

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 03/11/2025

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Bill Title:** SB 0532, SD2 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Allows school staff and agents trained by a health care professional to volunteer to administer medication to students at Department of Education public schools under certain conditions. Clarifies who may prescribe medication to be administered to students in schools. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

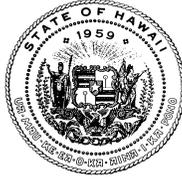
**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 532, SD2, which authorizes public school employees or agents who have completed appropriate training to administer medications for students consistent with the standards applicable to school health assistants (SHA).

SB 532, SD2 enhances student safety and aims to improve attendance by removing unnecessary barriers in medication administration. The current provisions of Hawaii Revised Statutes section 302A-853 only list SHAs as being able to assist students with medication administration. This limitation poses challenges in care delivery, as the diverse and widespread nature of student needs across multiple locations makes it essential to have additional trained staff to support them effectively.

The expanded language of this measure would allow the Department to train staff as an additional resource to support students, ensuring continuity of health services while upholding established safety and training standards. By addressing the medication administration challenges, this bill would create a more supportive environment that promotes consistent attendance and engagement for all students, regardless of their health needs.

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



**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 SB0532 SD2**  
**RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

REPRESENTATIVE JUSTIN WOODSON, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Hearing Date: March 11, 2025 @ 2:00 pm

Room Number: 309

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** None
- 2 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (“Department”) SUPPORTS this measure
- 3 offering comments.
- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Communicable Disease & Public Health Nursing Division
- 5 (CDPHND) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department. The Department
- 6 supports this bill as it will potentially increase the number of trained volunteers on DOE public
- 7 school campuses who are able to administer daily and/or emergency medications during the
- 8 school day. This bill will allow for students to have increased access to prescription and
- 9 emergency medication in the event of a school health assistant vacancy. Public school staff
- 10 who volunteer as substitutes to administer medications to students shall be trained on
- 11 medication administration by a health care professional employed or contracted by the
- 12 Department of Education. The other updates in the measure will aid in the ability for students
- 13 to safely and timely receive prescribed and emergency medications, improving their overall
- 14 health and ability to remain in school.
- 15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Education  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep, Dean  
School of Nursing & Dental Hygiene

And

T. Samuel Shomaker, Dean  
Lee Buenconsejo-Lum, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
John A. Burns School of Medicine

And

Michael Bruno, Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### SB 532 SD2 – RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for hearing this measure, which aims to expand the Department of Education's (DOE) authority to allow more trained staff to volunteer to assist students with the administration of medication. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene (UH Mānoa SONDH) and the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) are in strong support of this measure.

The UH Mānoa SONDH is a long-time contributor to school health initiatives with partnership of the DOE. Starting in 2014, The UH Mānoa SONDH launched with DOE the Hawai'i Keiki - Healthy and Ready to Learn (HK) program. This program placed advanced practice registered nurses into the schools and complexes with the greatest health disparities. Just over 10 years since its inception, HK now services all 258 DOE public schools and has 58 DOE public school-based clinics and 10 charter school-based clinics. In Academic Year 2023-2024, HK nurses and staff completed more than 75,000 visits in public schools and 6,700 visits in charter schools. HK nurses and staff see and care for the children enrolled in the public and charter education systems. This bill fulfills a crucial need that will significantly enhance the health and wellbeing of children across the islands. In addition to the existing authorization for School Health Assistants, it expands the ability to assist students by “making other employees and agents trained by a health care professional employed or contracted by the department, may assist students by administering oral, nasal, and topical medication, and in emergency situations, other premeasured medication.”

Provided the proper training and procedures are in place, this measure would allow for improved care and, ultimately, improved learning for children with known health conditions. Today, children with a known health condition and completed administrative processing are able to have medications at school to support chronic health conditions. This bill does not change the process of authorizing medications to be administered at school, but rather helps that process function to its enacted intent. HK supports the DOE schools in this function today - both providing medication administration support where HK staff is on-campus, as well as providing training to DOE employees. However, when a School Health Assistant is not available, and HK is not present on a campus, enrolled children may go without their needed and approved daily and or emergency medications.

