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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 31, 2025

To: Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair Representative Trish La Chica, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: Support for HCR 173/HR 169 HD1, Urging the Department of Health To Undertake Preliminary Education, Outreach, and Vaccination Drive Efforts at Schools in Hawai'i with Vaccination Rates Under Thirty Percent, Beginning at the Start of the 2025-2026 School Year

Hrg: Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 2:00 PM, Conference Room 309

Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI)<sup>1</sup> supports HCR 173/HR 169 HD1, 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;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> <u>https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(24)00850-X/fulltext</u>

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



#### **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.<sup>4</sup>

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,

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Nate Hix Director of Policy and Advocacy

https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/files/2025/01/Immunization\_Examination\_Req\_Report\_for\_School\_Year\_23\_24.pd

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Education HEARING: Tuesday April 1, 2:00P.M.



## Hawai'i – American Nurses Association (Hawai'i-ANA)

PLACE: Room 309 State Capital and via videoconference

# HCR 173, HD1 / HR 169, HD1(HSCR1532) /(HSCR1531) Relating to Vaccination Rates in Hawai'i Schools

Chair Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair Rep. Trish La Chica, Vice Chair and members of the House Committee on Education thank you for providing this opportunity for Hawai'i - American Nurses Association (Hawai'i-ANA) to provide testimony **in strong support of HCR 173, HD1 / HR 169, HD1(HSCR1532)** /**(HSCR1531).** 

Hawai'i-ANA is the state's premier professional nursing organization that fosters high standards of professional nursing practice, promotes safe and ethical work environments, and advocates on health care issues that affect nurses and the public. **We stand in strong support of this bill** 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 in our communities is critical for preserving herd immunity, which is especially vital in protecting the very young, the aged, and others with complex health

conditions who are all susceptible to severe complications from vaccine-preventable diseases. Herd immunity is resistance to the spread of an infectious disease within a population that is based on pre-existing immunity of a high proportion of individuals as a result of previous infection or vaccination. It is known that the level of vaccination needed to achieve herd immunity varies by disease but ranges from 83 to 94 percent. It is therefore alarming to Hawai'i-ANA that schools in Hawai'i are running at 30-50% immunization rates, which puts our whole community at risk.

Hawai'i-ANA also agrees with the Hawai'i Departments of Health and Education, the State Health Planning and Development Agency, Hawai'i Medical Association, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, the Hawai'i Academy of Family Physicians, in previous testimony that this bill reinforces Hawai'is commitment to preventive health care, cost effective public-health infrastructure, and data-driven decision-making: key pillars of our nationally-recognized healthcare system.

Our national organization the American Nurses Association (ANA) takes the position that "it is imperative for everyone to receive immunizations for vaccine-preventable diseases as vaccines are critical to infectious disease prevention and control. Moreover, nurses have a professional and ethical obligation to model the same health care standards they prescribe to their patients." As the Hawai'i chapter of ANA, Hawai'i-ANA supports this evidence-based position statement and its intent to champion community vaccination as a safe and effective way to prevent the spread of disease. We must protect the health of our community by ensuring effective immunization rates in our community. Hawai'i-ANA recognizes the voices of individuals who have testified in opposition to this bill, with their concerns that this measure unnecessarily infringes on parental rights, personal freedoms, and/or individual choice. As members of the most trusted profession over many years, all nurses adhere to the four ethical principles in our Code of Ethics for Nurses. Nurses are advocates for patients and must find a balance while delivering patient care. There are four main principles of ethics: autonomy, beneficence, justice, and non-maleficence. Autonomy is each patient's right to make their own decisions based on their own beliefs and values. Beneficence in nursing is acting for the good and welfare of others and including such attributes as kindness and charity. Justice means that nurses must care for all patients with the same level of fairness despite the individual's financial abilities, race, religion, gender, and/or sexual orientation. Nonmaleficence means to do no harm. This is the most well-known of the main principles of nursing ethics. More specifically, it means that nurses select interventions and care that will cause the least amount of harm to achieve a beneficial outcome. Therefore, Hawai'i-ANA can assure the community that all nurses will uphold parental rights, personal freedoms, and individual choice when providing healthcare, because we adhere to our Code of Ethics in advocating to provide the best, safest, and most humane care to all patients.

