

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JOHN S.S. KIM
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: HB 2482 HD2 Relating to Education
DATE: March 1, 2022 at 11:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Finance
ROOM: Conference Room 308 & Videoconference
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and members of the Committees:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB2482 HD2, but has concerns with the implementation of the requirements in our public charter schools, as the bill requires that beginning 1/1/2024, authorizes public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer or assist with the self-administration of seizure disorder rescue medication, with certain exemptions. Authorizes all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to perform an annual self-review of seizure disorder materials. Allows a seizure action plan for every diagnosed student to be established and distributed to employees charged with supervising the student. Appropriates funds.

The Commission must note that our public charter schools do not have sufficient funding to provide for the requirements of the bill as many of our public charter schools do not have Health Aides or at times access to the Department of Health, Public Health Nurses as do our Hawaii Department of Education public schools. Additionally, our public charter schools do not have access to a Keiki Nurse program in the way that our Department public schools have established.

The Commission has been working directly with the Hawaii Department of Health and the Department of Education to establish a similar “Keiki Nurse” program for our public charter schools. In fact, the Hawaii Department of Health has provided foundational funding through a recent grant given through the Hawaii Department of Education to assist with setting up a similar program for our public charter schools.

Due to the way funding is distributed between the Hawaii Department of Education and our public charter schools this requirement along with any additional mandated training or administration of health related medicine or procedures are often financially and operationally difficult to meet. The ability of the Department of Education to centralize these types of requirements cannot be found in the public charter school model. The Commission asks for consideration of these operational and capacity issues to be addressed for our public charter schools so that the intent of this bill can be met.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



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

Date: 03/01/2022

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: 308 Via Videoconference

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2482, HD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Beginning 1/1/2024, authorizes public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer or assist with the self-administration of seizure disorder rescue medication, with certain exemptions. Authorizes all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to perform an annual self-review of seizure disorder materials. Allows a seizure action plan for every diagnosed student to be established and distributed to employees charged with supervising the student. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2051. (HD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) respectfully offers comments on HB 2482, HD2. The Department appreciates the amendments made to HD2 that allows the Department the flexibility to implement this bill rather than to require it.

The Department has a system in place to support students with chronic health conditions such as seizure disorders. 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 Public Health Nurse, and all appropriate school staff to develop an Emergency Action Plan individualized to the student's needs during the school day. The Emergency Action Plan is reviewed annually and as needed.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, every Department school has a School Health Assistant who has been trained in first aid, CPR, and medication administration. State policies support the safe and effective administration of medication

to students by School Health Assistants. These include §302A-851 and §302A-853, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). The Nurse Practice Act allows and covers School Health Assistants with regards to medication administration.

Per §302A-1164, HRS, the Department allows for the self-administration of medication by a student for asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, or other potentially life-threatening illness. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a student with a seizure disorder may be eligible to receive additional services. An Individualized Education Program may be developed in collaboration with the legal guardian, school staff, and Hawaii State Department of Health Public Health Nurse to determine how to best meet the student's needs at school.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2482, H.D. 2

March 1, 2022
11:00 a.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO EDUCATION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on House Bill (H.B.) No. 2482, H.D. 2.

H.B. No. 2482, H.D. 2, adds a new section to Chapter 302A, HRS, and Chapter 302D, HRS, to authorize: 1) public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer or assist with the self-administration of seizure disorder rescue medication, with certain exemptions; 2) a seizure action plan for every diagnosed student and distribution of the plan to employees charged with supervising the student; and 3) all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to perform self-review of seizure disorder materials annually. The measure exempts schools that do not have a student with a seizure disorder. Lastly, the measure appropriates an undetermined sum of general funds for FY 23 to train employees to administer or assist with the self-administration of seizure rescue medication at each public school and public charter school.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



House Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair – House Committee on Finance
House Representative Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair – House Committee on Finance
Public Hearing: March 1, 2022 at 11:00 am
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 308 & Videoconference
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: House Bill 2482 HD2

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

On behalf of the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii and the Epilepsy Foundation of America, we urge your support of House Bill 2482 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 14,000 individuals living with active 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. Much like diabetic emergencies and anaphylaxis, seizures do not occur every single day in schools. However, 1:26 children may have epilepsy and, for them, the risk of a life threatening seizure is present every single day of their lives. This is why it is vital that school personnel are prepared to appropriately and efficiently respond.

Compared to students with other health concerns, one Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study showed that students aged 6-17 years old living with epilepsy were more likely to miss 11 or more days of school in the past year. For these students, proper seizure first aid and consistency 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 2482 HD2 would require school personnel, including school nurses, to undergo a short training to learn how to recognize a seizure and how to properly provide seizure first aid. The seizure recognition and first aid

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.**



training, developed by the Epilepsy Foundation of America in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control already exists. They are available online, on demand, or in-person provided by the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii. Training would come at no cost to schools, school personnel, or the state. It 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.

House Bill 2482 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. 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, House Bill 2482 HD2 ensures that children have access to their anti-seizure medications while on school grounds, and in the case of seizure rescue medication, necessary to stop a seizure emergency.