Thank you for your long-standing support for school-aged children, both in their education and in their health and wellbeing. Your continued support, through the passage of this measure with amendments through your committee, is greatly appreciated.

**Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on EDUCATION**

**HEARING: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 2:00PM**

**PLACE: Room 309 State Capital and via videoconference**



by **Hawai'i – American Nurses Association (Hawai'i-ANA)**

**SB532SD2 – Relating to the Department of Education**

Chair Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair Rep. Trish La Chica, Vice, and members of the House Committee on Education thank you for providing this opportunity for Hawai'i nurses' voices to be heard.

Hawai'i - American Nurses Association (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.

Hawai'i-American Nurses Association (Hawai'i- ANA) is **in strong support of this bill** to allow school staff and agents trained by a healthcare professional to volunteer to administer medication to students at Department of Education public schools under certain conditions and clarifies who may prescribe medication to be administered to students in schools. This measure will increase access to appropriate health interventions for management of known health conditions for children while at school. This is a strong health policy intervention that improves access to appropriate and safe health care in the community.

Hawai'i-ANA commends the legislature for introducing this measure and for your commitment to the health and safety of children in our state. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Contact information for Hawai'i – American Nurses Association:

President: Dr. Denise Cohen, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, [president@hawaii-ana.org](mailto:president@hawaii-ana.org)

Vice-President: Dr. Linda Beechinor, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC [vicepresident@hawaii-ana.org](mailto:vicepresident@hawaii-ana.org)

Executive Director: Elizabeth M. Kahakua, BSN [executivedirector@hawaii-ana.org](mailto:executivedirector@hawaii-ana.org)

phone (808) 779-3001     500 Lunalilo Home Road, #27-E, Honolulu HI 96825

# HAWAII PATRIOT REPUBLICANS

Written Testimony in Opposition to S.B. No. 532 (S.D. 2)  
Submitted to the House Committee on Education  
March 08, 2025

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I urge you to vote NO on Senate Bill No. 532 (S.D. 2). This bill, pitched as a fix for school health assistant shortages, is a reckless gamble with our children's safety, an unnecessary expansion of government, and a waste of resources that could better serve Hawaii's families. As a citizen grounded in limited government, personal accountability, and common-sense solutions, I present an objective case that should resonate with Democrats who prioritize student well-being, efficient spending, and equitable outcomes. This bill fails our kids—here's why.

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## 1. Untrained Volunteers Endanger Student Health

Allowing non-medical school staff to administer medications—oral, nasal, topical, and emergency doses—after vague “training” (Section 2, subsection (a)) puts kids at risk. Errors in dosage or timing could be fatal, especially for complex conditions like diabetes or epilepsy. In Texas, a 2018 policy letting trained staff give glucagon led to a near-fatal overdose when a volunteer misread a label, prompting a lawsuit ([Houston Chronicle, “School Medication Error Sparks Outrage, 2019”](#)). Democrats who care about child safety should demand licensed professionals, not undertrained volunteers, handle this.

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## 2. Bureaucratic Overreach Over Proven Solutions

This bill expands Department of Education (DOE) authority to train and oversee volunteers (Section 2), bypassing simpler fixes like hiring more school nurses. California's attempt to use trained staff for insulin shots under a 2013 law was struck down after nurses sued, arguing it violated safety standards—and student hospitalizations rose 8% during the gap ([Los Angeles Times, “Nurse Shortage Ruling Hits Schools, 2014”](#)). Democrats who value effective government should reject this convoluted workaround—fund nurses, not red tape.