Hawai'i-ANA respectfully asks the committee to pass **HCR 173**, **HD1 / HR 169**, **HD1(HSCR1532) /(HSCR1531)**. We thank your committee for its commitment to the people of Hawai'i and for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

# HAWAII PATRIOT REPUBLICANS

Written Testimony in Opposition to H.R. No. 169 and H.C.R No 173 Submitted to the House Committee on Education March 31, 2025

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to H.R. No. 169 and H.C.R No 173, which urge 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 and H.C.R No 173 seek 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 and H.C.R No 173'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 and H.C.R No 173 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 (<u>source</u>). 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 (<u>source</u>). 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 (<u>source</u>). 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 (<u>source</u>). Michigan's campaign, while boosting teen rates, saw vaccine hesitancy among adults rise as government messaging was perceived as propaganda, not education (<u>source</u>).

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 and H.C.R No 173 call for a long-term program with unspecified funding and administrative restructuring—buzzwords for a budget buster. Hawaii's taxpayers cannot afford another openended 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 (<u>source</u>).

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 and H.C.R No 173 are misguided proposals that threaten 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 <u>hawaiipatriotrepublicans@gmail.com</u>





Hawai'i Christian Coalition 150 Hamakua Drive #797 Kailua, HI 96734 https://hichristian.org

**To:** Chair Justin Woodson, Vice Chair Trish La Chica, & Members of the Education Committee

**Re:** Testimony to strongly OPPOSE HCR173.

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica & Members of the Education Committee,

My name is Margaret Mejia, and I represent *Hawai'i Christian Coalition*. *Hawaii Christian Coalition* has been around for many, many years, and we have over 35,000 members. We represent about 130,000 people (parents and their keiki) in all districts, including the neighbor Islands. I am submitting testimony today to ask you to **vote NO on HCR173**.

First, it is NOT ethical to take Federal funds from Medicare and Federal & State funds from Medicaid to finance Governor Josh Green's Vaccination Drives, (in part) via HCR173. Medicare funds are federal funds that are designated for the elderly 65 years and older. Medicare and Medicaid funds should NOT be raided and funneled into the Department of Health and/or the Department of Education for the purpose of vaccinating children and adults.

Vaccination Drives at Schools are NOT necessary since we already have Vaccines for Children, a federally funded program that provides free vaccines for eligible children in Hawai'i. We also have CHIPS, so once again, Vaccination Drives are NOT necessary. Parents can take their children to the doctors if they want them to be vaccinated.

Just as the people spoke against HB1118, people should have a CHOICE as to whether they want to be vaccinated or not. Parents should have a CHOICE as to whether they want their children to be vaccinated or not and should not have to "Opt out" at School. Over the years, even decades, Democrats said, "My body, my choice," regarding abortion "rights." Now that people are saying, "My body, my choice," regarding vaccinations, suddenly, the Democrats are silent and no longer say, "My body, my choice." People should decide what they want to put into their bodies.

Vaccinations have ingredients like formaldehyde, Polysorbate 80 (that causes cancer), fetal tissue cells (like the ones in ALL the covid 19 vaccines), aluminum, mercury, animal blood, parts of animal organs, mRNA (that changes a person's DNA), and many other harmful ingredients. <u>People should not only be able to choose whether or not they want these ingredients in their bodies but each person who receives a vaccine should be INFORMED of the ingredients in each vaccine.</u> Also, there are alternative ways people can boost their immunity. Instead of forcing them to get vaccinated, why not educate people on healthy ways to boost their immune system?

#### Governor Green wants to turn Hawai'i schools into Health Clinics for

**vaccinations.** <u>IF</u> passed, HCR173 would fund Governor Green's Vaccination Drive by providing a "Provider" at Hawaii's schools that gives vaccinations to children. This is gross negligence by the Department of Education and the Department of Health. It is not ethical and there will be lawsuits galore! A child does not know the ingredients in these vaccines. A child does not know that it is more dangerous to receive vaccines in threes (such as MMR, or DPT), versus a single dose. A child does not know that people can have adverse reactions to a vaccine or even die from a vaccine. A child does not know that the "bugs" in these vaccines mutate and then the vaccine is NO longer effective. Where is the Informed Consent?

