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SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 04/04/2018
Time: 02:45 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2576, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to equip all classroom doors with interior locks by January 1, 2019. Authorizes the Department of Education to establish an emergency management plan for all schools to prepare for and respond to an emergency or a disaster. Appropriates funds to install interior locks on all classroom doors in Department of Education schools. (SB2576 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) supports the intent of SB 2576, SD2, HD1 but offers comments on this measure.

HIDOE recognizes the concern regarding retrofitting door locks that lock from the inside and installing intercom systems. HIDOE has been conducting vulnerability assessments, surveying schools, and determining need. The bill is not needed at this time as HIDOE will continue to plan, assess and develop cost estimates to seek funding.

HIDOE also recognizes the importance of schools having emergency management plans. Principals are already required to develop and establish emergency action plans (EAP) for their respective schools. The EAPs are detailed and are required to provide procedures for the proper responses to emergency incidents such as evacuation, earthquake, fire, lockdown, shelter-in-place, and tsunami evacuation procedures. Schools are also required to perform mandatory drills (i.e., earthquake, evacuation, lockdown, shelter-in-place, and tsunami), and update their school's EAP once a year as necessary. When drills are performed, teachers, school staff, and students are required to participate and in doing so, are trained on the proper response procedures to emergency incidents. Other related training will require further analysis and coordination for planning implementation and budgetary support needs as well.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



American Heart Association testimony in support of SB 2576, SD2, HD1 “Relating To Education”

The American Heart Association (AHA) supports the intent of SB 2576, SD2, HD1, but suggests amendments to line 9 of the bill. The AHA recommends that the word “may” be changed to “shall.” Saying that the Department “may” do all of the parts that follow that line is unnecessary as it would only allow the status quo to continue.

On any given day, 63.6 million students and staff are in school settings (U.S. Department of Education, 2015). In Hawaii, especially in rural areas, schools represent the largest community workplaces and gathering places. In 2014 approximately 360,000 people suffered a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) in community settings. This figure includes patients of all ages and refers specifically to nontraumatic SCAs from cardiac causes treated by emergency medical services (EMS); it excludes cardiac arrests of noncardiac origin, such as those secondary to trauma, drowning, and narcotic overdose. Of this yearly total, approximately 7,000 were children (≤ 18 years of age). Overall, approximately 10% of victims survive. Prompt CPR can double or triple the chance of survival.

SCA most often results from a disruption in the heart’s electrical system that causes the heart to beat very rapidly and ineffectively (usually from ventricular fibrillation) accompanied by the loss of a pulse. While SCA and heart attacks are both life-threatening, SCA occurs abruptly and without warning, while heart attacks usually have a more gradual symptom onset. SCA requires intervention within minutes to avoid death or permanent neurologic damage. Without immediate CPR to help maintain blood flow to vital organs and the shock of an automated external defibrillator (AED) to reset the heart’s natural rhythm, victims usually die. The evidence strongly supports the fact that CPR and early defibrillation save lives.

In younger children, SCA is more often from a secondary (noncardiac) origin, such as respiratory difficulties. SCA in adults, however, is more likely from heart problems acquired over time. In older children and adolescents, SCA is more often from underlying (congenital) conditions present from birth, whether apparent or not. An exception is commotio cordis. In this case, an irregular heart rhythm (typically ventricular fibrillation) results from a blow to the chest directly over the heart at a critical time during the cardiac cycle. Not fully developed, the chest of a child is more prone to this as compared with an adult. The blow leads to a SCA (in an otherwise normal heart) for which cardiac defibrillation is urgently needed. Although SCA can occur at any time or any location, vigorous exercise appears to act as a trigger for lethal arrhythmias, making SCA more common during athletic practices and games.

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Unfortunately, during routine school physicals or athletic screenings, conditions that can lead to SCA in children and adolescents are difficult to discern and may go undetected. SCA preparedness policies have the potential to benefit any student, staff, or visitor to a school. The training of school staff and students allows that knowledge to be applied anywhere the need arises.

Medical emergency response plans are designed to enhance safety for students, staff, and visitors at schools. To be effective, these plans need to be coordinated and practiced. Although a school's primary mission is education, mandates typically require drills to prepare for fires, earthquakes, and other potential mass-casualty incidents. Beyond preparing for schoolwide emergencies, schools are expected to provide lifesaving responses to individual medical crises, such as a SCA. One way to successfully maintain a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) is to have a clear and concise district policy that is reviewed annually. The CERP should be regularly reviewed for consistency with federal, state, and local laws; nursing practice standards; and established safety practices. The goal of a school emergency response plan is to ensure an organized, efficient, and effective response to life-threatening emergencies.

In 2016, the AHA published a policy statement advocating for state laws requiring the implementation of cardiac emergency response plans (CERPs) in K-12 schools. The statement provides a national model for K-12 schools to develop, implement, practice and evaluate a CERP, while addressing the legal aspects and critical nature of training and drills in bringing a CERP to fruition. The statement recommends that all schools have a CERP in place that contains the following minimum, evidence-based core elements:

- Establishing a cardiac emergency response team
- Activating the team in response to a cardiac arrest
- Implementing automated external defibrillator (AED) placement and routine maintenance within the school (similar to fire extinguisher protocols)
- Disseminating the plan throughout the school campus
- Maintaining ongoing staff training in CPR/AED use
- Practicing using drills (akin to fire and lockdown drills)
- Integrating local EMS with the plan
- Ongoing and annual review and evaluation of the plan.

