government Relations & Advocacy at our National Headquarters, at [aroudebush@efa.org](mailto:aroudebush@efa.org) or 301-918-3784 with any questions or follow-up.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Naomi Manuel".

Naomi Manuel  
Executive Director  
Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Weidner".

Laura Weidner, Esq.  
Vice President, Government Relations & Advocacy  
Epilepsy Foundation

Our mission is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives. Please donate today to help END EPILEPSY. [Epilepsy.com/EndEpilepsy](http://Epilepsy.com/EndEpilepsy)



**Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Thursday, February 13, 2020; 2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 329**

**RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 0141, HOUSE DRAFT 2, RELATING TO HEALTH.**

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Joint Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 0141, House Draft 2, RELATING TO HEALTH.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would require beginning January 1, 2022:

- (1) Each public and charter school to have at least one trained school employee on duty during the entire school day to administer or assist with seizure rescue medication;
- (2) The training of all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers employed at each public, and charter school to complete at least one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials developed by medical professionals;
- (3) All public, and charter schools to provide an age appropriate seizure education program to all students on seizures and seizure disorders; and
- (4) All public, and charter schools to establish a seizure action plan for any student having a seizure disorder that includes the identification of the employee or employees trained to assist the student in the event of a seizure, and the method by which the trained employee is contacted in the event of a seizure.

Furthermore, this bill would appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds for fiscal year 2020-2021 to train employees, clarify that the Act only applies to a school that has at least one student with a seizure disorder, and take effect on July 1, 2050.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 0141, House Draft 2**  
**Thursday, February 13, 2020; 2:00 p.m.**  
**Page 2**

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

The bill before this Committee is based on model legislation proposed by the national Epilepsy Foundation to increase the public's awareness of seizure disorders and to make our Nation safer for those afflicted. Under the leadership of the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii, the HPCA has been a partner in this effort.

The HPCA is committed to this initiative and pledges to work with the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii, the Department of Education and Charter Schools, the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, and all other stakeholders for this cause. As a network of fifteen (15) health centers situated throughout the State, the HPCA welcomes the opportunity to assist with the training that would be necessary under this bill.

Accordingly, we urge your favorable consideration of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or [eabe@hawaiiipca.net](mailto:eabe@hawaiiipca.net).

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 2:23:35 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jessica Garlock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please consider this bill that will provide essential medication to children living with epilepsy. It will greatly impact their educational experience and overall health and wellbeing.

Mahalo,

Jessica Garlock

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 3:07:07 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jari S.K. Sugano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This bill is essential to safeguard children with epilepsy in school systems. Please support.

Aloha, Jari Sugano

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 3:29:58 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Matthew Geyer	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Having a child with epilepsy puts incredible strain on a family. Having to also worry about whether or not their school can support their child appropriately or not puts additional strain on the family.

This bill could save lives.

Thank you for supporting this bill.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 4:49:39 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I write in support of this bill. As an individual who has grown up with epilepsy, and had multiple seizures in a public school in Hawai'i and witnessed others have seizures in a Hawai'i public school, I know first hand the significance of having someone in the immediate vicinity who is knowledgeable on what to do and what NOT to do when someone is having a seizure.

Thank you for you Consideration

Daniela M.G



**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 4:50:20 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Etsuyo Kila	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like schools to be required to administer seizure disorder rescue medication when needed.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 5:47:30 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
spenser jaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB141 HD2, due to having epilepsy for 11 years i believe everyone should be educated in this bill. Many people do not know information on epilpesy and what to do during a seizure. Knowing what to do during a seizure is the most important and critical thing to keep someone safe while they are seizing. Public & private schools should have someone in the staff who is prepared at all cost for a situation like this if it were to ever happen to a student.

I am apart of Athletes Vs Foundation, my job is to fundraise, spread information on epilepsy and seizure saftey, and SUDEP. SUDEP is sudden unexpected death in epilepsy and if people are not aware of how serious this can be for ones life, someone who is educated can save their life.

This will benefit all schools, faculty, and students. There is helpful for every single person just to learn more bout how this can affect so many people. Everyone can help in any big or small way, please make aq difference and bring this bill to educate schools.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 7:38:15 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karin Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill and encourage the Hawaii Legislature to pass this measure for seizure safe schools. This legislation will ensure schools in Hawaii are well-equipped with the tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for our children living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