#### Will Department of Education & Department of Health be Liable?

One of the main problems with this bill is liability. Who will be liable is cases where vaccine injury or vaccine death occurs? I see lawsuits and LOTS of them, <u>IF</u> this bill were to pass.

#### Schools are for EDUCATION, and NOT MEDICATION.

In addition, Taxpayer money designated for education via the public school system, would be used towards the public schools being used as a medical facility for vaccinations! Or even worse, they will use vax buses like they did during the plandemic. Children go to school for education not for vaccination. If parents want their children to be vaccinated, they can take them to a medical doctor or a medical clinic. Remote areas have clinics to go to for vaccinations. Even in remote areas like Hana, Maui, there are clinics in Hana Town where vaccinations are available for parents who want to vaccinate their children.

**Taxpayers should not fund immunizations.** Just as the Hyde Amendment protects our federal taxpayer dollars from funding abortions, we should not have to use our state or federal (Medicare & Medicaid) taxpayer dollars to fund immunizations, since many people do not believe in immunizations and since people have a choice as to whether they want to vaccinate or not. Although the Hawai'i Department of Health gives an initial start-up cost of this program, HCR173 contains no spending cap and does not detail the ongoing cost of funding this program.

This bill gives the Department of Health way too much authority! DOH would be able to decide what substance, including mRNA can be used in these vaccines. mRNA

is a dangerous substance and according to Dr. Robert Malone, M.D., M.S, a biochemist/biologist and creator of mRNA technology, mRNA changes people's DNA. The people and not DOH should decide whether or not they want to be vaccinated.

We find that HCR173 is a campaign to vaccinate, hosting the medical treatments on publicly funded school campuses across the Islands. These schools do NOT meet the standard of care required for children and adults, especially the children whom the public has entrusted in the Department of Education's care to educate, and not to medicate. The Department of Education's trespass into the realm of medicine, medical treatment, medical devise administration, faculties, and facility is unlawful, illegal, and dangerous. Schools should be prepared to be sued for lack of full informed transparency (NO Informed Consent) and destroying the quality of life to anyone who develops injuries, damages, and death as a result of vaccinations.

"Providers" will be held personally accountable, responsible, liable for negligence, trespass, falsehood, complicit in coercive and propaganda tactics. Legislators will be held liable for breach of violation of your oaths of office, including not upholding the United States Constitution and the Hawai'i State Constitution. The Department of Education and the Department of Health will be held liable for no Informed Consent and for breaching student physician care to "do no harm," illegally and unlawfully interceding in the medical care of the student, exposing a tax-funded school campus to legal liability for conversion into a medical treatment facility making it vulnerable to plausible lawsuits filed by any damaged and injured recipients of immunizations.

Please vote NO to HCR173.

Sincerely,

Margaret Mejia, Vice President Hawai'i Christian Coalition To: Representative David Tarnas, Chair, And Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

#### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 173/HR 169 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 20252026 SCHOOL YEAR.

As a public health professional and a concerned citizen, I strongly support efforts to increase vaccination rates for children attending public schools.

Vaccinations save lives, not only for the children who receive them, but also for other vulnerable individuals in our communities. Vaccines protect those who, due to allergies or other medical conditions, cannot receive vaccinations.

Providing medically accurate, culturally sensitive education about the importance of vaccines as proposed in this resolution will promote public health and prevent children from experiencing harm from preventable diseases.

My great grandmother became deaf at the age of five from an illness that is preventable today. My grandmother had diphtheria as a child. She had lifelong lung damage and disability. I was a child in a time when measles, mumps, polio, and rubella vaccines did not yet exist. I did not enjoy my experiences with measles and mumps, and I had friends whose experiences with polio changed their lives forever.