The Emergency Response Plan for Schools should strengthen each link in the Chain of Survival. The Chain of Survival refers to the links critical to improving the chances of survival and recovery for heart attack, stroke and other emergencies. The links are:



- Recognizing a heart attack, cardiac arrest, stroke, or other emergency and activating the emergency response system, such as dialing 9-1-1
- Early CPR
- Rapid defibrillation
- Effective advanced life support
- Integrated post-cardiac arrest care

It should include focuses on risk reduction, and training and equipment for first aid and CPR. CPR, when administered to a cardiac arrest victim within a short time of the onset of arrest, can improve the chances of survival by two to three times when combined with application of an AED. The AHA recommends that CPR be a high school graduation requirement. In Hawaii, a policy requiring high school CPR training would result in over 50,000 additional people trained in CPR in the state every 4 years. Under new CPR guidelines released by the AHA in 2010, students can be trained in approximately 20 minutes. Survival rates of 50% to 74% have been reported when adult victims of ventricular fibrillation sudden cardiac arrest collapse in front of witnesses and receive immediate bystander CPR plus defibrillation within 3 to 5 minutes of collapse.

The AHA stands ready to assist in providing model CREPs which schools can use in developing emergency medical response plans, and its emergency cardiovascular care volunteers can be valuable resources in advising on development of school CREPs. The AHA has already provided SCA training to Hawaii high school health resource teachers with the intention that they assist health class instructors in training students. The AHA has also provided the DOE with CPR training manikins, and CPR in Schools kits which can be used to educate both students and teachers/faculty. It continues to solicit community grants to provide additional CPR training kits to schools in need of that equipment.

We urge you to amend SB 2576, SD2, HD1 to require that all Hawaii teachers be trained in CPR/first aid, and that school emergency response plans also be required. We recommend that those plans include CERPs. Mahalo for your consideration of this important policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald B. Weisman
Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director

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Please remember the American Heart Association in your will.



SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:24:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony McCurdy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:31:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:32:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Russo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Christine Russo and I am a 4th year Science teacher at James Campbell High School. Prior to working as a full time teacher, I was a substitute teacher throughout the Leeward and Windward district for 4 years. I support this bill for the following reasons:

In regard to interior locks

1. Currently, must exit room to secure it, leaving students vulnerable. Classroom doors need to be secured immediately during a lockdown.
2. Can not tell if the door is locked from the inside (no confirmation)
3. There have been instances where staff is asked to cover a room without being provided a key; it happened to myself as a sub
4. There have been times where half the teachers at school have been in classrooms in which they didn't have a key for do to room switches for an event
5. Dept of Homeland Security recommends interior locks

In regard to enhanced training for both students and staff:

1. At this time, training and safety measures are very inconsistent because measures are left up to each school's principal to implement and there is little accountability
2. Safety plans should be comprehensive across all schools in the state and fairly standardized. FEMA and Dept of Homeland Security have the resources available to create a more comprehensive preparedness plan.
3. Teacher training crucial because:
 - No protocol on initiating an emergency response
 - DOE phones have an emergency button but staff are not consistently educated on using it. I've worked for DOE since 2010 and just learned about the button last

year when I met with admin regarding my security concerns). Other Hawaii teachers report having no idea the button exists or no idea what it does.

- Extent of teacher training is being given the school's emergency plan and watching basic videos at beginning of year
- Evidence that new teachers that arrive mid-school year are not being actively provided the emergency plan
- Not taught how to take student reports of suspicious or concerning behavior seriously and how to report it

4. Student training crucial because:

- Over 75% of school shooters reported their intent to commit a mass shooting however students are not taught how to recognize and appropriately report suspicious behaviors or statements by a peer
- Only consistent training students receive across the board in the DOE is being involved in routine drills
- No accountability on who is educating students on emergency prevention and response. Teachers told in passing to go over safety plan with students but no accountability on who is doing so
- Students not educated on what to do if an incident occurs
 - During passing, at recess, before/after school
 - How to do reverse evacuation
 - What to do if teacher incapacitated
 - What to do when police clear the room (hands up) or
 - Simple concepts like turning ringer off in lockdown or not using phone in bomb threat
- Don't want to scare our kids but important to practice incidents like active shooter incidents. With age appropriate training, students will know what to do and how to respond

Above are just some of the numerous reasons I strongly support SB2576. I appreciate this opportunity to share.

Christine Russo

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:33:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
romel pasaoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Romel Pasaoa. I am a parent of a soon-to-be DOE student (kindergartner) and I reside in Ewa Beach. I am submitting testimony in support of SB 2576 to increase safety and security measures at Hawaii DOE schools.

Every day parents send their children off to school with a blind faith that the DOE is doing everything in their power to keep their children safe. Although education is the DOE's main focus, safety and security should always come first. This is why I support SB 2576.

