

**American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
District VIII, Hawaii (Guam & American Samoa) Section**

Lori Kamemoto, MD, MPH, FACOG, Chair
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Waipahu, Hawaii 96797



March 18, 2015
1:15 PM
Conference Room 229

TO: Senate Committee on Health
 Senator Josh Green, Chair
 Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education
 Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
 Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

FROM: Lori Kamemoto, MD, MPH, FACOG – Chair
 Greigh Hirata, MD, FACOG – Vice Chair
 American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
 Hawaii (Guam & American Samoa) Section

RE: HB458HD2 - Relating to Health

**POSITION: Strongly Support with the Amendment to Take Effect on Upon
its Approval (instead of July 1, 2050 - Section 3)**

Dear Chairs Green and Kidani, Vice Chairs Wakai and Harimoto, and Committee Members:

The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawaii Section (Hawaii ACOG) strongly supports HB458HD2 that annually provides information about the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine and other vaccines to parents and guardians of students in the 6th grade towards improving the overall health of Hawaii's population.

According to a national ACOG practice advisory, "...despite a slight increase in HPV vaccination since 2012, **overall HPV vaccination among adolescents remains low. Widespread adoption of the HPV vaccine has the potential to dramatically lower cervical cancer rates among women**; according to some estimates, for every year that adoption does not increase, an additional 4,400 women will develop cervical cancer. With each year that passes, we are losing an opportunity to prevent cancer in American

women, and...recent studies have conclusively demonstrated the safety of the HPV vaccine.” (ACOG Practice Advisory on HPV Vaccine Recommendations, February 26, 2015)

“ACOG continues to encourage ob-gyns to discuss the benefits of HPV vaccination with patients ages 11 to 26, and to offer both initial and catch-up vaccination. Moreover, because ob-gyns are not always likely to treat adolescents within the target vaccination age range, they are also encouraged to discuss the importance of vaccinating against HPV with their patients who are mothers of adolescents.”

“Vaccination against cervical cancer is just as important as vaccination for other diseases, and like other vaccines, the HPV vaccine continues to demonstrate that it is both safe and effective.”

Hawaii ACOG strongly supports dissemination of information on HPV vaccine and other vaccines to parents and guardians, so that they may make an accurately informed decision regarding vaccination. We strongly support HB458HD2 with the amendment “to take effect upon its approval” (to replace the effective date of July 1, 2050, Section 3). With every year that HPV vaccine uptake does not increase, we lose the opportunity to prevent HPV cancers and save lives of Hawaii’s women and men.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present this testimony and for your support of Women’s Health.



Hawaii Women's Coalition

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015
TIME: 1:15pm
PLACE: Conference Room 229

STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB458

Aloha Chairs Kidani and Green and members,

The Coalition supports H.B. 458, HD1, which seeks to require public schools to annually provide all incoming 6th grade students with **information** about human papillomavirus (“HPV”) and the availability of HPV vaccines to prevent cervical and other cancers and diseases.

The HPV vaccine is cancer prevention. It is a safe and effective regular pre-teen vaccine. The education campaign advocated by this bill will help to increase HPV vaccine rates and lower cervical and other cancer rates by ensuring that parents and youth are given factual information about the vaccine. Furthermore, giving the vaccine to pre-teens is important because it is the most effective age at which the necessary anti-bodies will build up by the time the youth reaches adulthood.

Cervical cancer is the second leading cancer killer of women worldwide. In the United States, nearly 10,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year and 3700 women die. Since almost 70% of cervical cancer cases are linked to four strains of HPV, increased utilization of the HPV vaccine would greatly reduce our current cervical cancer rates.

HPV is so common that nearly all sexually-active men and women will get at least one type of HPV at some point in their lives. There is no cure for HPV, only treatment for related health problems.

Currently, there are 26 million girls under 13 years of age in the United States.

168,400 will develop cervical cancer if none are vaccinated.
51,100 will die from cervical cancer if none are vaccinated.

In Hawaii, just 55-64% of adolescent girls 13-17 years in Hawaii are covered with one or more doses of the HPV vaccine (National Center for Immunizations and Respiratory Diseases, Immunization Services Division, June 11, 2014). We can do better to protect their health.

With the Affordable Care Act, most private health insurance plans cover the HPV vaccine with no out-of-pocket costs. Although at least 25 states have enacted legislation to either require, fund or educate the public about the HPV vaccine, Hawaii is not one of them.

We need to emphasize that this bill does NOT require vaccination it seeks to educate. It seems a simple measure that should have no opposition if we truly care about preventing HPV caused cancers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawaii Women 's Coalition
Contact: annsfreed@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: alemke@outlook.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB458 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:34:51 PM

HB458

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/EDU on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aurora Lemke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. It is important that all families and individuals be educated about life saving vaccines, especially ones that could possibly prevent cancer! Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: jenny@hiappleseed.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB458 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:41:12 PM

HB458

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/EDU on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jenny Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: joanrich@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB458 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 12:43:34 PM

HB458

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/EDU on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Rich	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The HPV vaccine can prevent cancer. It should be made widely available to young people who can be helped by it. Please pass this bill. Mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: lorikyamada@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB458 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:12:47 PM

HB458

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/EDU on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori K. Yamada	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please approve this bill. The health and welfare of our keiki is very important!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: mlopes@hscadv.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB458 on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:11:35 PM

HB458

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/EDU on Mar 18, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marci Lopes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for your efforts to improve the health and safety of our youth.

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