This bill is based on model legislation utilized in a nation-wide effort to make every school in every state seizure safe. As of July 2021, there are 12 states that have seizure safe schools legislation enacted and many more actively pursuing similar bills this year. I am extremely hopeful that Hawaii can be added to that list and becoming a more seizure safe community. With the successful passing of Brennan's Bill last session, SB936 SD2 HD2 CD1, and working with the Hawaii Department of Health to be able to offer businesses credible and reliable seizure first aid information for the work place, we know we are moving in the right direction creating a seizure-safe Hawaii.

On behalf of the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii and our Board of Directors, we humbly thank you for the opportunity to testify and urge your support for House Bill 2482 HD2.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Naomi Manuel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Naomi Manuel
Executive Director
Epilepsy Foundation of Hawaii

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](https://www.epilepsy.com/advocacy).**



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Tuesday, March 1, 2022
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
Via Videoconference**

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 2482, HOUSE DRAFT 2, RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the 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. 2482, House Draft 2, RELATING TO EDUCATION.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's 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.

This bill, as received by your Committee, would allow the Department of Education (DOE) to:

- (1) Have at least one school employee on duty during the entire school day to administer or assist with the self-administration of seizure rescue medication;
- (2) Require principals, guidance counselors, and teachers to complete at least one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials; and
- (3) Establish a seizure action plan for every student diagnosed with a seizure disorder;

at all public and public charter schools in Hawaii.

This bill would take effect on July 1, 2020.

The HPCA notes that this bill 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 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 and participate in the discussion.

Because of the prevalence of this malady, this Committee may want to consider expanding its scope to include private schools, as well as institutions of higher education, such as the University of Hawaii System and private universities and colleges in our State.

With that said, we also recognize that much of this bill pertains to the "conditions of employment" that should more appropriately be addressed through collective bargaining. But if this bill can start the conversation between DOE, the Hawaii State Teachers' Association, the Hawaii Government Employees Association, the United Public Workers and the applicable stakeholders, this bill would have accomplished much to improve the situation.

In closing, we'd like to share this thought:

Try to imagine how scary it would be for a child to experience a seizure in a classroom. Imagine how scary it would be for the other students in the classroom who watch while this occurs. . . And also try to imagine how helpless the teacher will feel if he or she sees a student under his or her care in distress and not knowing what to do when this happens?

If you were that teacher, would you be able to sleep that night and would you be hesitant to go back to school the next day?

For these reasons, 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@hawaiipca.net.

TESTIMONY OF EVAN OUE ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE (HAJ) SUPPORTING WITH COMMENTS ON HB 2482 HD2

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Time: 11:00 a.m.

My name is Evan Oue and I am presenting this testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Association for Justice (HAJ) **SUPPORTING THE INTENT OF THE MEASURE WITH COMMENTS** on HB 2482 HD2, Relating to Education. While HAJ appreciates the intent of the measure, we have concerns with **HB 2482 HD2** in its current form as it grants immunity from any civil damages arising from administration of seizure medication by school employees.

Specifically, subsection (i) on page 13, line 9-15 states “Any person, except for a qualified health care professional providing the training required in subsection (h), who acts in accordance with the requirements of this section shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability arising from these acts, except where the person’s conduct would constitute gross negligence, wilful and wanton misconduct, or intentional misconduct.” This provision grants broad immunity for administration of seizure medication even if administered negligently by public school employees.

HAJ understands the need for requiring public schools and public charter schools to have an employee trained to administer seizure disorder rescue medication to ensure student safety. However, designated employees should not be granted complete immunity from civil liability for administration of seizure medication. The standard of care for our vulnerable students should be upheld. When a school employee is rendering aid, the applicable standard would be similar to Hawai’i’s good Samaritan statutes which provides for immunity “unless the person's acts constitute gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions.” HRS § 663-1.6.

Further, “any person who in good faith renders emergency care, without remuneration or expectation of remuneration, at the scene of an accident or emergency to a victim of the accident or emergency shall not be liable for any civil damages resulting from the person's acts or omissions, **except for such damages as may result from the person's gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions.**” HRS. § 663-1.5.

Therefore, at the very least school employees who render aid under this bill should be immune from liability unless their acts constitute gross negligence or wanton acts. Furthermore, schools owe their students a duty of reasonable care in ensuring each student’s safety. *See Doe Parents No. 1 v. State, Dep't of Educ.* Courts have held that the DOE shares a “special relationship”—*i.e.*, a quasi-parental or *in loco parentis* custodial relationship—with its students, which obligates the DOE to exert reasonable care in ensuring each student's safety and welfare, as would a reasonably prudent parent. In other words, the DOE owes its students the duty to take whatever precautions are reasonable to prevent harms that it anticipates, or reasonably should anticipate. While this case discusses the DOE’s relationship with its students, the same reasoning applies for this bill. All public and public charter schools owe their students a duty of reasonable care in ensuring each student’s safety, this should include when rendering aid. Exempting these schools from all liability in connection with rendering aid for seizure disorders is not in line with Hawai’i Supreme Court precedent nor Hawai’i's current Good Samaritan law.

Accordingly, HAJ respectfully requests that subsection (i) on page 13, lines 9-15 be deleted to remove the civil liability limitations for public school employees to preserve the rights of our students.