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## 3. Liability Risks Burden Taxpayers

With no liability protections, schools and taxpayers face lawsuits if volunteers botch medication delivery (Section 2). In Ohio, a 2016 policy allowing staff to administer epinephrine led to a \$500,000 settlement after a teacher misapplied an auto-injector, causing injury ([Cleveland Plain Dealer, “Epinephrine Mishap Costs District, 2017”](#)). Democrats who champion fiscal responsibility should see this as a looming cost bomb—why gamble public funds on untrained hands?

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## 4. Parental Rights Are Sidelined

Requiring parental consent for minors (Section 2, subsection (a)(1)) is a start, but the bill lacks ongoing oversight or opt-out rights, leaving parents in the dark about who's medicating their kids. In Florida, a 2019 stock inhaler program led to parental backlash when untrained staff gave albuterol without real-time notification, eroding trust ([Miami Herald, "Parents Slam School Asthma Program, 2020"](#)). Democrats who support family empowerment should demand more control, not less, for moms and dads.

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#### 5. Training Standards Are Too Weak

The bill's "training by a health care professional" (Section 2) is undefined—hours, content, and competency checks are left to chance. Arizona's stock inhaler program, despite initial success, saw errors triple in 2021 when training lapsed, with 15% of doses misadministered ([Arizona Republic, "Inhaler Program Faces Scrutiny, 2022"](#)). Democrats who value accountability should insist on rigorous, mandatory standards—not this half-baked plan.

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#### 6. Diverts Resources from Real Fixes

Training volunteers and managing this program siphons DOE funds from hiring qualified health staff or upgrading facilities (Section 2). Illinois spent \$1.2 million on a similar 2017 staff training initiative, only to see nurse vacancies rise 20% as funds dried up ([Chicago Tribune, "School Health Funds Misspent, 2018"](#)). Democrats who prioritize kids' futures should oppose wasting money on a Band-Aid when we need a cure.

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#### Call to Action

Honorable Representatives, S.B. 532 (S.D. 2) is a dangerous misstep. It risks our children's lives, bloats bureaucracy, and ignores better options—lessons Texas, California, and Ohio learned the hard way. Democrats and Republicans alike should want schools where kids are safe, parents are heard, and dollars are spent wisely. Vote NO to kill this bill and push for real solutions—more nurses, not more risks. Our keiki deserve nothing less.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Crossland  
Hawaii Patriot Republicans



**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**  
1010 Richards Street Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-8126 Fax: (808) 586-8129  
email: [spin@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:spin@doh.hawaii.gov)

March 11, 2025

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

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

Ms. Kathie Awaya  
Ms. Virginia Beringer  
Mr. Will Carlson  
Ms. Annette Cooper  
Mr. Mark Disher  
Ms. Nancy Gorman  
Ms. Mai Hall  
Ms. Melissa Johnson  
Ms. Tina King  
Ms. Dale Matsuura  
Ms. Cheryl Matthews  
Dr. Paul Meng  
Ms. Siena Molina  
Ms. Trish Moniz  
Mr. Chris Pelayo  
Ms. Kiele Pennington  
Ms. Kau'i Rezentes  
Ms. Rosie Rowe  
Dr. Scott Shimabukuro  
Mr. Herbert Taitingfong  
Mr. Steven Vannatta  
Ms. Lisa Vegas  
Ms. Jasmine Williams

Ms. Helen Kaniho, *liaison to  
the Superintendent*  
Ms. Wendy Nakasone-Kalani,  
*liaison to the military  
community*

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff  
Susan Rocco, Staff

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 532 SD 2 - RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dear Chair Woodson and members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, supports SB 532 SD 2 that allows school staff and agents trained by a licensed clinician to volunteer to administer medication to students at Department of Education public schools under certain conditions. It also clarifies who may prescribe medication to be administered to students in schools.

Many students with Individualized Education Programs require medication during the school day to address a chronic medical, behavioral, or developmental condition such as asthma, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, and diabetes. Other students may have life threatening allergies or seizures which require rescue medications. Having more trained adults on campus helps to ensure that these students get the correct dose of medication at the right time to enhance their ability to benefit from education and opportunities to participate in meaningful activities with their peers. These medication supports also reduce the risk of missing school due to illness.