Installing interior locks on classroom doors will assist teachers and other support personnel in the immediate securing of classroom doors should a violent situation develop nearby. At this time, teachers must exit the classroom in order to secure it, putting the children in immediate danger. I want to know that if an emergency occurs I can protect them with the click of a lock. Statistics show that school shootings occur at a rate of 1 per week in the US. Although Hawaii has yet to experience this tragedy, there have been recent threats involving firearms and/or language related to shootings. In the last week there have been 2 threats to shoot up Mililani Middle and Mililani High School as well as a Campbell High School student allegedly bringing a gun on campus. For Hawaii, it is not if but when and we parents need to send their kids off school knowing that the DOE has measures in place to best protect students.

Training students and teachers is another important aspect to keeping students safe. My students participate in drills but that is the extent of their formal training on how to respond if an emergency occurs on campus. Students are taught to follow their teacher during an evacuation or fire drill but they aren't taught simple things like how to report something suspicious or to turn off their ringers during a lockdown. They are not taught what to do if an intruder breaks into a room and incapacitates their teacher. We do not want to scare our children but age-appropriate education will be a life saver if the worst-case scenario ever occurs.

Currently, teachers receive minimal safety training. Of the training we do receive, all of it occurs in the form of a few videos shown at the beginning of the year. This is insufficient. Furthermore, teachers have expressed fear to engage in simple life-saving techniques such as CPR because they do not want to be sued. If teachers receive the

proper training, this will protect them from being sued because they will have the education on how to properly respond.

These are just some of the reasons I support SB 2576. Again, the safety of our students should be top priority. I appreciate your time and your support.

Romel Pasaoa

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:37:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsay Fassett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a teacher at James Campbell High School. Recently a student fainted as she was filming a presentation given to a roomful of teachers. I was the only teacher in the entire room who was CPR certified. Thankfully the student was ok and did not need CPR or defibrillation, but it made me think. At any moment, any person, no matter how healthy, could be affected by a lifethreatening cardiac arrest. In the time it takes for the ambulance to arrive, they could die or face lifelong injury because there was no one who knew how to give compressions to keep their blood circulating. Not using a defibrillator or using it incorrectly can also adversely affect the outcome. I support this bill because lives can be saved through it.

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:49:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judy Ann Kaku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:53:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kara Borges	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:57:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Reynold Borges	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 2:04:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Trevor Thornbury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 2:18:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lila Mower	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

January 24, 2018

Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 201
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

To the Honorable Senator Gabbard, fellow Hawaii Senators, Representatives and Governor of the wonderful State of Hawaii – Governor Ige:

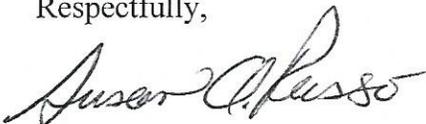
I am writing to you today to express my support for Senate Bill No. 2576, relating to Education.

This subject is near and dear to my heart as I am the mother of a daughter, son and daughter-in-law who are all educators and each of them take their responsibilities to their students very seriously. I am also the grandmother of three young girls and feel very protective of them and have a strong desire for these children to be safe, while having a great education in public schools.

I feel that it is essential that schools regularly update emergency plans; incorporate new technologies to keep school child, teacher and staff safe; increase emergency preparedness training for staff and educate students on emergency preparedness practices and implementing drills to reinforce established practices and procedure. In addition, schools and classroom should be retrofitted to ensure that each room can be “locked down” and that the intercom system is audible throughout the school and school grounds.

Lastly, a sincere thank you to Senator Gabbard for sponsoring this well thought out bill for consideration of the Senate, House of Representatives and Governor Ige. Please support this bill and make it law!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan A. Russo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan A. Russo
Concerned Citizen

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 2:29:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

I'm a Hawaii educator and I support this bill. I'm worried our schools aren't doing enough to prepare for different types of emergencies especially an intruder. When we have a problem on campus it's can be difficult to reach security or an admin and worried how I would notify staff if something needed immediate attention. The procedurs aren't there at this time to handle more challenging situations. I understand the cost is high for interior locks but each classroom should have at least one door that allows the teacher to secure it from the inside. Please be proactive. Let's not wait for a tragedy to occur before action is taken to keep students and teachers safe. Although the cost to implement these measures is high, the cost of liability and casualties will be much higher if and when an emergency or mass casualty event occurs. Make the DOE accountable for ensuring the staff and students are as safe as possible in Hawaii's schools. Let's get Hawaii schools up to par with national safety recommendations.

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 2:36:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary Hashimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please push this through, the safety of our children is paramount.

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 2:36:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
asianna saragosa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 2:44:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christopher smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2576-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 4:15:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Schramm	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We can no longer think that these incidents will not occur in our backyard, that they only happen to others. We MUST make every effort to keep children safe no matter where they are and especially when they are gathered in one place. More needs to be done and this is a simple solution and at least puts us heading in the right direction. I support these measures to keep our children safe in school. NO MORE! If it were your child what would YOU do to keep them safe.. well these are YOUR children. DO IT!