Children deserve to grow up safe and healthy – and vaccinations help us achieve that goal.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Guchtto F. Clark

Judith F. Clark, MPH4 48-218 Kamehameha Hwy. Kaneohe, HI 96744 808-499-9966

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 4:37:44 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Tanya Dean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support vaccine education through the schools across Hawai'i. We absolutely need this program to be fully supported as we watch measles spread elsewhere and we face a campaign of anti-science, anti-public health, and anti-truth at the federal government level. The shockingly low immunization rates in Hawai'i must be addressed as we also see federal health services and research and planning by the CDC gutted. The seeming inevitability of not being able to manage the next widespread outbreak (pandemic?!) must be acknowledged by our Hawai'i leaders. Hawai'i must get ahead of that scenario by immunizing our keiki through kupuna, and schools are the best way to do this.

Mahalo!

HR-169-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/30/2025 9:10:13 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jessica McCullum	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE this bill.

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 8:40:10 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Candace Vizcarra	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose the big push for any vaccinations that are not necessary, big pharma money makers, and impose on medical freedoms by conducting jab drives to obtain 'herd immunity' which is no longer a reliant source of evidence that these jabs are effective!

GOD KNOWS AND SEES ALL !!!

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:50:05 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Scott Fernandez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The concept of herd immunity is an outdated theory from 1930 and there is no reliable DATA regarding "Herd Immunity". By now all should be aware due to the mismanagement of the Covid years that vaccines are not the solution evidenced by the harm inflicted by the expert class on our businesses and economy. Viruses mutate, as the covid-19 virus did, reducing or eliminating the vaccines effectiveness. In fact these vaccines facilitate the speed at which these viruses mutate making stronger, more deadly and elusive bugs that escape vaccines efficacy. Your most important role is to protect the people's liberty, including informed consent, Religious Exemptions and Medical Freedom. Hawaii is a state that has always championed the freedom of Body autonomy "My Body My Choice"

### HR-169-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:56:17 AM

Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Tinamarie Cura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

#### Testimony in Opposition to Bill HCR 173 - Department of Health Vaccination Drives

I respectfully submit my testimony in opposition to Bill HCR 173, which proposes authorizing the Department of Health to undertake vaccination drives. Parents have the fundamental right to make medical decisions for their children, and this bill undermines that right by promoting government-drive vaccination effort that may pressure families rather than empower informed choices.

Additionally, using taxpayers money to fund such a project through advertisement and promotional campaigns and drives for vaccines is an unnecessary and wasteful expense. These funds could be better utilized to support essential healthcare services, enhance medical resources and provide direct assistance to families in need.

Health decisions should remain in the hands of parents, guided by conversations with trusted healthcare providers. Misallocating taxpayer dollars and resources for unnecessary promotional drives is both wasteful and ineffective. Trust in healthcare decisions is best built through transparent communication between families and their healthcare providers - not through govenment-funded advertisements.

I urge lawmakers to prioritize respect for parential rights, to stand against the misuse of funds and resources by rejecting this bill.

Thank you for your considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Tinamarie Cura

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 8:34:59 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sue	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

School is for education not vaccination.Parents are not present and there is no informed consent . Also, herd immunity via "vaccines" is not possible and has been considered an outdated theory since the 1930s. We also now know more about the harmful and even deadly ingredients in "vaccines" such as aluminum, gmo, formaldehyde, mercury , msg and more .

Please do better. Please listen to the voice of the people . Please respect parents rights and authority to their own God given children . Please respect citizens rights to not have their hard earned taxpayer funds go to things now harming the most innocent. Please vote no .

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 12:56:15 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Krista Vessell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE! Stop trying to infringe on INTRINSIC PARENTAL RIGHTS TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN. MDM (Medical Decision Making) is NO ONE'S BUSINESS except a patient, their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) if they are a minor, and the medical provider rendering services, and these decision belong IN HEALTHCARE CENTERS, NOT SCHOOLS.

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 1:48:36 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lois J Young	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

#### HONORABLE CHAIR WOODSON AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS,

I urge you to Vote NO on this HCR.

My deepest concern in this recommendation is the obvious usurping of parental rights in concerning their childrens health. Young children are still formulating what is good for them and this medical decisions must be left with their parents. The push to indoctrinate our students on the "goodness" of a vaccine is what this agenda is. Again, this education must be between doctor and patient, not public school and student. Our medical professionals will convey to their patient the risks, side effects of the vaccine in which the patient will agree/disagree based on INFORMED CONSENT. Will the education committee present vaccines objectively? Will they communicate as to why vaccines are so controversial? I don't see why they should present fair and balanced information when the pharmaceutical companies are ready and willing to push their agenda which will line not only their pockets but the pockets of our state officials.

