



**STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII'  
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA  
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII' 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543**

March 21, 2025

The Honorable Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair  
House Committee on Health  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Takayama, and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: HCR173/HR169 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO UNDERTAKE PRELIMINARY EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND VACCINATION DRIVE EFFORTS AT SCHOOLS IN HAWAII WITH VACCINATION RATES UNDER FIFTY PERCENT, PRIORITIZING SCHOOLS WITH VACCINATION RATES UNDER THIRTY PERCENT, BEGINNING AT THE START OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR.

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities supports **HCR173/HR169**, which urges the Department of Health to initiate preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under fifty percent, prioritizing schools with rates below thirty percent, beginning at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Maintaining high vaccination rates is critical for preserving herd immunity, which is especially vital in protecting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who may be medically unable to receive vaccinations. Many individuals with I/DD face complex health conditions, immunodeficiencies, or treatments that compromise their immune systems, making them more susceptible to severe complications from vaccine-preventable diseases.

The concerning rise in non-medical exemptions, as highlighted in HCR173, poses a direct threat to these vulnerable individuals. The increase in unvaccinated students weakens herd immunity, elevating the risk of outbreaks in schools, workplaces, and community settings where individuals with I/DD actively participate. Ensuring that all schools achieve higher vaccination rates is essential to maintaining safe environments for those who rely on the community's protection.

We commend the Department of Health's commitment to public health and support its collaboration with the Department of Education to develop a long-term plan to reduce vaccine hesitancy. Outreach efforts adapted to Hawaii's unique cultural context can play a key role in increasing vaccination rates and promoting healthier communities statewide.

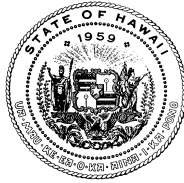
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of HCR171/HR169**.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A, M.P.H  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

### Testimony in SUPPORT of H.C.R. 173

**URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO UNDERTAKE PRELIMINARY EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND VACCINATION DRIVE EFFORTS AT SCHOOLS IN HAWAI'I WITH VACCINATION RATES UNDER FIFTY PERCENT, PRIORITIZING SCHOOLS WITH VACCINATION RATES UNDER THIRTY PERCENT, BEGINNING AT THE START OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR.**

REPRESENTATIVE GREGG TAKAYAMA, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

1 Hearing Date: Friday, March 21, 2025 Room Number: 329

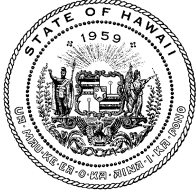
2 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health will evaluate costs associated with the  
3 development of a plan for a long-term program to counter vaccine hesitancy and increase  
4 vaccination rates across Hawai'i schools and will communicate this information to the  
5 Legislature via a report submitted no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular  
6 Session of 2026.

7 **Department Position:** The Department of Health ("Department") **SUPPORTS** this measure.

8 **Department Testimony:** As Hawai'i faces declining immunization rates, the Department agrees  
9 that efforts to improve education, outreach, access, and availability of immunizations as  
10 components of a long-term plan to counter vaccine hesitancy and increase vaccination rates  
11 across schools, are critically important to protect our keiki and communities from the increasing  
12 incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases. We are appreciative of the Legislature's concern  
13 and welcome the opportunity for increased fiscal and administrative support for these efforts.

1 The Department is actively partnering with interested DOE, Charter, Private Schools, and  
2 community vaccination partners to revive and expand the former Stop Flu at School program to  
3 offer all immunizations required for school entry and attendance. As urged by H.C.R. 173, the  
4 Department will prioritize outreach to schools with immunization rates under thirty percent.  
5 The Department also appreciates the information provided in HCR173 regarding immunization  
6 education and outreach efforts in other States and will follow-up to evaluate their program  
7 planning efforts, coordination, costs, implementation plans, and number of staff required to  
8 develop content and oversee operations.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII

**KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH**  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

**John C. (Jack) Lewin, M.D.**  
ADMINISTRATOR

1177 Alakea St., #402, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 587-0788 Fax: 587-0783 www.shpda.org

To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair  
Representative Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair and  
Honorable Members

From: John C (Jack) Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPHA and  
Senior Advisor to Governor Green, MD on Healthcare Innovation

Re: **HCR173 – URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO UNDERTAKE  
PRELIMINARY EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND VACCINATION DRIVE  
EFFORTS AT SCHOOLS IN HAWAII WITH VACCINATION RATES  
UNDER FIFTY PERCENT, PRIORITIZING SCHOOLS WITH  
VACCINATION RATES UNDER THIRTY PERCENT, BEGINNING AT  
THE START OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR.**

Hearing: Friday, March 21, 2025 @ 9:30 am; Conference Room 329

Position: SUPPORT the INTENT, with COMMENTS

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Testimony:

SHPDA fully supports the intent of this concurrent resolution, but defers to the Department of Health (DOH) on their approach to the worthy goal.

It is clear to us the DOH is already attempting to reach all schools as well as the general public about the importance of vaccinations. But targeting schools with under a 50% vaccination rate? It would seem apparent to us that a school with less than a 90% vaccination rate should be addressed as an urgent priority for prevention of communicable diseases, as we are sure DOH would agree.

Giving the Department a more generous budget for publicizing the value of vaccination in the media in addition to their already robust educational efforts, may be a more successful approach.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

# HAWAII PATRIOT REPUBLICANS

Written Testimony in Opposition to H.R. No. 169  
Submitted to the House Committee on Health  
March 19, 2025

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to H.R. No. 169, which urges the Department of Health to implement education, outreach, and vaccination drives in Hawaii's schools with vaccination rates below 50%, prioritizing those under 30%. While public health is a shared concern across party lines, this resolution represents an overreach of government authority, a threat to individual liberty, and a direct affront to the values that have guided our nation under principled leadership. As a Republican, I urge you—especially my Democratic colleagues—to vote NO on this measure, recognizing its potential to harm Hawaii's families, defy federal priorities, and repeat costly mistakes seen elsewhere. Below, I outline my objections with clear evidence and appeal to our common interest in protecting the people of Hawaii.