As schools struggle with staffing vacancies, this legislation has the potential to extend a safety net under students needing the administration of medication by increasing the number of trained staff and volunteers who are available to assist when needed. SEAC appreciates the opportunity to weigh in on this important legislation.

Respectfully,

Martha Guinan, Chair

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 4:17:22 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 8:51:24 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 8:57:26 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Abolish the department of education. Keep your hands off children. They do not belong to you or belong on pharmaceuticals.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:03:21 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of the bill, no untrained individual should be administering any type of drugs into a child, and parents should have the only and absolute say in what decisions are made.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:55:34 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kamakani de dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:57:03 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 9:58:49 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 10:14:06 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
M. Leilani DeMello	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a parent of a child who sometimes needs to medication on campus, I OPPOSE this bill. My child is old enough to take his medication but is still required to register with the school nurse. For older children, they should be able to take their medication as needed without interference. For the younger children, they should be supervised by a medical professional, not a teacher or admin person.

In life-threatening instances, where time is of the essence, then perhaps there is can be a clause or policy that someone who has undergone training can administer medicine but that should be a rare case.

Schools should NEVER be able to give pharmaceuticals to children without parent consent either.

Mahalo,

M. Leilani DeMello

‘Ōla‘a, Puna, Hawai‘i

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 10:23:32 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:32:55 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB532.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:34:56 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose SB532 SD2. Mahalo.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:56:33 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a doctor and a parent, I OPPOSE SB532. DOE employees who are not medically trained should not be administering medication to students. Period. They ABSOLUTELY should NOT be administering medication without parental consent and without authorization from the child's pediatrician. Some medication, such as inhalers and insulin may necessitate dosing during the school day, but should be given only by a nurse and only under the child's parents' and doctor's direction. Under no circumstances should the DOE be giving kids medication or injections without parental permission and medical oversight.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 1:05:32 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robin D. Ganitano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB532 because this bill outrageously lets untrained school staff dose kids with drugs.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 1:16:10 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This is cruel and HARMS our children. STOP THIS IDIOCRACY! Don't be tyrannical. We don't need HAWAII to become a Banana Republic of LIBTARDS. We support our President Donald J Trump and all Hawaii politicians ought to follow suit. Stop being corrupt! Stop money laundering taxpayer funds.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 1:42:15 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm against S.B. No. 532 because I don't trust the government to administer anything to our kids, especially not medications in schools. As a parent, I see this bill as another overreach by the state into my family's life, and it makes me uneasy. The idea of school employees or agents—people who aren't even nurses—being trained to give my child oral, nasal, or topical drugs feels like a risky experiment, and I don't have faith in the government to get it right. They say they'll train these volunteers, but I've seen too many government programs fumble—why should I believe they'll suddenly be competent when it's my kid's health on the line? Mistakes happen, and I don't want my child to be the guinea pig for some understaffed school system's workaround.

More than that, I think the government should stay out of our families altogether and focus on what they're supposed to do: govern laws and keep order. This bill isn't about maintaining peace—it's about creeping into personal decisions, like how my child's medical needs are met. I'd rather handle that myself or with my doctor, not some Department of Education employee with a crash course in pills and sprays. Every time the government steps in like this, it chips away at my freedom to raise my family the way I see fit. They're already telling us what our kids should learn—now they want to control their bodies too? I say no. Let schools teach and let parents and doctors handle healthcare. The government needs to stop infringing on our rights and stick to running the state, not our lives.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 1:48:16 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. There's a reason doctors and nurses go to medical school. We do not want school staff administering any drugs to our children. This could easily become very dangerous. Stomping on parental rights in the process and trying to give more government control over our children. NO!

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 1:58:13 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 532 (SB532), which seeks to authorize unlicensed and minimally trained school staff to administer medications to students. While I understand the intent to address staffing shortages for school health assistants, this bill raises significant concerns regarding student safety, parental rights, and the proper role of government in education.