Thank you for allowing us to testify regarding this measure. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or desire additional information.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council
1010 Richards Street Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129
email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

March 1, 2022

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*
Ms. Susan Wood, *Vice Chair*

Ms. Sara Alimoot
Ms. Virginia Beringer
Ms. Mary Brogan
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman
Ms. Annette Cooper
Ms. Shana Cruz
Mr. Mark Disher
Ms. Mai Hall
Ms. Melissa Harper Osai
Dr. Kurt Humphrey
Mr. Kerry Iwashita
Ms. Melissa Johnson
Ms. Tina King
Ms. Jennifer Leoiki-Drino
Ms. Cheryl Matthews
Dr. Paul Meng
Ms. Kiele Pennington
Ms. Carrie Pisciotto
Ms. Kau'i Rezentes
Ms. Rosie Rowe
Ms. Ivalee Sinclair
Mr. Steven Vannatta
Ms. Lisa Vegas
Ms. Paula Whitaker
Ms. Jasmine Williams
Ms. Susan Wood

Ms. Annie Kalama, *liaison to
the Superintendent*
Ms. Wendy Nakasone-Kalani,
*liaison to the military
community*

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff
Susan Rocco, Staff

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

RE: HB 2482, HD 2 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **supports the intent** of HB 2482, HD 2 that aims to ensure Seizure Safe Schools in both public and public charter schools for students with seizure disorders.

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 2024 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 on duty during the school day 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.

Respectfully,

Martha Guinan
Chair

*Mandated by the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act***

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

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NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 1, 2022
TIME: 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT HB2482 HD2**

My name is Darlyn Chen Scovell, a volunteer advocate for families and children with FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) and the Hawaii FASD Action Group. Being the voice of children who have none and individuals with FASD who have been marginalized, unrecognized, and without help, attention, and services for many years. I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 2482 HD2**

Seizures are observed with a frequency of 3-21% in children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). They retrospectively identified children with FASD and epilepsy or seizures from the databases of seven Italian pediatric neurology divisions. EEG and clinical follow-up are recommended in children with FASD and epilepsy since severe conditions require aggressive treatment. Neuroradiological evaluation is warranted because it could associate several brain anomalies with maternal alcohol consumption during pregnancy. (Nicita et al., 2014). EEG showed diffuse or focal epileptic activity; two children developed electric status epilepticus during sleep (ESES). Structural brain anomalies, including polymicrogyria, nodular heterotopia, atrophy, and Arnold-Chiari type 1 malformation, were discovered in 50% of children with FASD. (Nicita et al., 2014).

Critical Health, Safety Training and Education for all who work with children with FASD.

Administration of emergency seizure rescue medication; training. (a) Beginning January 1, 2024, each school shall have at least one school employee on duty during the entire school day to administer or assist with:

(1) The self-administration of seizure rescue medication or medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

(2) A manual dose of prescribed electrical stimulation using a vagus nerve stimulator magnet as approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

(b) The department shall ensure that all school employees assigned to administer or assist with the self-administration of seizure rescue medication, vagus nerve stimulator magnet, or any other medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms are either trained:

(1) Through a training program adopted by rule in accordance with chapter 91 for the training of school personnel in the health care needs of students diagnosed with a seizure disorder; or

(2) By a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant consistent with best practice guidelines on seizure treatment and the recognition of the signs and symptoms of seizures and the appropriate steps for seizure first aid.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is associated with secrecy and shame, possibly due to its preventable nature and the stigma attached to it CAUSED by ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION during pregnancy. Alcohol is legally accessible in community stores, often left in unlocked cabinets in many homes. Therefore, it is not surprising that the research stated that **1 in 20 first graders do have FASD**. According to the research study questions, "Is this shame the reason for the marginalization of the children and families with FASD? Or access to alcohol and low cost of alcohol? (Barker, Kulyk, Knorr, & Brenna, 2011). FASD diagnosis is neurological damage caused by alcohol, a processing disorder, learning disability, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorders, almost the same as Autism Spectrum Disorders (Astley, 2010; Kodituwakku & Kodituwakku, 2014). **Somewhere between 1% and 4% of all children worldwide have FASD. The NEURODEVELOPMENTAL IMPAIRMENTS associated with FASD came WITH SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL COST ACROSS THE LIFESPAN in increased medical, educational, and vocational support lost productivity** (Lupton, Burd, & Harwood, 2004; Popova, Lange, Burd, & Rehm, 2015). I have worked with children with Autism as a Registered Behavioral Therapist under ABA Guidelines. In my observations, FASD is a Developmental Disability that is equally severe as Autism.

If the national data states that 1 in 20 first graders have FASD, we can make it 1 in 1,000 - 1 in 10,000, 100,000 even in 1 in a million because FASD is COMPLETELY PREVENTABLE BY CEASING ALCOHOL USE during pregnancy. HB2482 is one of many solutions to this

predicament. Please let us work together for our Tomorrow Today. Let us help these innocent children born in an impossible world impacted by alcohol. We must make their life and world possible for them as we made alcohol legal for public consumption. In hindsight, we will be able to save our children, women, and families of Hawaii and our tax dollars when HB1618 passes into law. The children with FASD are seen as children only with behavioral issues in our school system. They get kicked out, and eventually, these children without no support will join into crime committing and delinquent groups who end up in our prison systems as juveniles and eventually as adult offenders. This cost our State \$55,000.00 a year per inmate in 2015, not to mention that our prison system is overpopulated, and we ship our State Inmates to other States, which cost us \$35,000.00 a year per inmate in 2015. This cost doesn't include property damages, medical, and other costs to our tax dollars.