## **1. Government Overreach Undermines Parental Rights**

H.R. No. 169 seeks to insert the state into the sacred relationship between parents and their children by targeting schools for vaccination campaigns. This resolution implies that the government knows better than parents how to care for their kids—a notion that Democrats, who often champion personal choice, should find troubling. The data cited in the resolution, showing 17.09% of students lacking full immunization records in 2023-2024, does not justify overriding parental discretion. Many of these families may have legitimate concerns about vaccine safety or necessity, yet this bill dismisses them in favor of a one-size-fits-all approach.

The Trump administration consistently opposed such heavy-handed mandates. President Trump himself stated in 2020, "We're not going to force anybody to take [vaccines]. I don't think it should be mandatory." This resolution's push for state-led vaccination drives risks alienating parents and eroding trust in both local and federal government. Democrats who value community trust should see this as a step too far.

## **2. Defiance of the Trump Administration's Agenda Harms Hawaii**

With President Trump's leadership reaffirmed in 2025, Hawaii must align with federal priorities to secure support and resources. The Trump administration has historically opposed coercive vaccination policies, as seen in its rejection of broad federal mandates during the COVID-19 pandemic. Former Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar emphasized in 2020 that vaccination decisions should remain "a matter of personal choice," not state imposition. H.R. No. 169's aggressive push for school-based vaccination efforts directly contradicts this stance.

Defying this agenda could jeopardize federal funding for Hawaii's health and education programs. For example, Trump's administration tied disaster relief and infrastructure funds to state cooperation—recall the \$1.4 billion approved for Hawaii's recovery efforts in 2023 after severe storms. If Hawaii pursues policies at odds with federal priorities, we risk losing similar support, leaving our communities vulnerable. Democrats, who often advocate for federal-state partnerships, should recognize the practical danger here.

### **3. Negative Outcomes from Similar Measures in Other States**

History shows that vaccination campaigns like those proposed in H.R. No. 169 can backfire, reducing public trust and economic stability. In New York City, a 2019 measles vaccination mandate in certain neighborhoods led to widespread resistance, with vaccination rates dropping further in some areas due to distrust in government motives ([source](#)). Parents felt targeted, and community backlash grew, undermining the very goal of herd immunity.

Similarly, California's SB 277 (2015), which eliminated personal belief exemptions for school vaccinations, sparked a surge in homeschooling and private school enrollment as families opted out of the system entirely ([source](#)). Hawaii's private schools, already showing non-vaccination rates above 60%, could see a similar exodus, straining public resources and deepening social divides—issues Democrats care deeply about resolving, not exacerbating.

Perhaps most telling is Honolulu's own experience with COVID-19 vaccine passports in 2021. A study found that businesses subject to the mandate saw a significant drop in foot traffic, with some sectors losing up to 20% of their customer base as unvaccinated patrons stayed away ([source](#)). This resolution's focus on schools risks similar economic ripple effects if families pull students out or businesses near targeted schools suffer. Why repeat these failures?

### **4. Education and Outreach Won't Solve Hesitancy—It May Worsen It**

The resolution cites programs like Seattle's COVID-19 vaccination drive (8.8% increase) and Michigan's "I Vaccinate" campaign (12% teen vaccination increase) as success stories. But these examples gloss over the backlash. In Seattle, the program faced protests and lawsuits from parents who felt coerced, ultimately costing taxpayers millions in legal fees with only modest gains ([source](#)). Michigan's campaign, while boosting teen rates, saw vaccine hesitancy among adults rise as government messaging was perceived as propaganda, not education ([source](#)).

Hawaii's unique cultural context—emphasizing family and community autonomy—makes this resolution's top-down approach even riskier. Shoving vaccines into schools could deepen mistrust, especially among Native Hawaiian and rural communities already skeptical of state overreach. Democrats who prioritize cultural sensitivity should reject this blunt instrument.

### **5. Fiscal Responsibility Demands a No Vote**

Finally, H.R. No. 169 calls for a long-term program with unspecified funding and administrative restructuring—buzzwords for a budget buster. Hawaii's taxpayers cannot afford another open-ended health initiative when we're still recovering from past economic hits. The resolution's demand for a report by 2026 offers no cost estimates, yet similar efforts elsewhere have proven expensive. Washington's "Immunity Community" campaign, lauded in the resolution, cost over \$5 million over three years for a mere 10% drop in hesitancy—a poor return on investment ([source](#)).

Democrats often fight for fiscal equity and protecting working families. This resolution threatens to drain resources that could better serve housing, education, or disaster preparedness—priorities that align with both parties' goals for Hawaii.

### **Conclusion: Vote NO to Protect Hawaii's People**

H.R. No. 169 is a misguided proposal that threatens parental rights, defies federal leadership, repeats proven failures, risks cultural backlash, and burdens taxpayers. I urge you, honorable members—especially my Democratic colleagues who value choice, equity, and community—to vote NO. Let's protect Hawaii's families by rejecting this overreach and finding solutions that unite, not divide, our state.

