



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

Date: 02/21/2020
Time: 01:30 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

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) supports the overall concept of HB 0141, proposed HD2, and offers comments.

The Department has a system in place to support students with seizures and other chronic health conditions. When a Department school receives notification of a student with a chronic health condition such as asthma, diabetes, severe allergy, or seizures, a team is formed with the student's parent or legal guardian, a Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) Public Health Nurse (PHN), and all appropriate school staff, to develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) individualized to the student's needs during the school day. The EAP is reviewed annually and as needed.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, every Department school has a School Health Assistant (SHA) who has been trained in first aid, CPR, and medication administration.

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 the student's parent or legal guardian. This form must be completed by a licensed medical provider and approved by the DOH PHN to have the appropriate medication available for the student in a public school.

Training of school personnel to support the health needs of students is available upon request to the DOH PHN or the Hawaii Keiki complex area nurse. The Department has health education courses to support the development of student's health literacy skills.

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.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101
Honolulu, HI 96814
Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129
email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

February 21, 2020

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*
Ms. Dale Matsuura, *Vice Chair*
Dr. Patricia Sheehey, *Vice
Chair*
Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Vice Chair*

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to the Superintendent*
Dr. Bob Campbell, *liaison to
the military community*

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff
Susan Rocco, Staff

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 141, HD 2 - Relating to Health

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) **supports** HB 141, HD that aims to ensure Seizure Safe Schools in both public and public charter schools for students with seizure disorders.

In previous years SEAC testified to the importance of having school personnel volunteer to administer epinephrine via epi-pen, as well as insulin and glucagon in emergency situations. SEAC also supported blood glucose monitoring to help prevent health emergencies for students with diabetes. With 2000 school age children in Hawaii who have a diagnosed seizure disorder, as estimated by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, it is critical that seizure medications and vagus nerve stimulation magnets be added to the list of emergency interventions school personnel may administer.

This bill acknowledges the need to create a seizure action plan for each student with a seizure disorder and distribute it to all school personnel charged with supervising the student, with clear instructions who to contact in event of a seizure on campus. By January 2022 the bill requires annual training for all principals, counselors and teachers in public and public charter schools where there is one or more students with a seizure disorder. It also requires the designation of at least one school employee to administer prescribed seizure medications or stimulation with a vagus nerve stimulation magnet as needed.

SEAC believes these measures will go a long way in ensuring the safety of Hawaii's students with seizure disorders. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Sincerely,


Martha Guinan
Chair


Ivalee Sinclair
Legislative Committee Chair



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Friday, February 21, 2020; 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

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

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, 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
Friday, February 21, 2020; 1:30 p.m.
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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.



February 19, 2020

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 308
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance:

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.¹ 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 the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii or partner agencies, would come at **no additional cost** to schools,

¹ 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.**



school personnel, or the 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. **The only thing it will cost is an hour of their time.** Please feel free to contact Abbey Roudebush, Esq., Senior Manager, Government Relations & Advocacy at our National Headquarters, at aroudebush@efa.org or 301-918-3784 with any questions or follow-up.

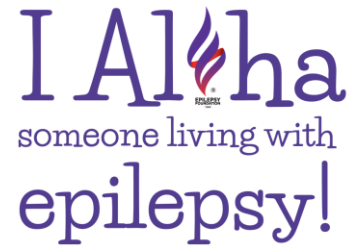
Sincerely,

Naomi Manuel
Executive Director
Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii

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

February 19, 2020



SUBJECT: Support for H.B. No. 141 H.D.2, Relating to Health

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance:

I support H.B. 141 H.D.2, Relating to Health for Seizure Safe Schools and strongly encourage you to also support this measure. This bill will ensure schools in Hawaii are well-equipped with the resources necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for our children living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

When my daughter, Sela, was diagnosed at the age of 13 years with epilepsy in 2017, it became very apparent that there is a lack of epilepsy and seizure awareness in our schools and community. This lack of awareness and education at her school, even with highly skilled professionals, almost prevented Sela from doing the one thing she loves...cheer team. She has been very afraid that others will judge her and treat her differently. Epilepsy awareness and seizure response training will help others to be compassionate and able to respond to anyone having a seizure as 1 in 10 people will have a seizure in their lifetime.

Please support H.B. 141 H.D. 2 as this bill gives us hope that we can provide a safe and enriching environment at our schools and eliminate the stigma around epilepsy.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karin Kimura".

Karin Kimura
710 Luawai Street
Honolulu, HI 96816

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 2:25:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Shimabuku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good Day Legislators,

I am in support for HB141 HD2 as it is for the safety of Public school students and Faculty personnel as well. According to sources it affects over 15,000 people in Hawaii and that includes school students and I believe someone in each Hawaii School campus should have a trained health technician or aide that should be versed in how to help someone that has a seizure on their respected campus.

In my view, the Hawaii Public School system is responsible for children at their respected sites and should at least having one person on Staff being able to diagnose and administer help for a student or Staff on the school premises.