Mental Health Problems - 60% of children with FASD have ADDH, and most individuals have clinical depression as adults; 23% of the adults had attempted suicide, and 43% had threatened to commit suicide. • Disrupted School Experience - 43% experienced suspension or expulsion or drop out; • Trouble with the Law - 42% had involvement with police, charged or convicted of a crime; • Confinement - 60% of these children age 12 and over experienced inpatient treatment for mental health, alcohol/drug problems, or incarceration for a crime. • Inappropriate Sexual Behavior—Reported in 45% of those aged 12 and over and 65% of adult males with FAE. • Alcohol/Drug Problems—Of the adults with FAS, 53% of males and 70% of females experienced substance abuse problems. These children who can become adult offenders can cost Hawaii more than \$55,000.00 a year in incarceration cost and more economic challenges in societal, property damages, and tax dollars. **I beg you to support and consider passing HB2482 HD2 for safer and healthier children and the families of Hawaii.**

Taking Care of our Tomorrow Today

Mahalo Nui Loa, for your kind consideration and your unfailing support.

Always with Gratitude.

Respectfully yours,

Darlyn Chen Scovell MA, CSAC, CSACI, RBT

Reference

Astley, S. J. (2010). Profile of the first 1,400 patients receiving diagnostic evaluations for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder at the Washington State Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic & Prevention Network. *Canadian Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, 17(1), e132–e164.

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HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/26/2022 8:21:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Julie Matsumoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2482 HD2 for Seizure Safe Schools. As a mom to a Hawaii public school student with epilepsy, this bill is near and dear to my heart. This is my daughter's first year at the school and has already had several seizures during the school day. I am grateful every day that her support team has been absolutely AMAZING and we couldn't have asked for a better environment.

However, no matter how good the environment is, as a mom, I always have some worry in the back of my head. HB2482 HD2 enables for greater education about seizures for teachers, administrators and students, all with the greater goal of making school a safer place for a child like mine - and potentially all students.

Please pass this bill to show support for a safer school environment and to provide critical resources to the wonderful educators that support students with epilepsy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Julie Matsumoto

Brennan Yamaguchi

State of Hawaii Student (Age 13)

My name is Brennan Yamaguchi, I am a 7th grade student at Maryknoll School. HB2482 is important to me because it will require schools in Hawaii to have first aid seizure placement of information and training for teachers. Seizures can happen to a great part of the population, 1 in 26 people will be diagnosed with Epilepsy in their life. 1 in 10 will have a seizure whether from a fever, car accident, a fall, or even COVID. As of 2019, over 15,000 people in the State of Hawaii and over 3 million in the United States were living with Epilepsy.

It's not enough to say we have a plan for a student we know has Epilepsy or a critical illness. Often the first onset of Epilepsy is during childhood or while they're a teen so if a teacher or staff is not prepared in seizure first aid there can be dire circumstances. Also although I'm here to advocate on behalf of those with Epilepsy I think its key we remember those with fevers can have a seizure. Work place injuries or chemical exposure or car accidents. We have too many teachers and staff as well as students in the education system to take this lightly or only consider those cases we are aware of. This affects all of us.

I know this because I co-wrote and passed Senate Bill 936 with Senator Glenn Wakai during the last 2 sessions (one closed due COVID) regarding Seizure Safe Workplaces. Businesses are now safer for owners, employees, and customers because of that bill and I want the same for our keiki and educators. I've done the research and testified in person and in writing several times about how it can affect people in the community. We need to take care of each other just as I take care of my best friend who has Epilepsy.

Students should have a safe class room. Teachers should be know how to provide basic first aid for seizures as they are so common. But they also should feel safe their fellow staff members and they too will be ok if a seizure ever happens to them.

I ask our senate and house leaders to please do the right thing for our students and for our health. Please support House Bill 2482. Thank you for your time.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 1:09:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lisa Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2482 because it will ensure the safety of our students in school as well as students being transferred via school bus or van.

The Department of Education, in at the initial hearing testimony incorrectly stated that they have guidelines in place to ensure the safety of all students who may have a seizure disorder. This statement and representation by the DOE representative is false and misleading. I don't believe the DOE rep meant to provide false information, but the DOE itself doesn't recognize they have a problem when it comes to the proper training and coverage for its students who may have a seizure disorder.

You will hear testimony from a student and her family of how the school did not have a nurse or substitute on that concerning day and how this student who was suffering a seizure was placed on a bus, without contacting her family and the two bus staff members failed to do anything - while this student was in a state of seizure. Upon arriving at the student's home, the two DOE staffers failed to help the student and the family came down to see why their family member was left in the bus - once they found her on the bus in a seizure they carried her off the bus and administered assistance until the seizure passed and this student/family member was safe.

This incident could have easily turned into a major lawsuit against the State and even with the Attorney General's office defending such a case, because the DOE failed to properly address a student with seizure disorders actually having a seizure at school and in the school bus, a significant monetary settlement would be the likely outcome.

To ensure seizure safe schools and protect the state from liability I believe this bill is needed.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 1:43:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Eloy Paglinawan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I'm from Maui and writing to SUPPORT that schools be safe for children who have seizures. There are many different types of seizures and seizures are so common that they can often be overlooked. Educating adult eyes who work in schools can serve as a protective factor from negative outcomes that result from the mishandling of a seizure is not in the best interest of the child. Trainings are free.