Sincerely,  
*Andrew Crossland*  
Hawaii Patriot Republicans  
[hawaiipatriotRepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiipatriotRepublicans@gmail.com)





TESTIMONY  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
HCR173 RELATED TO VACCINE DRIVE EFFORTS AT SCHOOLS  
Friday, March 21, 2025, at 9:30 AM  
State Capitol Conference Room 329

Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and Committee Members:

Submitted in STRONG OPPOSITION by Jamie Detwiler, Hawaiian Islands Republican Women

HCR173 is repugnant to the U.S. Constitution and the Hawaii State Constitution.

In summary, HCR173 proposes the resolution with the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health is urged to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii.

Vaccine drives have NO place in schools. The decision to vaccinate children lies solely with parents and guardians. We have the lowest academic test scores in the U.S. Focus on classical education in school, not vaccine education. This is a waste of time and taxpayer dollars.

#### **Government Overreach**

As a retired health care professional and a consumer of health care, we are entitled to Informed Consent and have the right to refuse any medical intervention including immunizations in any circumstances. The Government shall not determine the need for immunizations.

#### **Big Pharma Profit Scheme**

Tax dollars should NOT be used to provide preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii.

#### **U.S. Constitution**

HCR173 is a violation of our religious freedom. Our first amendment protection of religious liberty cannot be subjugated by state law. Americans have the right to refuse any order, medicine, or procedure that violates their religious beliefs as well as anything that is immoral or unethical according to their well-informed conscience.

HCR173 assumes that adults and children will be participating in immunization programs. No one shall be mandated to participate. According to the fourteenth amendment, no State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

#### **Hawaii State Constitution**

Article I. FREEDOM OF RELIGION, SPEECH, PRESS, ASSEMBLY AND PETITION

Section 4. No law shall be enacted respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Please do the right thing and vote NO on HCR173. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



### **Hawaii Medical Association**

1360 South Beretania Street, Suite 200 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone: 808.536.7702 • Fax: 808.528.2376 • hawaiimedicalassociation.org

#### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair  
Representative Sue Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair

Date: March 21, 2025

From: Hawaii Medical Association (HMA)

Jerald Garcia MD - Chair, HMA Public Policy Committee

**Re: HCR 173** URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO UNDERTAKE PRELIMINARY EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND VACCINATION DRIVE EFFORTS AT SCHOOLS IN HAWAII WITH VACCINATION RATES UNDER FIFTY PERCENT, PRIORITIZING SCHOOLS WITH VACCINATION RATES UNDER THIRTY PERCENT, BEGINNING AT THE START OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR - Department of Health; Vaccinations; Schools; Department of Education

#### **Position: Support**

This resolution urges the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under 50%, prioritizing schools with vaccination rates under 30%.

Vaccination is one of the most important public health interventions in modern medicine. It protects not only the individual but also the broader community from serious illnesses that may cause long-term health issues. Immunizations are a safe, effective way to protect Hawaii's people from disease, including some cancers, as well as hospitalization, disability, and death.

Protection through vaccination mitigates the social and financial burdens for Hawaii families and communities of otherwise preventable illness. State efforts for education and access to disease-preventing and life-saving vaccines are important, particularly for our keiki and kupuna. HMA supports this resolution that increases vaccine education and access and promotes a healthier future for Hawaii citizens.

Thank you for allowing the Hawaii Medical Association to testify in support of this resolution.

#### **2025 Hawaii Medical Association Officers**

Elizabeth Ann Ignacio, MD, President • Nadine Tenn-Salle, MD, President Elect • Angela Pratt, MD, Immediate Past President  
Jerris Hedges, MD, Treasurer • Thomas Kosasa, MD, Secretary • Marc Alexander, Executive Director

#### **2025 Hawaii Medical Association Public Policy Coordination Team**

Jerald Garcia, MD, Chair  
Linda Rosehill, JD, Government Relations • Marc Alexander, Executive Director

## REFERENCES AND QUICK LINKS

American Academy of Pediatrics. Common Immunization Questions from Parents. [AAP.org](https://www.aap.org/). Accessed Mar 11 2025.

[Vaccine Safety: Examine the Evidence. HealthyChildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org/). Accessed Mar 11 2025.

American Medical Association. Assuring Access to ACIP/AAFP/AAP-Recommended Vaccines , Rev 2022. Accessed Mar 11 2025.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Immunization Investments. <https://vaccines.cdc.gov/> Accessed Mar 11 2025.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Vaccines and Immunizations](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/). Accessed Mar 11 2025.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Measles Cases and Outbreaks](https://www.cdc.gov/measles/). Accessed Mar 11 2025.

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Jerald Garcia MD, Chair  
Linda Rosehill, JD, Government Relations • Marc Alexander, Executive Director



## HIPHI Board

May Okihiro, MD, MS  
Chair

John A. Burns School of Medicine,  
Department of Pediatrics

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Secretary  
State of Hawai'i, Deputy Public Defender

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University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu

Jennifer José Lo, MD  
Hawai'i Health Partners

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University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Kathleen Roche, MS, RN, CENP  
Kaiser Permanente

Dina Shek, JD  
Medical-Legal Partnership  
For Children in Hawai'i

Garret Sugai  
HMSA

JoAnn Tsark, MPH  
John A. Burns School of Medicine, Native  
Hawaiian Research Office

## HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a  
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community-Based Research &  
Evaluation

Community Health  
Worker Initiatives

COVID-19 Response

Environmental Health

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Network

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective/Healthy Aging &  
Community Living

Public Health Workforce Development

Date: March 19, 2025

To: Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair  
Representative Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Health

Re: Support for HCR 173/HR 169, Urging the Department of Health To Undertake Preliminary Education, Outreach, and Vaccination Drive Efforts at Schools in Hawai'i with Vaccination Rates Under Fifty Percent, Prioritizing Schools With Vaccination Rates Under Thirty Percent, Beginning at the Start of the 2025-2026 School Year

Hrg: Friday, March 21, 2025, at 9:30 AM, Conference Room 329

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Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI)<sup>1</sup> **supports HCR 173/HR 169**, which urges the Department of Health to strengthen vaccination efforts in public schools with low vaccination rates.