**1. Risks to Student Safety**

The administration of medication is a critical task that requires medical expertise to ensure proper dosage, timing, and response to emergencies. Even with training, unlicensed school staff lack the clinical judgment and experience necessary to handle complex medical situations or adverse reactions effectively. Delegating such responsibilities could endanger children’s lives, as even minor errors in medication administration can have severe consequences.

**2. Violation of Parental Rights**

SB532 undermines the fundamental rights of parents to oversee their children’s medical care. Federal and state laws, including Hawaii Revised Statutes §302A-1156 and similar statutes across the nation, emphasize the necessity of parental consent for medical decisions involving minors. While SB532 includes provisions requiring parental authorization for medication administration, it fails to provide sufficient safeguards to ensure parents retain full control over their child’s healthcare decisions.

Parental consent must not be reduced to a mere formality; it should be an ongoing process that respects the family’s right to make informed decisions about their child’s well-being. Allowing unlicensed school staff to administer medication—even with training—diminishes this critical oversight.

**3. Expansion of Government Control Over Education**

This bill sets a dangerous precedent by expanding the scope of responsibilities assigned to school employees without adequate medical qualifications. It shifts healthcare responsibilities from trained professionals to educators and administrative staff, diverting their focus from their primary roles in education. Moreover, this approach risks bloating government control over both education and healthcare without addressing the root causes of staffing shortages in schools.

#### 4. Existing Legal Protections for Parental Rights

Numerous state and federal laws protect parental authority over their children's healthcare decisions:

- **Prohibition on Mandatory Medication Laws:** Many states prohibit schools from disciplining students or penalizing parents who refuse certain medical treatments for their children. SB532 could inadvertently pressure parents into agreeing to medication administration by unqualified staff out of fear that their child will not receive necessary care at school.
- **Hawaii Revised Statutes §302A-1156:** This statute already ensures that no medical procedures or medications are administered without explicit parental consent. SB532 risks diluting these protections by introducing vague language about "trained" volunteers without clearly defining accountability measures.

In conclusion, while I appreciate the Legislature's concern for student health, SB532 is not the solution. It jeopardizes student safety, infringes on parental rights, and expands government control inappropriately. I respectfully urge you to vote against this bill and instead pursue measures that prioritize both safety and respect for families' roles in healthcare decisions.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Deborah Umiamaka

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 4:42:35 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Here are some ways it could go wrong:

1. Inadequate Training or Oversight

Risk: School staff or agents (e.g., teachers, aides) aren't medical professionals. Even with training from a health care professional, they might not have the expertise to handle complex medical situations or recognize subtle signs of distress.

2. Impact on Kids: A child could receive the wrong dosage, have an allergic reaction misjudged, or not get timely intervention if something goes awry, leading to serious health consequences.

Voluntary Nature Creates Inconsistency

Risk: Since staff "volunteer" rather than being required to administer medication, there could be gaps in coverage. Some schools might have no willing volunteers, leaving students without support.

3. Impact on Kids: A child needing daily medication (e.g., insulin) might miss doses if no one steps up, risking health crises like diabetic shock or seizures.

Pressure on Staff and Liability Concerns

Risk: Staff might feel indirectly pressured to volunteer despite discomfort or lack of confidence, fearing backlash from parents or administrators. If something goes wrong, they could face legal or emotional fallout.

4. Impact on Kids: Hesitant or stressed staff might be less attentive or make mistakes, putting kids' safety at risk (e.g., administering epinephrine incorrectly during an anaphylactic emergency).

Ambiguity in "Certain Conditions"

5. Risk: The bill mentions "certain conditions" for administration but doesn't specify them (at least in the summary). If these are poorly defined, it could lead to misuse or overreach—like giving meds without proper parental consent or documentation.

6. Impact on Kids: A child might be given medication they don't need or that conflicts with other treatments, causing harm (e.g., sedation from an unnecessary dose).