I fully support House Bill 2482 HD2 because it will educate school employees, who are responsible for children, on what seizures are and how to safely help them. House Bill 2482 HD2 also asks that children who have seizures have a seizure action plan. PLAN PLAN PLAN. Seizures are unique to each person so an individualized seizure action plan is critical to the health and safety of that child especially if they are prescribed seizure rescue medication to be used in the case of a seizure emergency. This can literally save a life.

One in 10 will experience a seizure in their lifetime. One in 26 will develop epilepsy.

Please support House Bill 2482 HD2 to increase awareness of seizures and epilepsy and to ensure a safe, supportive and enriching learning environment for students who live with seizures.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. Our keiki need this to be enacted.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 1:46:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Nani Fay Paglinawan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Knowing what to do during a seizure is life or death. I have three personal reasons why I wholeheartedly support House Bill 2482 HD2. These solutions do not cost anything.

I was in the 5th grade (I'm 77 years old now) and my classmate had epilepsy. She would have the kind of seizures where she would space out. The nuns and teachers thought she was just daydreaming and the kids would tease her. Kids have a way of teasing that's really mean and hurtful. She ended up dying from a seizure. That was the first funeral that I attended that was for a child. My entire class attended and I remember feeling very sad and confused about what happened, wondering if I could have done something to help her.

My cousin that I grew up with had seizures every so often, but no one knew anything about it. I was raised that if he was having a shaking spell to shove a spoon in his mouth so that he wouldn't swallow his tongue. I know now that we should never do that. I still see him, in my mind, out in the yard shaking and everyone freaking out. I remember feeling extremely scared for him with others around me crying, not knowing what was going to happen to him – in the back of my mind thinking about my friend who passed away. Education and knowing what to do can reduce anxieties for everyone involved, answer difficult questions, and empower our community to respond safely with compassion and understanding.

When my nephew who has epilepsy was going to school, my sister had such a hard time dealing with his different schools because my nephew had different kinds of seizures. Some would be subtle. Some would be major. Different schools had different protocols with very little information about epilepsy. His access to the right care on the Big Island was sub-par in my opinion. It's a lot for a parent to deal with; worrying if your child is safe at school, knowing not everyone is on the same page or know how to keep him safe.

With these three examples in mind, I strongly feel that teachers MUST be aware of seizures and to talk about it openly as educators with peers, in class with students, so that it can prevent teasing and bullying, and maybe save a life. This can only be achieved through mandated, standardized, and vetted education programs.

There's no excuse to have any form of ignorance or misinformation around epilepsy. That's something we simply cannot afford.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify and ask that you support House Bill 2482 HD2.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 3:37:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kenichi Yabusaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Member of the House Finance Committee:

I strongly support HB2482 as it relates to School safety and Seizures. This should not even be a Bill as parents, caregivers, and families entrust the safety of their precious children to its schools. HB2482 concerns life and in the case of seizures, potentially a life and death situation. I personally know of a child who had a seizure on a public school bus with no competent person to administer to her urgent needs. It's appalling that both school officials and the Bus company pointed fingers at each other for this incident. People with epilepsy, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are vulnerable to seizures and our schools need personnel properly trained to administer aid. HB2482 should have nothing to do with money, but the safety of our children. This competency should be mandated in every school. Otherwise, the State is liable for not ensuring the safety of our children in the schools. Please pass HB2482.

Respectfully,

Kenichi K. Yabusaki, Ph.D.

Kaneohe

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 5:21:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan Garcia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because we need seizure safe schools. Although the DOE will have their representative explain that they have adequate personnel with seizure training you will hear from a family that the school did not have a nurse nor a substitute healthcare provider to help a student suffering a seizure while at school. Further problems happened as the bus with two adult staffers for the DOE failed to assist the student who was suffering a seizure. Upon arriving at the student's house, no one informed the family that this student was having a seizure on the bus. A family member had to go down to the bus and found the family member suffering a seizure with the two DOE staffers failure to provide any assistance.

We need to pass this bill to ensure seizure safe schools and avoid any costly lawsuits that could be filed against the DOE due to their inability to have seizure safe schools.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 6:55:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jasmine Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is an important bill to ensure seizure safe schools. You will hear testimony of students who have seizure disorder and the school failing to have a nurse or substitute healthcare worker or any staff available to assist these students suffering a seizure while at school.

This policy is needed to protect the DOE and the State from liability and lawsuits and most importantly to ensure seizure safe schools for our students with a seizure disorder.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 7:12:10 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jared Sham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this bill. I feel it's good to have epilepsy education so we know how to handle the situation of it arises. Mahalo for your time.

Jared Sham

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 7:45:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Roberta Hunter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance,

My name is Roberta Hunter a grandmother of an epileptic and I am a resident of Hawaii. I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB2482 HD2, which will ensure that schools are well-equipped with the tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders. My granddaughter suffered greatly in high school and due to the lack of support had to be homeschooled missing out on all of the memories.

Living with a serious, chronic condition like epilepsy isn't just a danger to a child's health. Epilepsy can pose a threat to a child's ability to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

Seizure Safe Schools legislation allows students with epilepsy an opportunity to make the most of their educational experience; ensuring access to first aid (through trained staff) and the ongoing support and care they need while at school.