Paul Shimabuku

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 1:25:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mary	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

i fully support this bill

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 2:30:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronnelle Werner-Celes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support bill HB141 I Aloha someone living with epilepsy!!! #HayleeMahina

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 3:12:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Gibson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee,

Please support HB141 HD2. I am an RN who understands the need for schools in Hawaii to educate staff about seizures and train them to safely administer seizure first aid. The Epilepsy Foundation, in their written testimony stated that:

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 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.

This program has been successfully implemented in 4 States (KY,IN,TX and IL). I hope that Hawaii will be next.

Thank you for your consideration,

Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

Palolo

Representative Sylvia Luke (Chair)

Committee on Finance

Melissa Yamaguchi

Date: February 21, 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. Those who cope with diabetes are extremely susceptible to seizures as well.

As a parent of a child whom does not have 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 HB 141 HD2. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 4:39:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cori almeida	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 5:29:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vincent Shigekuni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill as it can help students who experience seizures in our schools. Mahalo for considering this testimony.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 5:33:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen S. Yano MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a practicing pediatrician in the community this bill is a must for the safety and life saving administration of my patients at risk for status epilepticus. Having trained personell in the schools is a life saving measure which is necessary for the safe administration of an prescribed medication. I support this bill without reservation.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 7:35:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ron Shimabuku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 7:38:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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 House Draft 2, 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: 2/19/2020 7:39:10 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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 House Draft 1, 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: 2/19/2020 7:43:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Kazama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am pleased and encouraged to see the progress of HB141. It is critical that children and adults in the school setting learn about epilepsy and learn first aid for seizures. Seizures can happen without warning sometimes, so the school community needs to be prepared with an action plan for what could be life-threatening situations at the worst and fearful experiences for others. Learning about epilepsy and seizures will go a long way to accepting all who are diagnosed. The stigma of the disease is due to lack of knowledge that can be easily addressed. Children and adults diagnosed with epilepsy generally have their teachers alerted to safe practices, but because seizures may happen anywhere in the school, it makes sense to have the entire school informed of safety measures. My grandson, while in preschool and in elementary school, had his mother arrange for afterschool training by the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii. This training could be done in one afternoon at a teacher meeting or conference, and it could save some child's life and one family's worries. When a child is ill, we need to protect that child in his environment. Please vote to pass this bill to bring epilepsy education to the schools. Our community needs this law.. Thank you.--Diane Kazama

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 7:53:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

I'm submitting this testimony in support of passing HB141. I was born with epilepsy, and the first seizure I experienced was in the 1st grade at school in the early 1990s.

My class was let out for recess, and as I was wandering the grass field, I started experiencing double vision, a headache, and dizziness. I wandered in what must have looked like a drunken stumble until I managed to find a seat at a swing set. I ended up blacking out there and collapsing to the sand. I woke up a few minutes later in the infirmary. I heard later that, when I collapsed, the teacher on duty to watch us ran over to me, immediately picked me up, and ran me over to the infirmary. While I am grateful for the concern demonstrated by the teacher, picking me up or restraining me in any way is NOT the right thing to do. Doing so had the potential to injure the both of us. Fortunately for me, I was uninjured, but it could have easily been worse.

The actions the teacher on duty took that day could have been helped by having the necessary knowledge and training to understand what was happening and act appropriately. Therefore, like I stated in the beginning, I support the passing of HB141.

Respectfully,

Andrew Kimura

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 10:38:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elijah Werner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Eddie Werner. I thank you for allowing me to write my testimony. I fully support HB141. Educating schools staff to help keiki who deal with this life threathing disease.

Please help support and move forward this bill, as it will be so helpful in saving lives from this terrifying disease.

Thnak you,

Eddie Werner

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 11:00:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sela Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill because personally I have been affected by people at my school not knowing about seizures and epilepsy. The nurses at my school were going to make me go to the bathroom with someone and take an elevator even though with epilepsy I was fully capable of doing these simple tasks. They were also going to not let me do my favorite thing which is cheer. With epilepsy you should just keep on living life how you did before. This bill could help other kids and could've definitely helped me.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 11:29:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lacey Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I support HB 141 and ask for your consideration and support as well. My 10-year-old son has had epilepsy for nine years. He currently attends a public school. When I first asked in the health room if they could administer his emergency medication (rectal Diazepam), I was told no. When I asked if they could store it there so that I could access it in an emergency, I was told no. I wasn't informed that he needed an emergency action plan or that a contracted nurse was needed to administer Diazepam. The FDA recently approved a nasal spray for seizure emergencies, but it is only for people 12 years and older. HB 141 would require that one person at school be able to administer seizure rescue medication. If health aides or other personnel were able to administer rectal medication, the State would not need to contract a nurse for each child prescribed rectal Diazepam.

HB 141 would also educate our students, faculty, and staff on how to recognize and appropriately respond to a person having a seizure - whether it be a student or teacher in school, or a person at the park, at a restaurant, or on the bus. Education at seizure safe schools would spread throughout our community, making it safer 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: 2/20/2020 12:11:05 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Manuel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 141 HD because Seizure Safe Schools will improve the safety and learning environment of our keiki who have to live with seizures. It won't cost the state much if anything. The trainings being asked were developed in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), are completely free and accessible online or free in person through the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii, are professionally relevant, age appropriate, and a clear need within our schools. This is a potential asset that should be capitalized on being that epilepsy isn't a new circumstance and seizure safety isn't a new idea or project. My family is in full support of this bill.