Immunization is critical to public safety. Vaccines can prevent common diseases that seriously harm or cause the death of infants, children, and adults. The direct benefits of vaccination in reducing disease morbidity and mortality in a cost-effective manner have been well-established by medical research.

## Benefits of Immunization

According to a landmark study published by The Lancet in 2024, vaccination has likely averted 154 million deaths since 1974, including 146 million among children younger than 5 years old and 101 million infants.<sup>2</sup>

The World Health Organization (WHO) has called immunization "one of modern medicine's greatest success stories." The WHO notes that immunization not only protects public health, but also advances broader gains in education and economic development worldwide.<sup>3</sup>

An analysis conducted by researchers from Johns Hopkins University and the Center for Disease Dynamics found that preventing vaccine-preventable infectious diseases helps avert associated out-of-pocket medical expenses, healthcare provider costs, and losses in wages of patients and caregivers, while improving cognition, school attainment, and long-term economic productivity.

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<sup>1</sup> Hawai'i Public Health Institute's mission is to advance health and wellness for the people and islands of Hawai'i. We do this through expanding our understanding of what creates health of people and place, fostering partnerships, and cultivating programs to improve policies, systems, and the environments where people live, learn, work, age, and play.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(24\)00850-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(24)00850-X/fulltext)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.who.int/news-room/facts-in-pictures/detail/immunization>



### **Immunization Is Safe**

Vaccines are safe for public use, including for our keiki. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), new vaccines are extensively lab-tested to ensure that they are medically secure. Once clinical trials involving people begin, it can often take years of additional testing before a vaccine is licensed. After a vaccine is licensed, the Food and Drug Administration, CDC, National Institutes of Health, and other federal agencies rigorously monitor potential safety concerns.

Unfortunately, our state is currently experiencing an increase in respiratory viruses, which health officials believe may be attributable to declining vaccination rates across the islands, especially among students. According to the Department of Health (DOH), of 382 schools reporting for the 2023-2024 school year, 282 schools, or nearly 75%, have more than 5% of their students not up to date on vaccines, of which 36 schools reported that over half of their students are missing required immunizations.

DOH officials have also stated that Hawai'i's 2022-2023 kindergarten MMR vaccine coverage rate is about 86%, which is nearly 10% lower than the 95% coverage recommended for community protection by the CDC. Hawai'i had the largest increase in exemptions in the U.S. for non-medical kindergarten vaccines from the 2021-2022 school year to the 2022-2023 school year. An uptick in unvaccinated students could lead to outbreaks of infectious diseases, including illnesses like measles.

To keep our state safe from preventable illness, we urge your committee to pass this resolution.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate Hix".

Nate Hix  
Director of Policy and Advocacy

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:18:04 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christina Marzo	Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians, Legislative Committee	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair

Rep. Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair

Date: March 20, 2025

From: Hawai'i Academy of Family Physicians Legislative Committee

**RE: HCR173; PRELIMINARY EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND VACCINATION DRIVE EFFORTS****Position: Support**

Thank you for allowing testimony on HCR173. HAFP appreciates leadership in addressing issues affecting the health of Hawai'i including a declining immunization rate. For the safety and health of the people of Hawai'i, we support efforts to provide outreach and education so the people of Hawai'i can make informed decisions and avail themselves and their families of safe and effective health care.

[www.hafp.info](http://www.hafp.info) P.O. Box 61735

Honolulu, HI 96839

[advocacy@hafp.info](mailto:advocacy@hafp.info)

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:04:26 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
jessica dias	Free Citizens of Maunalua	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE this. It sounds like a massive waste of money, and none of the government's business. Medical matters belong in the family and FERPA should protect student privacy. Please only add to the budget for the residents of Maui to be restored to their properties and homes. Thank you.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:00:04 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Kahiapo	Pono Records	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. I see this as a waste of government money and will make people even more suspicious of vaccines. There's enough pharmaceutical company advertising on the television where people are getting hesitant now to even take medications. You're going to drive people away from vaccines with this kind of Aggressive campaign.



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:14:36 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiulani Bowers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill as it is one size fits all and more importantly it goes against our constitution rights and our God given rights

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:26:36 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Blaine De Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HCR173 and HR169

a similar bill already was rejected and the people have spoken. To reword and reintroduce any bill is an insult to my intelligence. I Do NOT want the state to dictate any vaccination schedule let alone holding school drives. DOE cannot even feed or teach the kids properly but want to add vaccination drives? Work on fixing all that is already broken before adding more broken policies.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 1:02:38 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Banner Fanene	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE OPPOSE OPPOSE!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 1:11:37 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Russell Garcia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

My son Jeremiah Garcia was a talented singer an on the television 3 times . That all changed when in 6 grade he had to take a vaccine to go into 7 grade after his vaccine he was getting anxiety attacks he became jermophobic that ruined his life . I am against all vaccines period it dangerous and my grandparents took 3 shot that it there whole life . They lived to be in the Eighties I oppose any and all vaccines period it destroyed my son's future and life .

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 1:21:52 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR173 and HR169 because we need this for our safety. Don't wanna be scared the rest of my life.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 1:35:11 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ali Eden	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

More insanity! It's relentless! STOP trying to run our lives!! LEAVE THE KEIKI ALONE!