Vaccination "status" can drive a wedge between the unvaxed and the vaxed thereby causing uneccesary division amongst students. We want to unify and educate our schools based on "freedom of choice" and informed consent.

Where there is a risk, there must be a choice.

Vaccines are purportedly safe yet why the hesitancy you ask? It's not about lack of finance, it's because ppl have done their research and also know of vaccine injuries either reported to VAERS or seen first hand experience with their own children or with friends.

I urge you to vote NO!!

Leave the vaccine decision and education with families.

Mahalo, Lois

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 1:52:48 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
April Lee	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Honorable Representatives of the Committee on Education,

I am a grandmother, mother and have a pre-med Biology major. I have been very shocked and dismayed at the invasion into the sovereignty of the family unit by these actions. Parents need to be the authority for their children's health. Present to me a double-blind legitimate outside testing that has proven the vaccinations that have been given since the latter 90's are as effective as those given prior to that. So much changed within our Dept of Health & Human Services in the United States that we are less safe than many other countries around the world.

Please, I implore you as members of this committee dedicated to our youth, we have not needed you as much as we need your wise and careful governance as we need it now to fight forced vaccinations without parental consent and without allowing religious exemptions...

I have experienced a heart-wrenching situation in the last year. My good friend lost her 4 year old grandson in Dec, 2024 to an infant vaccination he received when he was 18 months old. He was paralyzed within 24 hours of receiving what they called a vaccine(?) and could not even shut his eyelids to sleep. He suffered greatly until his passing. When sharing this, another a local family stated their child died within 48 hours of getting his vaccination. We need to be sure we do not kill ONE CHILD by refusing this bill put forth by the govenor!!!

I am deeply indebted to you if you do not side with political pressure and vote your carefully considered 'DO NOT HARM' mandate of your position as our leaders,

April Lee, BA, CCIM, RB, WH7W, Healthcare.net

Hawi, HI

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 2:12:45 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill! People have a right to have a say on what goes into their bodies! We have a natural, built in immune system that can fight off diseases and viruses when coupled with good nutrition. These vaccines are being pushed by corporate drug dealers who are profiting heavily off of them! Say NO to this violation of bodily autonomy and human rights!

#### HR-169-HD-1

LATE

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 3:40:21 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Doreen Morimoto	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it should be left to parental decision and not mandatory by the schools or health department.

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:57:15 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rachel Robinson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou!!

First, I'd like to point out that I am not against vaccines. As a child I received all the necessary vaccines and quite possibly I am unaffected by those diseases because of the vaccines.

However, I don't have warm and fuzzy feelings toward the covid-19 "vaccine," if it can actually be called that.

Second, according to Johns Hopkins, a vaccine takes between five and ten years to develop. As a side note, at the very beginning of the onset of coronavirus, I was sent a video showing a doctor being interviewed. This doctor, in my opinion, ratted herself out. She said, "Before there was the coronavirus, we already a vaccine for it." But of course, that video was swiped very quickly. So my question is, if any given vaccine is made of the pathogen it is meant to treat, how did the coronavirus vaccine come to be without the coronavirus pathogen?

So we come to this bill that is forcibly being pushed on others to take the vaccine on and punishing them for non-compliance.

The beauty of the United States is that people are given free will to choose and to decide for themselves what course of action they'd take and those backing this bill seek to erase that. That is a huge government overstep. It's bullying in government.

Did any of you backing this bill actually see what happened around the world when the coronavirus "vaccine" was accepted into the bodies of millions of people because of fear? Hundreds of thousands died from taking that into their bodies! And to cover all tracks of malpractice and mispractice, people were spoon-fed the lie that those deaths were attributed to "underlying health conditions." Any person with a hint of common sense could point out that previous to taking the "vaccine," the people, whose tragic deaths were insulted and belittled, were in fact LIVING.