(Aiea)

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 7:47:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a longtime educator, there is a need not only for this position but for everyone to be educated on how to help students with seizures. Classroom educators need to know what to do until a person with that capability arrives as well. In the years in which I had a student who experienced seizures, my entire class learned how to help. There is not always an adult with children. In addition, their experience might bring them into a place where an adult needs their help as well.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 8:55:11 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura S.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support House Bill No. 141, which requires public schools and public charter schools to have employees trained to administer seizure disorder rescue medication. It is important to have someone in our schools who is well-equipped and trained with the tools necessary to provide immediate and proper attention when a student is having a seizure. This bill is essential to safeguard our children with epilepsy in our school systems.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 11:19:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Howard Char	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass HB141 HD2. My granddaughter was diagnosed with epilepsy in 2017 when she was 13 years old. Due to the lack of seizure awareness and education at her school she almost was not allowed to continue on the cheer team which she loves. Please help end the stigma about epilepsy.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 11:26:10 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathleen Stofocik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill as it will help the children living with epilepsy and other seizure disorders to get the medication they need in a timely manner and administered effectively by a trained adult. I urge you to support this bill.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 11:42:23 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Altman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 11:57:32 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Takahiko Kimura	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I am a father whose daughter was diagnosed with epilepsy several years ago. I strongly support this bill for seizure smart schools legislation and ask for your support in passing this bill. As a parent of a child with epilepsy, it's been tough to watch her struggle with the diagnosis. It's difficult enough for a girl to struggle with the normal pressures of being a teen, but the stigma and lack of information surrounding epilepsy makes it so much harder for her to "fit in". Beyond the stigma, I was surprised at how much misinformation there is surrounding epilepsy and how to deal with seizures. The basics of what a seizure is and how to react to someone having a seizure are woefully misunderstood and that lack of information is dangerous for our children who are dealing with the disease and a potential liability for the schools and their staff who are unaware. 1 in 26 people in the U.S. will develop epilepsy, so this is much more common than most people think.

I hope and pray that my daughter can live a full and productive life, and this legislation will go a long way to make that a reality. Thank you for your consideration!

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 12:35:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this important bill to safeguard children who may experience seizures at school and to help eliminate the stigma around epilepsy by educating school staff about the condition and teaching them how to respond.

I understand that the bill requirements seem like a lot to ask, but these simple and necessary measures should have been implemented many years ago.

I don't understand however, the provision that exempts schools that do not currently have a student with a seizure disorder --- yes, this may be a cost or time-saving exemption, but how in the world will faculty be prepared to help a child who has his/her first seizure during school hours? This exemption makes no sense, as many people with epilepsy are not born with it, but develop seizures during childhood, or later.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and for taking this step to help the many children who have seizure disorders in Hawaii.

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 12:59:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 20, 2020

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB141, HD2 to ensure that school personnel are trained to recognize and respond appropriately to students who have seizures at school.

I am a board-certified epileptologist (a neurologist who specializes in epilepsy and seizure care), medical director of the only National Association of Epilepsy Centers (NAEC)-certified Level 4 Comprehensive Epilepsy Center in the state of Hawaii, and a member of the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii's board of directors.

It is estimated that over 15,000 Hawaii residents have a diagnosis of epilepsy, many of which are school-aged children and adolescents. In addition, new onset seizures commonly occur in childhood. In my medical practice, many of my patients who have seizures are full time students. Although I can educate their family members about seizure safety, how to respond to a seizure, and what constitutes a seizure emergency, there is often a concern about having seizures at school. This legislation would provide education to school personnel about an appropriate response to acute seizures and would require that seizure action plan is available for students who have a diagnosis of epilepsy or a seizure disorder.

I believe that this legislation would close one of the education gaps in the community to keep young patients with epilepsy safe in school where they spend a large proportion of their day.

Sincerely,
Victoria Wong, MD

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 4:52:10 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela McCarthy	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Let's set the example of one of the states who puts our keiki first! Our keiki deserve to be treated with respect and love. By seeing this problem and choosing to fix it instead of putting a bandaid on it, we will help our keiki that our living with epilepsy feel safe and help them succeed in life.

I support this bill and hope you will fight for this bill to be put into full effect ʻōia

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 5:12:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann S. Yabusaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairwoman Sylvia Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

HB141 HD1 is long overdue. As an advocate for awareness and services for individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, I have heard stories from families of seizures occurring in the school and on the school bus. The children were unattended and fortunately recovered on their own. Having trained personnel at the school is just good policy. Children with FASD have an increased potential for seizures. I support this bill.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ann S. Yabusaki, Ph.D., MFT

LATE

HB-141-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 8:41:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alanna isobe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Children with seizures should have access to appropriate emergency care while at Hawaii's schools. Seizures should be treated like other chronic acute conditions like asthma and food allergies and staff should be trained to respond appropriately to keep our children safe.