HB2482 HD2 aims to raise awareness about epilepsy and to ensure standardized, in-case-of-seizure emergency protocols by training school personnel and students on best practices to support students with seizure disorders.

In closing, please PASS HB2482 HD2. Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 7:59:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Maureen Ballard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Maureen Ballard, a resident of Hawaii. As someone who has lived with epilepsy for over 30 years, I strongly support HB2482 HD2 to help ensure schools are well-equipped with the tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

There is no doubt that having or witnessing a seizure can be scary. Not knowing what to do, and even more important can be knowing what not to do, can be dangerous to the person having the seizure, and to those nearby. Seizure Safe Schools legislation would ensure educators will be prepared for when a child has a seizure in their presence.

One in ten people will experience a seizure in their lifetime. One in twenty-six will develop epilepsy. When students with seizure disorders or epilepsy enter a new school, an individualized plan will help their teachers know what is normal for them, and how to help them specifically. However, having educators who have a foundation of basic seizure first aid, will ensure that they are better equipped to handle the nuances of an individual's needs. And be in a much better position to address questions of other students if they should witness a seizure. Basic seizure first aid will also help educators as students change schools throughout their educational years.

Epilepsy is the fourth most common neurological disorder, yet many myths and misconceptions remain about seizures and epilepsy. Ensuring that our educational system is equipped to respond to a seizure, and knows more about seizures will help in dispelling the myths and misconceptions, making it a little easier for those families with loved ones with seizure disorders and epilepsy.

I had my first seizure when I was 12, and about one month before the start of the school year. At that time, there was no seizure first aid training available. There were no emergency seizure medications. There have been many advancements with training, education and medical treatments since I was diagnosed. Those advancements are only as good if they are made available.

Living with a serious, chronic condition like epilepsy isn't just a danger to a child's health. Epilepsy can pose a threat to a child's ability to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically. This legislation will go a long way to give students with epilepsy an opportunity to make the most of their educational experience; ensuring access to first aid (through trained staff) and the ongoing support and care they need while at school.

In closing, please pass HB2482 HD2.

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

Bill HD2482 HD2



Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance,

My name is Rena Arquinez, I'm born & raised in Hawai'i & I live with epilepsy. I strongly support House Bill HB2482 HD2 which will ensure that schools are able to provide a safe environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

1 in 26 people live with epilepsy. 14,000 people in Hawaii live with active epilepsy, 2,000 of them are children. Many people are not aware of epilepsy and what a seizure is. Living with epilepsy and seizure disorders can be dangerous for a student's health and well-being. If they have a seizure in school, does a teacher or school staff member know what is happening? Do they know how to assist a student during and after a seizure? Epilepsy awareness is very important. Our schools need to be equipped with the proper tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

As an adult living with epilepsy I always need a safe environment to ensure my safety. I always need some assistance if I have a seizure. As I'm having a seizure I blank out, have staring spells and am unaware of my surroundings. I'm 41 years old & was diagnosed at the age of 20. I didn't experience having seizures while being in school. I would definitely want to feel safe and have the support I need to make the best of my education.

Epilepsy can affect more than health. It poses a threat to a student emotionally, socially and mentally. This Bill allows students with epilepsy an opportunity to make the most of their educational experience. Please PASS HB2482 HD2 for all our Epilepsy Warriors.

Mahalo Nui Loa For This Opportunity To Testify!

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 8:30:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Karin Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance,

Please support HB 2482 HD2 for Seizure Safe Schools.

My name is Karin Kimura. As a resident of Hawaii, I strongly support HB 2482 HD2 for Seizure Safe Schools and ask for your support of this important bill that will safe and enriching environment for students, like my daughter, living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

Seizure awareness and education are vital to empower educators, school staff, and students with knowledge and understanding of seizure disorders to provide a safe and enriching learning environment in which there are no barriers or stigma associated with epilepsy.

1 in 10 people will have a seizure in their lifetime; 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy. Thus, it is important for teachers, school staff and students to be aware of the different types of seizures and know how to appropriately respond to seizures to provide a safe environment, both physically and mentally, to students living with epilepsy.

My daughter, Sela, who is now a senior in high school, has had to deal with the challenges and struggles of acceptance of her epilepsy with school staff, friends, and peers since being diagnosed with epilepsy in the 7th grade. She has had to advocate for herself and others living with epilepsy by spreading awareness and educating her teachers, coaches, friends, and peers about epilepsy and how to safety respond to seizures to help provide a safe environment for herself and others in addition to breaking down the barriers surrounding epilepsy. We have had to fight for her right to pursue opportunities as a student living with epilepsy, like cheerleading, which Sela has been able to happily, actively, and successfully participate in for six years safely...with epilepsy.

Please PASS HB 2482 HD2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure for Seizure Safe Schools.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 9:17:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Takahiko Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Takahiko Kimura and I would like to submit testimony in support of HB2482HD2.