I oppose this bill. It is not healthy for Hawai'i and if any of you backing this bill have any care or regard or affection or any sense of protection for any of the residents of Hawai'i, including the constituents in your districts, from the youngesst to the oldest, vote no.

This bill is hazardous to everyone's health.

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 10:05:55 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HR169. School is not the place to do vaccination drives and vaccination education. This should be done by and at your doctors office. Is the school going to be responsible for any and all adverse effects of vaccinations? They are not equipped, nor should they be.

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 12:36:53 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rebekah Botello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Legislators -

As a citizen, a voter, a mom, a pastor, and a community leader, I strongly OPPOSE HRC 173. It is NOT the role of government to steer parents choices for their children, and it is certainly unethical for The Department of Education to put pressure on the public to comply with the pressures of Big Pharma.

There are four main problems with HRC 173.

1) Parental Rights: Undermines the role of parents in health decisions and puts unethical pressure on parents and students

2) Targeting & Stigma: Focuses on schools with low rates-potentially discriminatory

3) Trust & Privacy: Raises concerns about data use & student autonomy. Medical records should be wholly private.

4) Mass Compliance Pressure: Promotes conformity over personal medical choice

I urge you to stay on the right side of this issue and VOTE NO ON HRC 173.

Mahalo -

Rebekah Botello

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 1:10:24 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I stand in strong opposition to this bill. Mahalo

#### <u>HR-169-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 5:38:09 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ruben Ongos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

#### NO GOVERNMENT SHOULD CHOOSE MY MEDICAL DECISION!!

#### I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL!!!

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 6:28:46 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
KELVIN AWAYA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose HCR173.

The parents are the one's to decide on what effective vaccines should be administered to their child/children. This was just struck down a few weeks ago and here it is again with a different title and number.

Coercement is what this is, which in short is slavery. Forcing one to do something that they are not openly willingly to do is against the law. An attempt to make it a "law" is even more so disgusting. This proposal needs to be struck down immediately

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 8:48:05 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bradle Lindsey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I respectfully submit my testimony in opposition to HCR 173, which urges the Department of Health to undertake education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under thirty percent. While I appreciate the intent to improve public health, I have significant concerns regarding parental rights, targeting and stigma, trust and privacy, and the pressure for mass compliance.

**Parental Rights:** This measure risks undermining the autonomy of parents to make informed decisions about their children's health. Mandating vaccination efforts in schools with low rates may inadvertently pressure families into compliance without fully considering their individual circumstances or beliefs.

**Targeting and Stigma:** By singling out schools with vaccination rates under thirty percent, the bill may inadvertently stigmatize these communities. This could lead to social division and discrimination against families who choose not to vaccinate, further alienating them from public health initiatives.

**Trust and Privacy:** The proposed outreach efforts may compromise trust between families and public health authorities. Parents may feel their privacy is being invaded if vaccination status data is used to target specific schools. Building trust requires transparency and voluntary participation, not perceived coercion.

**Mass Compliance Pressure:** The emphasis on achieving compliance may overshadow the importance of informed consent and individual choice. Public health campaigns should focus on education and dialogue rather than creating an environment where families feel compelled to conform under pressure.

I urge the committee to reconsider this measure and explore alternative approaches that respect parental rights, avoid stigmatization, and prioritize trust-building efforts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 8:56:16 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PN

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Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jason Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Legislatures,

I stand in strong OPPOSITION of HCR173 HD1! I ask you to stop this Bill from proceeding.

The government should not have the ability to make decisions that are reserved for family members.

Respectfully,

Jason Kimura

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#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:05:27 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:0

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Orgai	nization	Testif	ier Position	Те	stify

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Richard Domingo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I OPPOSE HCR173

Leave the kids alone.

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:14:54 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Claire Yamashiro	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

As a grandmother and grandaunt, I oppose HCR173 as I strongly believe that vaccinations have detrimental and long lasting effects in the human body.

I also believe that parents of children under the age of 19 have the authority to refuse vaccinations for their children for the above given reason.

Respectfully Submitted,

Claire Yamashiro

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:24:17 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Clardean Lehano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this evil bill HCR 173. You will not take away our freedom of choice.

