

Good evening, Chairwoman Manning, Vice Chair Bird, Ranking Member Robinson and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee-
My name is Cayleigh Butler and I am eighteen years old. I am a senior at Global Impact Stem Academy, and I will be attending OSU in the fall.

When I was ten years old, I had my first tonic clonic seizure at a friend's house, and after that night, my life changed forever. My seizures happened daily, my parents went out of their way to educate anyone and everyone on my rescue medications. We had teachers and family friends too scared to handle me when I had a seizure, and some teachers and family friends that were willing to learn everything they could on epilepsy and seizures.

What was frightening to my parents is that school districts are thin when it comes to nurses. Our district and many others have one nurse per district! In each school would be an aide. One time an aide gave me too much rescue medication, and I didn't wake up for 48 hours. This could have killed me. Rescue medications should be kept on site for epilepsy. 1 in 26 will have Epilepsy and 1 in 10 will have a seizure sometime in their life this is roughly two student per class. All staff should be educated on what to do if someone was to have a seizure and how to identify seizures Keep student's head safe, turn body onto the side, etc., All nurses should have access to seizure rescue medication a child's life depends on it.

All teachers and staff should know the types of seizures, our family believes this would really help diagnose students appropriately, so many times teachers/soccer coaches told us I had ADHD, or behavioral issues when really I was having absence, and myoclonic seizures.

Students should be educated on epilepsy to help reduce the stigma and bullying, because this problem is the worst when the child already feels different from their fellow classmates.

My late childhood and teenage years were changed drastically because of epilepsy, I had some amazing school staff and teachers willing to do whatever they needed to make me happy and comfortable, if only they had more resources available to them on epilepsy.

Thank you for your time.