My daughter has epilepsy and had her first seizure in 7th grade. I must admit that prior to her first seizure, I knew little if anything about epilepsy, but I was surprised to discover that the school nurses didn't know much more than I did! 1 in 26 people in the US will have a seizure at some point in their lives, so the chances are extremely high that each school will have to deal with someone having a seizure at some point. With odds like this, it just makes sense that school personnel should be aware of what a seizure is and what the proper procedures are for dealing with the situation. A little knowledge can go a long way in ensuring the safety of our keiki who will be affected by epilepsy, and we owe it to them to make sure that each school is prepared if and when someone suffers a seizure.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 9:20:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
KaiLei'a Duriano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance,

My name is KaiLei'a Duriano, I am a resident of Hawaii. I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB2482 HD2, which will ensure that schools are well-equipped with the tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

Living with a serious, chronic condition like epilepsy isn't just a danger to a child's health. Epilepsy can pose a threat to a child's ability to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

Seizure Safe Schools legislation allows students with epilepsy an opportunity to make the most of their educational experience; ensuring access to first aid (through trained staff) and the ongoing support and care they need while at school.

Having a sibling that experience epilepsy, I took it upon myself to get certified in Seziure First Aid, which I believe everyone should do. Not only could it save lives, but it allows people to be able to assist in situation where a minute timeframe is everything.

HB2482 HD2 aims to raise awareness about epilepsy and to ensure standardized, in-case-of-seizure emergency protocols by training school personnel and students on best practices to support students with seizure disorders.

In closing, please PASS HB2482 HD2. Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 5:35:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Karen DeMay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Let's address a crutch excuse - the elephant in the room - right off the bat; funding. Passing this bill has minuscule costs associated to it. The information has already been compiled and vetted. Dissemination is through email or uploaded to a universal site, like capital.hawaii.gov for immediate download. We're not talking rail costs here. If you need a ream of paper, I'll proudly donate it. Enforcement of the displayed one-pager would be the same way any other state poster required to be displayed is handled. The support of turning this bill into law far outweighs any ad hominem cons someone can present. The first life that's saved because of this information sheet will substantiate any costs associated to it.

I have personal interest in the passing of this bill. In the early 2000's my children attended Pearl Harbor Elementary. My daughter had an IEP and was in a special needs class with an autism diagnosis. She also lives with a grapefruit sized arachnid cyst, enlarged pituitary gland, and has a history of seizures. Resources at PHES were low for special needs keiki and I was self-required to educate/aid/inform her multiple teachers during her years there regarding medical emergencies. "I need you to do x, y, and z should you suspect or see a seizure," I gently reminded her teachers and school staff every month or so. There were no resources in place giving teachers, aides, faculty, and staff any idea how to properly assist a student suffering from a seizure during school hours; all they had was a worried mother's verbal account. Implementing Brennan's bill - making it part of HRS - will provide 1) peace of mind for parents who release their keiki to the care of faculty and staff during the school day as well as 2) give confidence to faculty and staff who are charged with providing a safe space at school for students in their care, control, and custody. Passing this bill is the right thing to do and I'm confident people like my daughter and her educators would applaud its passage.

Schools wouldn't be the only beneficiary; workplaces would benefit, as well. I remember like yesterday being at work when a co-worker suddenly went down; he slid out of his chair and his immediate peers began shrieking in horror at his convulsions on the floor. I was across the room and I did two things; I called 911, and I calmly directed his peers to roll him to his side and put anything that could be made into a pillow under his head. EMT's arrived shortly thereafter. It's unfortunate that I seemed to be the only one who could offer assistance in the office based on my background. What if I wasn't there that day? If the workplace had had some kind of one pager

giving succinct instructions on how to respond and treat someone in the midst of a seizure, imagine how many others could have come to his rescue.

Again, I plead to you to pass this bill because it's the right thing to do.

Aloha,

K.DeMay

808.371.5620

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:27:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sela Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. I was diagnosed with epilepsy in 2017 when I was 13 years old. After my diagnosis I was told to continue living my life as normal as I could. After telling my school about my diagnosis the school nurses were uncooperative trying to make me go to unnecessary measures such as taking the elevator and going to the bathroom with someone all the time. They were also trying to ban me from participating in cheer, the one thing that was bringing me joy at the moment. My parents had several meetings with the nurses and had all of my doctors approval to continue cheer. Finding out the nurses did not support me and my parents decision made accepting my epilepsy much harder. This negatively affected me more than having seizures. Many people may not inform their schools about their diagnosis for this exact reason. If this bill is passed it will help so many children and will give them one less thing to worry about.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:37:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
donn viviani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2482

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:49:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Piilani Pareisa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

My family and I strongly SUPPORT House Bill 2482 HD2. My adult brother has lived with different seizures types his entire life. Therefore, my family has lived with the effects and challenges of seizures for over 40 years. We were raised between Hilo and very rural Puna with minimal medical resources. I don't even know at what age my brother was actually able to be treated by a neurologist, much less an epilepsy specialist. When we were younger, we knew very little about epilepsy and seizures with limited information available to us. We relied heavily on ourselves and our community to keep him as safe as possible with what little we had.

He faced discrimination and bullying at school due to his seizures and I strongly believe that if our teachers and school community had known basic seizure recognition and had a seizure action plan to know how to respond and best support him, my brother would have had an entirely different educational experience that included compassion, support, realistic information, and inclusion. My family would have felt more at ease with less anxiety and stress while he was at school and we would have saved a lot of money on unnecessary ambulance rides, hospital visits, and having to take leave without pay from work to tend to what may or may not have been seizure emergencies.