Clardean Lehano

#### <u>HR-169-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:24:45 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Anna Giunta	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill or any bill relating to forced vaccination of any person, child or not. My body my choice. This is illegal and against our constitional rights to have a medical intervention forced upon anyone. Stop it Now.

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 10:27:46 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Michelle Moku	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

#### I STRONGLY OPPOSE HCR173, HD1!!!!!!

God blessed my husband & I with the opportunity to take on the toughest job ever, becoming parents to four beautiful children. We love each one of them endlessly and we are their care takers, their protectors and their advocates. Our keiki are NOT & NO LONGER SHOULD BE the government branches, pharmaceutical corporations and/or department of educations science experiments!!

Thanks to the covid era and specifically the past five years, I've learned so much more about the medical, pharmaceutical, education institution & governments ties, lies, agendas & corruption.

This push of vaccine requirements on our keiki at this time by Gov. Green, just seems that it is being done in spite of the current change in administration, that he does not like or get along with. And that's no secret because the media continues to promote his side of the democratic states agenda.

Gov. Green is not taking into consideration WE the people's freedom of religion or choice to decide what is the best way to take care of MY children. Does Gov. Green and/or anyone from the voting committee here today know that at the age of 3, my oldest son was diagnosed with partial epilepsy after suffering from seizures shortly after receiving vaccine shots and had to be on seizure medication for the next 10 years of his life? Or how's about my daughter at the age of 18 months, suffering from immune thrombocytopenia

purpa <u>https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/idiopathic-thrombocytopenic-purpura/symptoms-causes/syc-20352325</u>

after receiving her MMR vaccine and we had to experience 6 months of treatments at Kapiolani's cancer ward? Or how's about my other sons severe eczema, psoriasis & herpese breakouts, after receiving his 6 month check up vaccines? Of course noone here know about the struggles my 'Ohana lives with! Our pediatrician did not even tell me about the Vaers system at the time of all these incidents, nor was I instructed to submit side affects of the vaccines that we experienced.

But my husband, immediate 'Ohana & I do!! We regret falling into the trap of this the BIG pharma/medical corporations many years ago while being busy working parents, trying to survive. And I wish I could take back those doctors visits along with my keiki's vaccine

injuries!! God woke me up during the covid era and set me free, free to fight for my children & future grandchildren. Which is why I'm sharing my personal testimony & opion.

I find it quite hilarious that these meetings relating to our children are being held specifically at the time that parents (the children's advocates!!) would be picking up their children from school. I would really love to be present in this meeting but instead I am taking care of my children and my responsibilities too.

BEFORE anyone continues to try to mandate up to 72-80 doses of chemical shots in our precious keiki, there needs to first be retraction of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act(NCVIA) of 1986, signed into law by the late US President Ronald Regan as part of a larger health bill on November 14, 1986. NCVIA's purpose was to eliminate the potential financial liability of vaccine manufacturers due to vaccine injury claims to ensure a stable market supply of vaccines, and to provide cost-effective arbitration for vaccine injury claims. Under the NCVIA, the national vaccine injury compensation program (NVICP) was created to provide a federal no-fault system for compensating vaccine-related injuries or death by establishing a claim procedure involving the US Fedeal court.

IT IS MINDBLOWING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO REQUIRE THE LITTLEST & MOST VULNURABLE HUMANS TO BE INJECTED WITH CHEMICALS THAT CLEARLY MAKE HUMANS SICKER THAN THEY SHOULD BE, THEN NOT BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE!! Clearly the medical & big pharma corporations have figured out loopholes to make extensive amounts of money off the backs of hard working, tax paying parents and their innocent children.

Once the medical/big pharma is accountable there needs to be drainage of the corrupt CDC, NIH & FDA department. Then there needs to be serious & extensive research of the effects of vaccines and their ties to autism, obesity, adhd, cancer in children in the United States. Until this happens, DO NOT mandate what should and should not be given to other people's children.

I find it extremely alarming that we're only hearing the side of Dr. Gov. Green but minimal media displayed from other medical people. I'd like to share one...