DO NOT PASS THIS BILL!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 2:04:18 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is so against the Constitution, and the Hawaii state constitution, I oppose this bill!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 2:14:16 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Rothwell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HCR173. Please stop with the forced mandatory invasion on our personal freedoms and choice. Let the parents decide what is best for their children. Please go back to teaching the fundamental in schools.



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 2:19:44 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kerri Yeakey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it would use my tax money to propagandize dangerous vaccines that are already accessible to citizens that want them.

This will age badly as the truth about vaccines is just being studied. The 72 vaccines on the children's schedule have NEVER been properly tested or evaluated. We need less of these nonsense bills in Hawaii and more education to vaccines harm.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 4:35:26 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laurie Anne Bell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to teach health, not rely on vaccines and pills.

Ive no health issues and I have never been vaccinated. I had mumps and measles! I ate healthy my entire life.

Why are you intent on keeping children on diets that have no nutritional value? The cognitive dissonance is astounding!

Chemicals do not belong in the body over home grown foods!

I STRONGLY oppose!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 4:58:35 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Shelton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 5:03:19 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bad bill. Let the parents decide on their children's bodies. Stop pushing the vaccines!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 5:31:52 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dorinda Ohelo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:09:54 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dayna Matsumura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Enough with trying to vaccinate the keiki.

Are the people that are trying to push this bill, getting monies from big pharmaceutical companies? This kind of bill makes me wonder.

oppose

## **HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:10:56 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Mckay	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Aloha Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 173 (HCR173), urging mandated vaccination drives and educational outreach targeting schools with low vaccination rates. While I understand and appreciate the intent to safeguard public health, I believe this measure unnecessarily infringes on parental rights, personal freedoms, and individual choice.

### Concerns:

- Parental Rights and Autonomy:** Parents must retain primary authority over medical decisions involving their children. Mandating or strongly pressuring vaccinations through government-driven school programs undermines this fundamental right.
- Risk of Overreach:** There is significant concern that government involvement in vaccination decisions may set precedents for broader mandates, potentially eroding trust in public health initiatives.
- Cultural Sensitivity and Autonomy:** A one-size-fits-all approach disregards the cultural diversity and unique beliefs across Hawaii's communities, potentially resulting in resistance and backlash.

### Proposed Solutions:

**Voluntary Education Campaigns:** Replace mandatory campaigns with voluntary, culturally-tailored education programs that respect family autonomy and encourage informed decision-making.

**Transparent Communication:** Develop unbiased, fact-based informational resources that clearly outline vaccine benefits and risks, allowing families to make informed decisions without pressure.

**Community-Centered Initiatives:** Encourage localized, community-driven initiatives that respect individual beliefs, providing culturally sensitive information and dialogues rather than mandates.

**Strengthen Medical Consultation:** Enhance accessibility to healthcare professionals who can directly address parental concerns, offering personalized advice rather than generalized mandates.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge the Legislature to reconsider HCR173 in favor of voluntary, respectful, and culturally sensitive strategies that maintain Hawaii's core values of individual liberty and parental authority, while still effectively addressing public health concerns.

Respectfully,

Tamara McKay

State Chair,

Hawaii Republican Party



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:37:45 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kimberlee santos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I would urge you to not support this bill . To do this at our Hawaii schools is not only wrong but also a waste of our tax payer money. Parents are very aware of the decision they have made for their children. To do this at schools can put a child in a difficult situation and health choices should be private. That privacy could be compromised in a school setting. Pushing one view at school is wrong! Let's teach at our schools and let parents , parent.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 6:55:27 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexa Helge	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this resolution.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 8:33:40 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emerson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a lawsuit waiting to happen. Many kids will be harmed. This does not increase the trust with the state. You will be held responsible. I raise my kids, not you. But as you people say, 'my body, my choice'

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 8:33:43 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiare Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**\*\*Testimony in Opposition to HCR173\*\***

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee on Health,

I am Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu, where I have lived for 45 years. As a kama‘āina deeply committed to the health and autonomy of our community, I submit this testimony in opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 173 (HCR173), which urges the Department of Health (DOH) to implement education, outreach, and vaccination drives in Hawaii’s schools with vaccination rates below fifty percent, prioritizing those under thirty percent, starting in the 2025-2026 school year. While I recognize the public health intent, this resolution is precipitously misguided—its school-based approach risks pressuring our keiki into compliance, while it dismisses the superior efficacy of diet, exercise, natural immunity, and remedies like vitamin D and zinc over vaccines’ adverse effects. Below, I evaluate its strengths and flaws, offering evidence-based, cost-effective alternatives rooted in science and our cultural heritage.

**### Analysis of HCR173: Pros and Cons****#### Pros**

1. **\*\*Public Health Objective\*\***: The resolution emphasizes vaccination’s role in herd immunity, a credible goal for preventing outbreaks like measles.
2. **\*\*Educational Focus\*\***: Its call for community education mirrors successes like Michigan’s “I Vaccinate” program, which boosted teen vaccination rates by 12%.
3. **\*\*Targeted Strategy\*\***: Prioritizing low-vaccination schools suggests a data-driven effort to address disparities.

**#### Cons**

1. **\*\*Peer Pressure in Schools\*\***: By situating vaccination drives in schools, HCR173 creates a heavy influence—where peer dynamics and authority presence may obligate children to comply—undermining parental choice, as seen in the distrust sparked in New York and New Jersey.

2. **\*\*Neglect of Diet and Exercise\*\***: It overlooks robust evidence that nutrition and physical activity bolster immunity more effectively and safely than vaccines.
3. **\*\*Dismissal of Natural Immunity\*\***: The resolution ignores science showing natural immunity's durability often surpasses vaccine protection, questioning the need for mass childhood vaccination.
4. **\*\*Vaccine Risks Overlooked\*\***: It bypasses adverse effects (e.g., myocarditis, seizures) while undervaluing remedies like vitamin D and zinc that mitigate disease without such risks.
5. **\*\*Fiscal Irresponsibility\*\***: With no budget, it proposes an extravagant, undefined program, mimicking Seattle's modest 8.8% gain over six months at exorbitant cost.

