

Committees:

Vice-Chair, Primary & Secondary Education
Agriculture & Conservation
Health
Higher Education & Career Readiness



Contact Information:

Office: (614) 644-6034
Email: Rep66@ohiohouse.gov

77 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43215

Representative Adam C. Bird
Ohio House District 66

Sponsor Testimony on House Bill 606
Before the House Committee on Primary & Secondary Education
April 5, 2022

Chair Manning, Ranking Member Robinson, and Members of the House Primary & Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony for House Bill 606: Sarah's Law for Seizure Safe Schools, to require schools to create a seizure action plan for each student with a seizure disorder or epilepsy.

Epilepsy is a medical condition characterized by seizures affecting a variety of mental and physical functions. It is the 4th most common neurological disorder in the U.S. and affects people of all ages. Approximately 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy at some point in their lifetime, and about 1 in 10 people will have a seizure at some point in their life. Over 3.4 million Americans are currently living with epilepsy and seizures; of those 3.4 million, 470,000 are children living with epilepsy. Approximately 16,900 of those children live right here in Ohio.

The Seizure Safe Schools Act will improve the care of students, raise awareness, and implement a uniform standard of care and response across the state. It does the following things:

- Requires school personnel to complete a one-time seizure recognition and first-aid response training as part of their professional development requirement;
- Mandates that a student's Seizure Action Plan is made part of the student's file and made available to all school personnel and volunteers responsible for the student;
- Ensures that any FDA-approved medication prescribed by the treating physician is administered to the student living with epilepsy;
 - And finally, the bill includes a Good Samaritan clause.

The training for school nurses is approximately 2.25 hours, available either online or in-person. Continuing education credits are offered, and it is free of charge. The training for school personnel is approximately one hour, also available either online or in-person and free of charge, and provides a certificate of completion.

Chair Manning and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important piece of legislation today. Rep. Ingram and I are happy to answer your questions.