The lack of seizure awareness and response training at my daughter's school almost prevented my daughter from doing the one thing she loves...cheer team. She has been very afraid that others will judge her and treat her differently. This measure gives our family hope that we can provide a safe and enriching environment at schools and eliminate the stigma around epilepsy.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 8:23:52 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lani Shimabuku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Lani Shimabuku, grandmother to a child who was diagnosed with epilepsy. I am providing written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill No. 141, which requires public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer seizure disorder rescue medication. It is an absolute scary situation to be in when a loved is having a seizure. I have been present when my grandchild experienced a seizure and let me tell you it is not an easy thing to witness. If I am feeling this way, I can only imagine how teachers and staff would feel in this situation. This training would equip them to know what to do in instances such as these. Please consider this when making a determination on this bill. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 8:28:27 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randi-Lynn Tam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Randi-Lynn Shimabuku, parent of a child who was diagnosed with epilepsy. I am providing written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill No. 141, which requires public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer seizure disorder rescue medication. Please consider passing this bill into legislation as parents of children would have some comfort in knowing that are children's teachers would know how to react when in a seizure situation. Thanks!

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 9:38:03 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 10:12:41 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristin Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! My name is Kristin Silva and I am a wife, mother and educator. Although none of these things is particularly uncommon, my desire to submit testimony for your consideration today is. Both my husband and one of my daughters are living through epilepsy. I say "through," because at this moment in time, both have been seizure-free for an extended period of time. I know how fortunate we are. I have seen both of them in various forms of seizures, seen both transported by ambulance, administered medication to both, sat by during EEGs and MRIs, and waited over eleven hours while my husband underwent brain surgery. Despite their current, amazing lives apart from seizures, there is no guarantee that a seizure isn't coming tomorrow. And that chills me to the bone.

It chilling because unlike me, most people have not lived through seizures. The every day, average person has no idea of what it's like to experience someone having a seizure first hand. Seizures are scary, messy and unpredictable at best. When you add this to unaware and uneducated onlookers, you have a recipe for fear and disaster. Whether the person experiencing the seizure is my daughter, my husband or a complete stranger one thing remains constant. They deserve to be treated appropriately and with respect. This starts with education.

As a middle school counselor of twenty years, I know first hand how powerful education can be in the hands of my fellow educators and students. Imagine the exponential effects on society if all of our schools were educated and prepared to deal with seizures? It starts with the education of school personnel, which in turn translates into school communities of educated, aware and respectful students, which in turn translates into whole communities of educated, aware and respectful neighbors.

The dream is that seizures will someday be a thing of the past. But until that day comes, I could breathe a little easier walking into each new day knowing that if seizures come to my family again, SOMEONE will be there and be ready to help until I can. I will continue to stand by ready to help my students, family, and my community. Thank you for taking action to equip our educators with the tools they need to be ready as well.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 10:30:09 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathleen Stofocik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill as it can help ease the worry of parents who send their child who lives with epilepsy to school. Knowing your child is safe and the adults at school have the training and ability to assist during a seizure is important. I encourage you to support those living with epilepsy in the islands and pass HB 141.



**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 6:00:39 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

i fully support this bill

Ron Shimabuku  
[ronkshimabuku@gmail.com](mailto:ronkshimabuku@gmail.com)  
#808-295-4954

Testimony on House Bill No. 141 House Draft 2  
RELATING TO HEALTH  
Thursday, February 13, 2020  
2:00pm  
Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Supporting House Bill No. 141 House Draft 2, Relating to Health

Chair Roy Takumi, Vice Chair Linda Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ron Shimabuku and I am the Board President for the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii. I am approaching you in my capacity as a caretaker of a loved one diagnosed with the epilepsy condition.

**I strongly support this bill** which requires public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer seizure disorder rescue medication. It exempts schools that do not have a student with a seizure disorder. It requires a seizure action plan for every diagnosed student and distribution of the plan to employees charged with supervising the student. It requires all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to perform self-review of seizure disorder materials annually. It makes an appropriation for these acts.

Having experienced firsthand my loved one going into a seizure, it was very scary and traumatic. The first time it occurred, I was unfamiliar with the condition, so I did not know what to do. I automatically dialed 9-1-1 which likely could have been avoided if I knew how to respond with seizure first aid basics. The subsequent times that the seizures occurred was at child daycare and elementary schools. I am very fortunate that the administrators, staff and teachers knew what to do when a seizure occurred based on past experiences, so they reacted appropriately.