### ### Scientific Evidence on Diet, Exercise, Natural Immunity, and Remedies

#### 1. **\*\*Diet's Immune Power\*\***:

- A 2019 *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* study found diets rich in fruits, vegetables, and omega-3s (e.g., fish, abundant in Hawaiian diets) reduced infection rates by 25% via innate immunity—outpacing the flu vaccine's 40-60% efficacy (CDC, 2023).

- Vitamin C, plentiful in local guava, shortened cold duration by 14% in children (*Cochrane Review*, 2021), with no risk of the 5-15% injection-site reactions from flu shots.

#### 2. **\*\*Exercise's Protective Benefit\*\***:

- A 2020 *British Journal of Sports Medicine* meta-analysis showed moderate exercise (e.g., 30 minutes daily) cut upper respiratory infections by 31% in youth, enhancing immune cell circulation—surpassing the MMR vaccine's waning efficacy (boosters needed every 10-15 years).

- Unlike vaccines' 1-in-50,000 myocarditis risk (CDC, 2023), exercise bolsters heart health (*Circulation*, 2022).

#### 3. **\*\*Natural Immunity's Durability\*\***:

- A 2021 Israeli study (Gazit et al.) found natural SARS-CoV-2 immunity reduced reinfection risk 13-fold compared to Pfizer vaccination, lasting over a year. For measles, natural infection yields lifelong immunity (*Nature Communications*, 2019), unlike the MMR's 1-in-1,000 seizure risk.

#### 4. **\*\*Vitamin D and Zinc Efficacy\*\***:

- A 2020 *The Lancet* meta-analysis linked optimal vitamin D levels (above 30 ng/mL, achievable via Hawaii's sunlight) to a 70% reduction in respiratory infection severity—far exceeding vaccine gains without the 1-in-40,000 Guillain-Barré risk (e.g., flu shot).

- Zinc supplementation reduced cold symptoms by 33% (2021 \*Journal of Infectious Diseases\*), avoiding rare vaccine-related myocarditis while leveraging mucosal immunity.

## 5. \*\*Natural Remedies' Safety\*\*:

- Elderberry cut flu duration by 50% (2016 \*Nutrients\* trial) with no side effects, contrasting with flu shot risks. These options outperform vaccines' marginal benefits in low-risk populations like children.

## ### Detailed Solutions to Address the Cons

I propose alternatives that avoid school-based vaccination drives—mitigating peer pressure—and prioritize diet, exercise, natural immunity, and remedies like vitamin D and zinc. These are cost-effective, equitable, and culturally resonant.

### 1. \*\*Community Wellness Hubs\*\*

- \*\*Solution\*\*: Establish voluntary hubs with Native Hawaiian groups (e.g., Papa Ola Lōkahi) to teach diet (e.g., taro, fish), exercise (e.g., hula), and remedies (e.g., vitamin D via sun exposure, zinc via seafood or supplements), plus natural immunity's benefits. Avoid school drives to protect keiki from pressure.

- \*\*Cost Savings\*\*: Leveraging community spaces and volunteers cuts costs by 40% versus DOH clinics, saving millions.

- \*\*Evidence\*\*: Diet/exercise reduce infections 25-31%, vitamin D by 70%, per studies—outstripping vaccine efficacy without risks.

### 2. \*\*Digital Health Campaign\*\*

- \*\*Solution\*\*: Launch a statewide platform with local voices—kūpuna, local experts, pediatricians, and cultural practitioners—highlighting natural immunity's efficacy (e.g., measles lifelong protection) and remedies like noni juice or 'olena (turmeric) for immune support, per traditional use and emerging studies (e.g., Phytotherapy Research, 2022).—promoting diet (e.g., poi), exercise (e.g., paddling), and remedies (e.g., vitamin D from sunlight, zinc from limpets), alongside natural immunity's edge (e.g., measles lifelong protection).

- \*\*Cost Savings\*\*: \$50,000 annually versus millions for school drives, scalable and broad-reaching.

- \*\*Efficacy\*\*: Shifts attitudes 10-15% yearly (per digital studies), exceeding Seattle's 8.8% without obligating keiki.

### 3. \*\*Voluntary Family Incentives\*\*

- **Solution**: Offer opt-in rewards (e.g., \$20 farmers' market vouchers) for attending wellness sessions on diet, exercise, vitamin D, and zinc, with optional community clinic vaccinations—not school-based—to avoid peer influence.
- **Cost Savings**: \$100,000 for 5,000 families versus school clinic costs, minimizing adverse event risks.
- **Equity**: Targets low-income families (17.09% lack records), enhancing access without pressure.

#### 4. **Scientific and Cultural Oversight**

- **Solution**: Require the DOH to submit a peer-reviewed report comparing diet, exercise, vitamin D, zinc, and natural immunity to vaccines, plus a Native Hawaiian impact assessment, before any program. Avoid school drives to prevent undue influence.
- **Cost Savings**: Preemptive analysis saves millions by avoiding wasteful spending.
- **Trust**: Transparency counters Minnesota's backlash, respecting family choice.

