



**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: [spin@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:spin@doh.hawaii.gov)

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**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

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Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Committee on Finance  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 552, HD 2 - RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE


Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **strongly supports** HB 552, HD 2 that ensures the benefits of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) under state law in the event that the U.S. Congress repeals the ACA.

Access to affordable, comprehensive and timely health care helps to bolster school attendance and improve academic outcomes for ALL students and especially students with disabilities and chronic health conditions. Regular health monitoring and preventive health services reduce the incidence and severity of primary and secondary disabilities and result in huge savings in terms of financial and human resources. Hawaii cannot afford to revert to the past practices of denying health care based on pre-existing conditions and pauperizing families whose children have extraordinary health care needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

Respectfully,

  
Martha Guinan  
Chair

  
Ivalee Sinclair  
Legislative Committee Chair