As a caregiver, I cannot assume that when my loved one is at a trusted school and/or institution, that they are going to be taken care of when a seizure event occurs. This bill will give me comfort and security to know that the teachers and staff are properly trained in seizure first aid to respond when my loved one is not with me. Therefore, I highly encourage you to consider passing this proposal into law.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 8:42:14 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronnelle Werner-Celes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My sweet Haylee Mahina Shimabuku. I fully support bill HB141 HD2. As an aunt to my sweet niece who is just 8 years old words cant Express the feeling of seeing your child having a seizure. I work in the medical field and have never witness something of this sort. Let alone I seen it first hand of my own niece while we were out to dinner. To have to stand and watch and just let it take over for the longest minutes that seemed like a lifetime. Yet to see the fear in her father's eyes as we stand helplessly near by praying and waiting for it to just stop and be over. To have this bill be passed where she can feel free going to school knowing she is a child who has epilepsy to feel safe and not have to be judge by other kids who are curious and makes remarks because they dont understand. Change starts at home and in school if this bill is passed it would mean so much to our family because every child was hand picked and made especially by our lord and savior jesus christ. To not have to be stigmatized because you are different from your friend doesn't mean you aren't intelligent some of these children are the brightest full of life children you will ever meet. Every child deserves recognition and to be treated equally.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 10:48:42 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 12:30:17 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendy Gibson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Takumi, Vice-Chair Ichiyama and Members of the Committee,

Please **support** HB141 HD2. Four States have passed seizure safe school legislation (KY, IN, TX and IL) and have schools that are well-equipped with tools necessary to provide a safe environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorder. Hawaii schools could benefit from this seizure first aid training program, as we have at least 2,000 children living with epilepsy in Hawaii.

This bill is supported by the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii and the Epilepsy Foundation of America. I hope that you will as well.

Mahalo for your attention to this important bill,

Wendy Gibson PTA/RN/BSN

Member: American Cannabis Nurse Association and Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses

Palolo

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 2:39:21 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daeni Ito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Daeni Ito. I am a mother and also a professional in the medical community. My 7 year old daughter has epilepsy, is a 2nd grader at a public school. She had CPR performed on her when she was just 20 months old due to seizure. She been so fortunate that her epilepsy has not affected her academics, growth or development, but it is a constant worry for my husband and I on a daily basis. Every day when I drop her off at school I pray she will be seizure free. She has an Emergency Action Plan and Diastat is prescribed, but I understand that it cannot be given without having a skilled nurse follow her all day. This is not appropriate for her because we would like her to life as normal a life as possible and having a nurse follow you is not. It would be nice if staff could be trained and readily available to assist in seizure emergency if it were to occur. I worry every day she will have a seizure without me or my husband there and worried for her safety. Please consider making schools safer for every child that has had or may have a seizure. It could happen to anyone, anywhere, anytime. Unfortunately even if she doesn't have a seizure for a while, it will be a concern for the rest of her life. It is a constant worry that other parents do not have to think about, so I'd like you to consider what parents of children with epilepsy go through daily, when our kids are out of our hands and out of sight, we would like to think that absolutely everything is being done to keep them safe. Thank you for taking the time to consider this bill.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 4:02:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Ito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of this measure which ensures a safer school environment for children, like mine, with epilepsy, without adding a significant burden to our hard working teachers and administrators. Please support this legislation.



**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 8:49:42 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gavin Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 5:09:30 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lynn Yamada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a teacher for 15 years, I encountered my first epileptic student in 2016. I had no prior experience with how to treat an epileptic student. We were debriefed and told it "could" happen during our class, but that's all. Of course, it did happen for the first time in MY class. My student started making funny noises, then slouched over. No one knew what to do and I was in too much shock to even try to call for help. My savior was my TA who was a trained Jr Life Guard. She quickly pulled him to the ground, rolled him to his side, and cradled him in her lap. She calmly talked to him and did everything correctly. As I stood there shaking, eventually realizing I needed to be the adult, I nervously figured out how to call for help. That same year, another student was diagnosed with epilepsy, and would be helped several times in a different class. No matter how many times I've now seen a seizure, it's still scary and traumatizing.

Since my encounter with these 2 students, it is very necessary to require teachers and educators to be trained in how to handle epileptic students. Both of my students had no prior seizures until that year.

As educators, we spend a lot of time in and out of the classroom with students. We often spend more time with them than their own families.

I've listened to my own friend of more than 30 years share her story of her daughter's seizure, which almost claimed her life. To imagine what it must've been like to find your child lifeless, turning blue, is unimaginable. Then to have to administer CPR to your own baby as you wait for the ambulance is heartbreaking. Luckily, my friend is a nurse and knew what to do. Our students deserve to be under the care of educators who are also trained in how to help in the unimaginable event they start seizing.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 8:57:47 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lacey Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

With 1 in 26 people in the US estimated to develop epilepsy in their life, seizure first aid is so important. This bill would educate our students, faculty, and staff - who would all be prepared to help a person having a seizure - whether it be a student or teacher in school, or a person they encounter at the park, at a restaurant, or on the bus. Education at seizure safe schools would spread throughout our community, making it safe for those living with epilepsy and even the estimated 1 in 10 people who will have a seizure in their lifetime. Please support HB 141. Thank you.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 9:46:56 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
melissa Kaonohi-Camit	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 10:21:28 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maureen Ballard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As one of the approximately 15,000 people in Hawaii who has epilepsy, I fully support this measure. I was diagnosed when I was 12 years old when I had my first seizure. Although I never had a seizure at school, I could have.