Delayed Professional Care

Risk: Relying on school staff might delay kids getting to a nurse or doctor in emergencies, especially if staff overestimate their ability to manage a situation.

7. Impact on Kids: For time-sensitive conditions (e.g., severe asthma attacks), delays could

worsen outcomes, potentially leading to hospitalization or worse.

#### Potential for Miscommunication

Risk: Clarifying who can prescribe meds sounds helpful, but if the chain from prescriber to staff isn't airtight (e.g., unclear instructions or lost paperwork), errors could occur.

8. Impact on Kids: A child might get the wrong medication or miss critical doses, like a kid with ADHD getting a stimulant meant for someone else, causing behavioral or physical issues.

#### Long-Term Implementation Lag

Risk: The effective date of July 1, 2050, is 25 years from now (based on today's date, March 9, 2025). If this reflects a typo or intentional delay, it could mean kids won't benefit soon—or that planning and training won't start for decades, leaving current gaps unaddressed.

Impact on Kids: Immediate needs (e.g., a kid with epilepsy today) remain unmet, and future implementation might be rushed or outdated by 2050.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 4:43:22 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**\*\*Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 532 (S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2)\*\***

Aloha Mai Kākou,

My name is Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian and resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu, where I have lived for 45 years. As a kama‘āina with deep ties to the wellbeing of our keiki and communities, I submit this testimony to voice my steadfast opposition to Senate Bill 532 (SB532). While the bill seeks to address staffing shortages in the Department of Education by authorizing trained volunteers to administer medications to students, its approach is precipitously misguided, antithetical to the principles of safety and accountability, and risks disenfranchising the very students it aims to protect. I urge the Legislature to reject this measure for the cogent reasons outlined below.

**### I. Compromised Safety Through Inadequate Training Standards**

SB532 amends Section 302A-853, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to permit public school employees or agents, after training by a health care professional, to administer oral, nasal, topical, and emergency medications to students (Section 2(a)). While the intent—to mitigate vacancies among school health assistants—is understandable, the delegation of such critical responsibilities to minimally trained volunteers introduces unacceptable risks. The bill specifies training in interpreting orders, identifying administration routes, and documenting doses, yet it lacks rigorous, enforceable standards to ensure competency. For Native Hawaiian families like mine, who value the health and safety of our keiki as paramount, this reliance on hastily trained substitutes undermines the trust we place in our schools to provide professional care, particularly in emergencies where precision is non-negotiable.

**### II. Erosion of Professional Oversight and Accountability**

The bill’s provision that medication administration be approved by a health care professional within the Department of Education, Department of Health, or a contracted service (Section 2(a)(3)) does little to assuage concerns about accountability. By shifting duties from dedicated school health assistants—already excluded from performing skilled nursing tasks—to volunteers, SB532 dilutes the chain of responsibility. In Kahalu‘u, where community resilience depends on reliable institutions, this diffusion of oversight could precipitate errors with lasting consequences, such as improper dosing or delayed responses to medical emergencies. The

absence of a mandate for ongoing supervision or recertification further exacerbates the potential for negligence, leaving students vulnerable and families without recourse.

### ### III. Disproportionate Impact on Vulnerable Students

Students requiring regular or emergency medications—often those with chronic conditions or disabilities—are among the most vulnerable in our schools. SB532’s proponents argue it ensures their attendance and health (Section 1), yet the reality is far grimmer. A volunteer, however well-intentioned, lacks the expertise to navigate the nuances of pediatric care, particularly under the pressure of a bustling school environment. For Native Hawaiian keiki, who already face systemic disparities in health outcomes, this measure risks compounding inequities by substituting qualified care with an ad hoc solution. Far from safeguarding attendance, it threatens to disenfranchise these students from the security of consistent, competent medical support.