#### ### Conclusion

HCR173's push for school-based vaccination drives, while not a mandate, wields a heavy influence—risking peer pressure that may obligate our keiki to comply—while ignoring the proven efficacy of diet, exercise, natural immunity, and remedies like vitamin D and zinc over vaccines' adverse effects. As a Native Hawaiian of Kahalu'u with 45 years of residency, I urge this committee to reject this costly, culturally disconnected resolution. Let us invest in voluntary, science-backed, and Hawaiian-rooted strategies that empower our families without compromising their autonomy or our resources. Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiare Smith

Kahalu'u, O'ahu

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 8:37:48 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 10:49:02 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James K. Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Vaccination is a decision for parents to make with their doctors at a doctors office, not a class room. Should not be pushing medical treatments in schools. Another reason why Hawaii is the most corrupt "state"

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 11:28:19 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Oppose this bill. Do not use tax money to waste on health propaganda in our public schools. Hawaii State "safe and effective" COVID jab lies are all coming to light and campaign to force vaccinate our island failed. Do not use this fear tactic on our children and please spend tax money on reading and writing-true education for our failing State test scores.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 12:59:40 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mabelle Bastien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop with vaccines... they're doing harm

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 1:43:12 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvonne Galoia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

FDA Executive Officer of Countermeasures initiative: Christopher Cole, admitted in an under cover video (I Quote) that the drug companies, the food companies, the vaccine companies, pay them hundreds of millions of dollars a year to hire and keep the reviewers to approve their products. He also stated if big Pharma can get every person required to get an annual vaccine, THAT IS A RECURRING return of MONEY going into their (BIG PHARMA) company. Biden wants to inoculate as many people as possible, it hasn't been formally announced yet cuz they don't want to rile everyone up. They're (FDA) not going to not approve it (toddler vaccine), I don't completely agree with that but they're (FDA) are looking at trying to inoculate kids under 5 years old.(END QUOTE)

I WILL NOT CO PARENT WITH YOU! I will HOME SCHOOL MY CHILDREN IF I HAVE TO!

look up NUREMBERG CODE: the penalty for FORCE vaccinations is DEATH.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 2:23:14 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terrie Armbruster	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

100% OPPOSE HCR173

Total Waste of taxpayer\$\$ to relentlessly spew Propaganda!!!

People aren't vax hesitant, but vax resistant--NO Injections--what part of NO don't you understand?

Spoiler Alert--Parents will sue whoever tries to pressure or "persuade" their child to get shots without their knowledge or consent!!!

Strongly urge you to Vote NO to HCR173

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 6:15:58 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Manding	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill, it violates our constitutional rights.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 6:59:54 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HCR 173 and HR 169 and ask you to vote NO. I do not want my tax money going to fund vaccination drives. This program has already failed in other states such as NY, New Jersey, Ohio, and Minnesota. The passing of this also will cost the tax payers even more money in the form of law suits and public distrust. Vote No on this.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:51:46 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Wyand	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I strongly nigh oppose to ths proposed State-funded propaganda campaign! Enough already  
Department of Health to invade schools with vaccination drives.

Demands a costly, endless program with no budget.

Develops a plan for a long-term program to counter vaccine hesitancy and increase vaccination rates across Hawaii's schools.

Mimics failed programs like New York, New Jersey, Ohio, and Minnesota.

This will backfire and result in distrust, lawsuits, and alienating parents

We don't need this.



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:58:53 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HCR173. This is a waste of our tax dollars. Other states have tried bills similar to this bill and they failed. Thank you.

Noela von Wiegandt

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:00:12 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah Umiamaka	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Dear Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,**

**I am writing to express my vehement opposition to bill HCR173, which proposes to implement vaccination drives in Hawaii's schools. This bill not only represents an unnecessary and costly intrusion into our educational system, but more critically, it poses a grave threat to our fundamental constitutional rights of bodily autonomy and informed consent.**

**The core legal issue at stake is whether such mandatory vaccination drives in schools violate our constitutionally protected rights to bodily integrity and personal medical decision-making. Several landmark legal precedents support this concern:**

- 1. Jacobson v. Commonwealth of Massachusetts (1905): While this case upheld state authority for vaccinations, it crucially recognized limits on that power and emphasized the importance of individual liberty.**
- 2. Union Pacific Railway Co. v. Botsford (1891): The Supreme Court affirmed that "no right is held more sacred... than the right of every individual to the possession and control of his own person."**
- 3. Missouri v. McNeely (2013): The Court unequivocally stated that "any compelled intrusion into the human body implicates significant, constitutionally protected privacy interests."**
- 4. Griswold v. Connecticut (1965): This case interpreted the Fourteenth Amendment's Liberty Clause to protect personal decisions, which logically extends to medical choices.**
- 5. Washington v. Harper (1990): This ruling recognized individuals' significant liberty interest in avoiding unwanted administration of medical treatment.**

**These precedents underscore the tension between public health measures and individual rights, directly applicable to HCR173. While states have limited authority to protect public**

**health, there are clear constitutional boundaries on this power, especially concerning bodily autonomy and religious freedom.**

**Furthermore, similar programs in other states have proven not only ineffective but counterproductive:**

- 1. New York's 2024 investigation uncovered approximately 135 cases of falsified vaccination records, highlighting the potential for abuse in such systems.**
- 2. New Jersey's attempt to eliminate religious exemptions for vaccines failed due to overwhelming public opposition.**
- 3. Ohio schools continue to struggle with enforcing vaccination requirements, falling short of state mandates even before the pandemic.**

**These examples demonstrate that forced vaccination approaches often backfire, resulting in increased distrust, potential legal challenges, and the alienation of parents and students alike.**

**The proposed vaccination drives would create an environment of coercion within our schools, transforming them into platforms for vaccine commercialism rather than centers of education. Parents and individuals have the right to make informed decisions about medical interventions without undue pressure from school staff or peers.**