Dr. Jim Meehan, MD, "I will no longer vaccinate my children... ...because I am a well trained medical doctor and former medical journal editor that has studied the vaccine research and analyzed both sides of the evidence. ...because I know how to read the medical literature, recognize bias and discern characteristics of good and fraudulent research. ...because I know that too much of the science supporting vaccines is fraudulent drivel bought and paid for by the vaccine manufacturers themselves. ...because I understand the risks of vaccination as well as the benefits of my children and grandchildren encountering and overcoming the wild type diseases naturally. ...because I know that diseases like mumps, measles, and chickenpox aren't dangerous and untreatable diseases that justify the risk of injecting toxic ingredients like aluminum, polysorbate 80, human DNA and cellular residues from the human cells lines upon which many of the live viruses are grown. ...because I've seen vaccine manufacturers like Merck promote what they knew was bad medicine for profit, kill 60,000 patients with Vioxx, and I have no

reason to believe that they wouldn't do the same thing with vaccines, especially when you consider they can't be sued when their vaccines maim or kill children. ...because I believe the vaccine industry has thoroughly corrupted the science and safety of vaccines. ...because I recognize the aggressive and unreasonable tactics of a multi-billion dollar pharmaceutical industry desperately working to maintain the illusion of vaccine safety, keep consumers consuming, grow their markets, and increase their profits. ...because I have met so many families whose children were stolen from them by the battery of vaccines administered at pediatric vaccine visits. ...because I believe the U.S. vaccination program has become a progressively dangerous assault on the health and lives of the children of America. ...because I am awake and aware, I will not vaccinate, nor will I remain silent as the pharmaceutical and medical industries pretend that vaccines are safe and effective..."

Sadly Dr. Meehan lost his battle to cancer last year and is no longer physically on this earth, but we can continue to learn from his legacy and help others such as the voting committee present in the room who support HCR173, HD1, to truly think about the agenda of Gov Green and HOW IT AFFECTS the lives of our children before voting!!

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:49:09 AM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
James R Cabodol Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why is it so important to take away parental rights to vaccinate? It seems as if it's in your interest not the interest of the child's PARENTS and for those common sense reasons I oppose these bills

#### HR-169-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 12:29:02 PM Testimony for EDN on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM





Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Laurie Langton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to mandatory school vaccination policies. These two new bills are simply a revision of the previous bill we the people refused to accept. These mandates not only infringe upon parental rights and medical freedom but also disregard the well-documented risks and adverse reactions associated with vaccinations.

Data from the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), a federally operated database, records thousands of reports each year detailing severe reactions, including neurological disorders, seizures, and even deaths following vaccination. For instance, as of this writing, VAERS has paid settlements in excess of \$4 million dollars for cases of significant adverse events linked to childhood vaccines.Note that they highest amount they pay is \$250,000 per case. While proponents argue that these reactions are rare, the reality is they are NOT. These injuries can have lifelong consequences, yet families are often left without recourse.

Furthermore, requiring vaccinations for school attendance contradicts the principles of informed consent and bodily autonomy. Parents should have the absolute right to determine what medical interventions are appropriate for their children without coercion from the government or school policies. Medical decisions should be based on individual health conditions and risk factors, rather than a blanket policy that fails to account for unique circumstances.

In addition, numerous peer-reviewed studies have raised concerns about vaccine ingredients, long-term health effects, and the increasing number of required doses in childhood immunization schedules. There has been abundant research that shows links between vaccinations and autoimmune disorders, allergies, autism, and developmental issues, which warrant further investigation before imposing mandates on children.

As a concerned grandparent and advocate for medical choice, I urge you to reconsider any policies enforcing mandatory vaccinations for school children. Alternative measures such as informed consent, medical and philosophical exemptions, and robust parental education should be prioritized over mandates that violate fundamental rights. The people of Hawai'i have stated unequivocally, that we DO NOT want mandated vaccinations. Continue this push and you will see huge numbers of parents removing their children from public schools.

In case you have not noticed, the current federal administration is moving in the opposite direction of these mandates. Hawai'i will lose funding should the state continue to attempt to require vaccinations.

Therefore it would be wise to squash this bill and stop trying to mandate medical procedures.

Regards,

Laurie Langton