I humbly ask that you support House Bill 2482 HD2 in supporting students living with seizure disorders and their families.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 10:08:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Wendy Gibson-Viviani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am Wendy Gibson-Viviani, an RN who has lived and worked on Oahu for 29 years. I strongly support HB2482 because it will:

- Require school personnel to complete a seizure recognition and first-aid response training
- Mandate that every student with a diagnosed seizure disorder has a **seizure action plan**, that is available for school personnel and volunteers responsible for the student

- Ensure students with epilepsy can access their **FDA-approved, anti-epileptic drugs (AEDS) prescribed by their treating physician**
- Protect those who take action with the Good Samaritan clause

- Ensure that schools are well-equipped with the tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders
- Allow students with epilepsy an opportunity to make the most of their educational experience and feel safe at school, should they have a seizure

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important bill. I urge you to support HB2482.

Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

Kailua

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 10:16:12 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
jenyse ishii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of Committee of Finance,

My name is Jenyse Ishii, and I am a resident of Hawaii. I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB. No. 2482 will ensure that schools have the tools necessary to provide a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

According to the Epilepsy Foundation of Hawai'i, 1 out of every ten people will have a seizure in their lifetime, which makes them far more prevalent than we may believe. HB2482 will significantly improve the care and support of students with epilepsy and seizure disorders. Seizure, First Aid training, increases the knowledge, skills, and confidence in recognizing seizures and effectively how to respond. I think this is an excellent bill for the management of seizures.

In closing, I urge the committee to pass HB2482. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Jenyse Ishii

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 11:05:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cleota Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair and all Committee Members of House Committee on Finance

I strongly support HB2482 HD2 to provide the administration of emergency seizure rescue education and training to administer or assist in the administration of seizure rescue medication or medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms, the use of a vagus nerve simulator magnet as prescribed through a training program by rule to chapter 91 and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Healthy Schools.

Our children deserve safe schools with fully trained staff who can react quickly and responsibly in emergencies. Daily we as parents drop off our children of all ages at schools believing they are under the care of people who will look out for their best interests and physical wellbeing.

Likewise the Department of Education employees deserve to be properly trained and have sufficient funds and protections available to them to ensure they are qualified to meet the needs of our children.

Please vote to fund and pass HB2482 HD2 so no child ever has to suffer as Akayla has. Pass "HB2482 Akayla's Law School Safe Seizure Act" in 2022.

Sincerely yours,

Cleota G. Brown

Kaneohe, Hi. 96744

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:11:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keith K. Abe, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance,

My name is Keith Abe and I am a resident of Hawaii and a practicing pediatric neurologist. I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB2482 HD2, which will ensure that schools are well-equipped with the tools necessary to provide a safe and enriching environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

Conditions like epilepsy can be a danger to a child's health at unpredictable times or settings. Having adequate support in school can help foster a child's ability to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

Seizure Safe Schools legislation allows students with epilepsy an opportunity to make the most of their educational experience; ensuring access to first aid (through trained staff) and the ongoing support and care they need while at school.

HB2482 HD2 aims to raise awareness about epilepsy and to ensure standardized, in-case-of-seizure emergency protocols by training school personnel and students on best practices to support students with seizure disorders.

In closing, please PASS HB2482 HD2. Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 5:22:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lacey Shimabukuro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance,

My name is Lacey Shimabukuro and I'm writing in support of HB2482 HD2. My family supported the Seizure Safe Schools legislation in 2020 and are happy to see it has been reintroduced. It is critical that school personnel have the education needed to provide a safe environment for students living with epilepsy and seizure disorders.

As a parent whose child has epilepsy, I know that seizures can happen at any time. With students spending so much time in school, it's important for the school community to understand how recognize and appropriately respond to a seizure.

Thank you for your consideration and support of HB2482 HD2.

Sincerely,

Lacey Shimabukuro

HB-2482-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 7:40:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/1/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Debbie Dickson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

We would like to tell you our story and why this bill is so NEEDED.

Please bare with us.

So Akayla was in 5th grade at Queen Kahumanu Elementary School.

She told her teacher she was feeling dizzy and the teacher sent her to the health room {the health room is on the 2nd floor, up 2 flight's of steps}, by the time they got there no one was in the health room. So the office sent her back to class, the teacher then puts her on the bus to come home { the bus has 2 people on the bus, the driver and the aide, }.

Now Akayla is on the Roberts School bus on her way home.

By the time they get her to our apartment Akayla is in a full blown Seizure. Now my then 6 year old granddaughter was waiting on Akayla to get off the bus {you can't expect a 6 year old to come tell you anything} so Akayla was talking a long time to get off the bus so I sent my daughter out to see what was taking so long for Akayla to get off the bus.

My daughter comes in carrying Akayla in a Full Blown Seizure. Now keep in mind that NO ADULT on this bus informed me about Akayla having a Seizure.

Nor did they bother to take Akayla out of the seatbelt or help Akayla to get through her seizure safely.

My question is how would you feel had Akayla been YOUR CHILD. Wouldn't YOU do EVERYTHING YOU could to make sure this NEVER happens again.

This bill is not only important to Akayla but just as important to the countless children who also has Seizures. This bill is extremely NEEDED for the safety of ALL of these children.

Please HELP our children to be SAFE at school and HELP us get this bill passed.

Please and Thank You for your help.

Debbie, and Akayla