**As Justice John Paul Stevens eloquently stated, "Our whole constitutional heritage rebels at the thought of giving government the power to control men's minds. The same holds true for the power to control women's bodies." This principle is at the heart of our opposition to HCR173.**

**As a parent and member of this community, I cannot overstate the importance of protecting our right to make informed decisions about vaccination. This bill, if passed, will inevitably lead to a breakdown of trust between families and our educational institutions, potentially resulting in lawsuits and a fractured community.**

**I urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to reject HCR173. Instead, I implore you to focus on preserving our constitutional rights to make personal health decisions. Our schools must remain places of learning, not sites for forced medical interventions that violate our most fundamental freedoms.**

**Sincerely,  
Deborah Umiamaka**



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:06:43 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Toyofuku	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair Takayama and Representatives of the House Health Committee,

I strongly oppose HCR173 due to the following reasons:

- \* We deeply love our keiki and mo'opuna and desire for all of them to have healthy and abundant lives, while being wise and responsible in their health choices.
- \* As their parents, grandparents and educators, we are called to mentor and train them without questionable education efforts that are in opposition to our values, convictions and purposes for their lives.
- \* "Outreach and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii" of educating about a flawed, unhealthy and often unsuccessful agenda at any school is a misguided and a poor use of valuable funding, time and resources.
- \* The VAERS (Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System) and Vaccine Death Reports reveal a phenomenol increase in the detrimental effects of vaccination with often severe neurological and immunological disorders, including deaths. Parents are opting out of following the flawed science of "herd immunity" using artificial and toxic vaccine ingredients to advance this effort.
- \* The Departments of Health and Education should better use resources towards programs of healthy nutrition and exercise to build our keiki's immune systems, which is a more natural and healthier way to achieve "herd immunity" against diseases.

Please DO NOT further these unhealthy efforts by advancing HCR173. Mahalo.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:55:25 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Ruiz	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Leave our kids alone! You are not the parents!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 10:09:41 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaili	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am in strong support of the measure beacuse People with or without intellectual disabilities need to get get vaccinated to stay healthy before the school year starts please pass this bill thank you

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 11:59:53 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martin Choy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HCR173.

It takes away the people's rights and freedom to choose their health decisions and safety.



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 12:27:16 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Tiritas	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Vaccines should be given in a doctors office under the care of a physician. There is no need for schools to be providing medical interventions in the school, they are not capable of handling issues if they should arise. Plus vaccines should be between parents and the child's physician .

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 2:02:18 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Coach Gilman	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I oppose this HCR173 and HR 169. I will share my testimony on zoom.

Mahalo,

Asai Gilman

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 2:10:34 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louella Vidinha	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No to this bill

Vaccination drives for Hawaii school students. No. There are studies that some vaccines hurt, injury or kill.

There are personal testimonies that was given to me directly about that.

Direct one on one testimonies dozens of them. Where are your conscience ?

Injuring and Killing people means no.

Louella Vidinha

Hawaii resident

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 6:17:36 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dara Yatsushiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Considering the work RFK is doing, I think this is premature. OPPOSE.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:16:16 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Cordery	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I strongly appose HCR173!

This is not about health but only an agenda that the DOH and Josh Green are pushing on the children.

Herd Immunity is a logical fallacy!

As the word "Immunity" implies immunity must be obtained in order for it to be a valid argument.

NOT ONE VACCINE has ever shown scientific proof of immunity!

There has been many studies that showing the production of antibodies after vaccination, but the mere existence of antibodies does not equal immunity!!! Therefore, if you can't reach herd immunity by vaccination, then herd immunity by vaccination is an impossibility!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:04:51 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maly Gella	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Strongly Oppose this resolution! The government CANNOT Be Trusted to Educate Anyone on Vaccinations when they Completely Negate Informed Consent, Risk Vs Benefit, And Only Tout "Safe and Effective"! If you are willing to assume responsibility if Injury or Death occur then and only then should such education take place!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:38:36 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Haine	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The only "vaccine education" necessary is: 1. INFORMED CONSENT: all potential risks, likely benefits, and what can happen if one chooses to do nothing. The choice is then theirs to make.  
2. Explanation how vaccine manufacturers are exempt from injury liability and if vaccine injury occurs, how to file a report with VAERS

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:59:37 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Wong	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE HCR173  
Leave our kids alone!



**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 10:11:53 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenny Wusstig	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is nothing more than harmful tyranny on the children of the state of Hawaii. Shame on those who support this and put this bill forward !!!!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 10:49:21 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline Bosman	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I stongly oppose HCR173 putting our keiki in front of a system that is designed not to truly inform or care for our youth. How can we allow for this overstepping by government and schools to put our keiki without parents present at school in a postiiton to have a medical procedure done? Parents shouldnt have to worry about kids at school where health protocols may be pushed on them without true informed consent. What rules will apply? How will the kids be able to make decisions around this? Will peer pressure or others be influencing. Medical proviacy is also a concern. This type of choice is something between child and family and doctor and should not be paraded around in schools. Please don't push for this. Let people do what they want but not let it get to the point of allowing school influence and ability to play a role. Oppose this bill.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 12:27:16 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james	Individual	Oppose	In Person

Comments:

I oppose HR169.This bill wants to kill or kids as usual.Our governor don't care cause he's the puppet of the cabal.Hes getting money from Pfizer so he complies automatic to depopulate hawaii and humanity.Trash this bill or Trump will trash it.We don't have a government that cares about children.There should be arrest!!!

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 7:22:08 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Healy	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I will submit testimony via zoom.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 8:24:35 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dennis Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HCR173.

**HR-169**

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 8:25:35 AM

Testimony for HLT on 3/21/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rona Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HCR173