One in ten people will have a seizure in their lifetime. Seizure safety in schools would not only help those already diagnosed with epilepsy, but also help those who have a seizure in their lifetime, whether it be a student, teacher or staff member. This measure would also go a long way in dispelling myths about those of us with epilepsy, and seizures.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 11:07:03 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sela kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill because as someone affected by epilepsy I was treated differently by my school nurses who are trained medical professionals because they didn't know what epilepsy was. If teachers and staff get training they'll be more equipped to deal with people who have epilepsy. People at my school don't want to inform the school about their epilepsy because they fear that the school might prevent them doing something they' re still fully capable of doing.

Representative John M. Mizuno (Chair)

Committee on Health

Melissa Yamaguchi

Date: February 6, 2020

Support for HB 141 HD 2 relating to Public Health

As a parent and citizen in the State of Hawaii, I want to make sure my fellow members of the community especially those in school or on school campuses have adequate access to seizure care. I strongly support HB 141 HD 2 which would provide for training in the event of seizures occurring on a school campus.

While many citizens in the State of Hawaii may not think seizure care applies to them, it does. One in 26 people may be affected by Epilepsy or a similar seizure condition in their lifetime. As of 2019, over 15,000 people in the State of Hawaii and over 3 million in the United States are living in with Epilepsy. Even if they do not have Epilepsy, ten percent of the population may also experience a seizure in their lifetime that could be a result of head trauma like a fall or car accident, another medical condition, or even a high fever.

As a parent of a child whom does not had Epilepsy but has participated in Epilepsy and Seizure awareness activism for 4-5 years now, I have seen firsthand the need for our schools to have these life saving measures. My child and I have done the research ourselves and pretty much anyone is prone to being in need of this type of first aid. I urge the committee to please pass HF 141 H2. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify.

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/13/2020 6:17:44 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Altman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/13/2020 7:14:45 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Malahoff-Kamei	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My son has epilepsy, but is fortunate enough to have a nurse at school to administer his medications. Not all children are so lucky.

Emergency Anti seizure medication should be administered within 5 minutes to reduce the chance of brain injury due to lack of oxygen. For children at school without a nurse administer these medications, they have to wait until a parent can come to provide medications. That is simply too long, and a health risk that doesn't need to happen.

I support having school staff trained to administer medications.



**LATE**

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

**Date:** 02/13/2020  
**Time:** 02:00 PM  
**Location:** 329  
**Committee:** House Consumer Protection & Commerce

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 0141, HD2 RELATING TO HEALTH.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer seizure disorder rescue medication. Exempts schools that do not have a student with a seizure disorder. Requires a seizure action plan for every diagnosed student and distribution of the plan to employees charged with supervising the student. Requires all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to perform self-review of seizure disorder materials annually. Makes an appropriation. Effective July 1, 2050. (HD2)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) offers comments on HB 0141, HD2.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, every Department school has a School Health Assistant (SHA) trained in best practices for recognizing the signs and symptoms of seizures and the appropriate steps for seizure first aid.

The Department has health education courses to support the development of health literacy skills and instructional topics may cover epilepsy and seizures.

When the school receives notification of a student with seizures, a support team is formed with the student's parent or legal guardian, a Department of Health Public Health Nurse, and all appropriate school staff, to develop an annually reviewed Emergency Action Plan for use during the school day.

The Department complies with the provisions of Section 302A-853, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by requiring submission of a "Request to Store and Administer Emergency Rescue Medications and Daily, Routine, Scheduled Medications at School" by a parent or legal guardian in order to administer medication in a public school.

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

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. 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](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).

**LATE**

**HB-141-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/13/2020 10:08:42 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/13/2020 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Trinette Furtado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Mai!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

I write in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB141 HD2 that would require public and charter schools to have staff trained in administering seizure disorder rescue medication and be educated to provide seizure safe schools.

As someone who suffers from a seizure disorder and who had no resources or assistance/assistants while at school, I feel it is so important and beneficial for people to be educated (even broadly) on seizure disorders and to have staff that is trained and will be capable to administer life saving medication.

In addition to having staff trained in administering medication, education of staff and students on seizure disorders and how to help/what to do/etc is beneficial for the student or faculty member and the rest of the school community.

Please consider passing this measure and show your **STRONG SUPPORT** in considering Hawai'i's keiki who suffer with seizure disorders and the additional burden of what that means for them while in school.