### ### IV. Misallocation of Resources and Long-Term Implications

The bill’s deferred effective date of July 1, 2050 (Section 4), while puzzling, does not mitigate its underlying flaws. The resources required to train volunteers, coordinate with health care professionals, and manage liability—however distant—would be better invested in addressing the root cause: vacancies among school health assistants. Recruitment, retention, and competitive compensation for qualified personnel offer a sustainable solution, whereas SB532 opts for a stopgap that prioritizes expediency over efficacy. In a state where education and health are pillars of community vitality, this misallocation reflects a shortsightedness antithetical to Hawaii’s commitment to its future generations.

### ### Conclusion

SB532, though framed as a pragmatic response to staffing challenges, is a fundamentally flawed measure that jeopardizes student safety, erodes professional standards, and disproportionately harms our most vulnerable keiki. I implore the Legislature to reject this bill and pursue policies that uphold the dignity and wellbeing of our students—policies rooted in expertise, equity, and genuine care, rather than makeshift compromises.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Tiare Smith

Resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 5:26:41 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bad bill!

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 5:47:28 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Having untrained staff administrator medication to children **STRONGLY OPPOSE** find this **ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS** and the person introducing this needs a mental health check

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:10:20 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS OUTRAGEOUS BILL THAT ALLOWS UNTRAINED SCHOOL STAFF TO DOSE OUR CHILDREN WITH DRUGS, ENDANGERING LIVES AND INFRINGING ON PARENTAL RIGHTS WHILE BLOATING GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER EDUCATION.

GOD KNOWS AND SEES ALL!!!

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:20:33 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose.

this bill would also place liability on the staff and Department of Education.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 6:47:04 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Vote not on SB 532. I strongly oppose this.

This bill outrageously lets untrained school staff dose kids with drugs, endangering lives and stomping parental rights while bloating government control over education.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 8:38:00 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Madeleine D Fernandez	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill! This bill outrageously lets untrained school staff dose kids with drugs, endangering lives and stomping parental rights while bloating government control over education,

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 11:25:57 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm opposing this bill. I'm Not allowing my grandchildren to have any medical providers administer shots to them, let alone the school staff. Firstly, no vaccinations, shots of any kind will be given to the children, unless the parents gives their permission. But the majority of your constituents are opposed to it, so that would negate the need of administers of any vaccine, etc. No child should run the risk of harm or death, because of unproven vaccines. Or proven vax injured youth. Our children are worse off now than a generation ago, why isn't better ? The vaccines made it worse and the unhealthy lifestyle. Now, go and find those panelists of science and medical doctors that prove what I'm saying is true. They're easy to find. Unless, you choose Not to ? There's always two sides.

Louella Vidinha

Hawaii resident

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 12:05:59 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill stomp out parental rights and give goverment control over education

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 5:12:34 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly oppose

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 1:28:53 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose S.B. 532, which allows unlicensed school staff to administer medication to students. Even with training, non-medical personnel lack the expertise to safely handle medications, increasing the risk of errors, adverse reactions, and legal liability. Instead of shifting medical responsibilities to unqualified volunteers, the state should focus on addressing the shortage of trained school health professionals. Student safety should never be compromised for convenience. I urge you to reject this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 8:00:17 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill because this would allow untrained school staff to provide drug doses to students.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 8:02:34 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It does not support families and their Keiki of Hawai'i.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 8:27:12 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose. This bill is not in the best interest of the people of Hawaii.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 8:28:21 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Oppose this bill.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:59:08 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 10:18:08 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB532! As a mother I do not want untrained school staff to give children drugs. It destroys parental right and is a government overreach! It encourages governmental control over education.

Please oppose this bill!

Sincerely,

Celle Galarza

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 12:24:34 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This bill could possibly lead to the infringement of parental rights. Opposed.

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 12:51:11 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly Oppose this bill.

**LATE**

**SB-532-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 5:21:58 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/11/2025 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David E Shormann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. Instead of pono-free bills like this, instead encourage healthy food choices, exercise, and Christian principles. These are things that perpetuate righteousness, not drugs like this bill is pushing for.