

JAN 17 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that school health
2 assistants may administer medications to students who require
3 certain medications in public schools. However, due to
4 increasing vacancies for school health assistants, many schools
5 experience challenges in meeting the needs of students who are
6 prescribed medications or may benefit from receiving medications
7 in emergency situations while on campus. This lapse of
8 continued care may risk the health and safety of students who
9 rely on timely administration of certain medications.

10 To ensure the health and safety of students, other school
11 staff who volunteer to administer medication can be effective
12 substitutes once these individuals complete training and general
13 instruction on medication administration. Because skilled
14 nursing services, such as those that require a license, are
15 outside the scope even for school health assistants, requiring
16 volunteers to complete, training that includes correctly
17 interpreting the health care provider's orders, identifying the



1 correct route of administration (i.e. oral, nasal, or topical),
2 confirming the correct dose, administering medications at the
3 right time of day, and documentation of medication
4 administration, can ensure accountability and the necessary
5 safeguards for student health.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to authorize public
7 school employees or agents who have completed appropriate
8 training to administer medication for students consistent with
9 standards applicable to school health assistants.

10 SECTION 2. Section 302A-853, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

12 "(a) School health assistants, and public school employees
13 and agents trained by a licensed clinician employed or
14 contracted by the department, may assist students by
15 administering oral, nasal, and topical medication, and in
16 emergency situations, other premeasured medication; provided
17 that:

- 18 (1) If the student receiving the medication is a minor, a
19 parent or guardian requests and authorizes the
20 administration of medication;



1 (2) The medication has been prescribed by a [~~licensed~~]
2 physician[~~, as defined in section 334-1,~~] licensed
3 pursuant to chapter 453, or by [~~a practitioner~~] an
4 advanced practice registered nurse with prescriptive
5 authority[+] licensed pursuant to chapter 457;

6 (3) The administration of the medication is with the
7 approval of a health care professional within the
8 department, department of health, or health care
9 service as defined in section 323D-2 pursuant to a
10 written agreement with the department; and

11 (4) The administration of the medication is necessary for
12 the health of the student and for the student's
13 attendance at school."

14 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

17
INTRODUCED BY:

Michelle N. Kulani



S.B. NO. 532

Report Title:

DOE; Medication Administration; Staff; Agents; Clinicians;
Advanced Practice Registered Nurses; Prescriptive Authority

Description:

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. Clarifies who may prescribe medication to be administered to students in schools.

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