



## Epilepsy Organizations Support Nationwide Initiative to Pass Seizure Safe Schools Legislation

The undersigned organizations are proud to support the nationwide initiative to pass Seizure Safe Schools legislation in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This initiative supports the safety and continuity of care of children and youth in the event of a seizure at school.

Epilepsy is a medical condition characterized by seizures, which are sudden surges of electrical activity in the brain, that affects a variety of mental and physical functions. It is a spectrum disease comprised of many diagnoses including an ever-growing number of rare epilepsies. It is the fourth most common

neurological condition. Approximately 1 in 26 Americans will develop epilepsy, and about 1 in 10 people may experience a seizure during their lifetime. There are approximately 470,000 children and teens living with the epilepsies in the U.S.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 336,000 kids have at least one seizure annually. A seizure can happen in any place, at any time and it is vital that school personnel are prepared to respond in this event appropriately and effectively. Compared to students with other health concerns, a study from the CDC found that students 6-17 years of age living with epilepsy were more likely to miss 11 or more days of school in the past year.

The first Seizure Safe Schools bill—the Lyndsey Crunk Act—was initiated and passed in Kentucky through the tenacious advocacy of Epilepsy Foundation Teens Speak Up! representative Lyndsey Crunk. The Epilepsy Foundation developed a model bill based on the Kentucky law and initiated a nationwide effort to pass the legislation in every state in the country and Washington, D.C. Passionate grassroots advocates and other national and local epilepsy organizations swiftly joined and made the initiative even stronger—enacting Seizure Safe Schools bills in 12 states so far: Kentucky, Indiana, Texas, Illinois, New Jersey, Virginia, Washington, Oklahoma, Colorado, Alabama, Nebraska, and Minnesota. Additional states have laid and passed important groundwork towards this initiative.

The model bill has five key components, with enacted laws varying by state: requiring school personnel to complete a seizure recognition and first-aid response training; mandating that the Seizure Action Plan is made part of the student’s file and made available for school personnel and volunteers responsible for the student; ensuring that any medication approved by the Food & Drug Administration and prescribed by the treating physician is administered to the student living with epilepsy; educating and training students about epilepsy and first-aid response; and a Good Samaritan clause.

The undersigned organizations request your support in enacting Seizure Safe Schools legislation in your state to ensure that students living with epilepsy feel safe and supported in school and are able to reach their full academic potential.

If you have any questions, contact Dominique Brown, Epilepsy Foundation, at [dbrown@efa.org](mailto:dbrown@efa.org).

American Epilepsy Society  
CACNA1A Foundation  
CFC International  
Child Neurology  
CMCD Foundation  
Coalition to Cure CHD2  
CURE Epilepsy  
CureSHANK  
Danny Did Foundation  
Dravet Syndrome Foundation  
Dup15q Alliance  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Hope for HIE  
International Foundation for CDKL5 Research  
Jordan's Guardian Angels  
KCNQ2 Cure Alliance

KIF1A.ORG  
Koolen-de Vries Syndrome Foundation  
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation  
Malan Syndrome Foundation  
National Association of Epilepsy Centers  
Paul's Purple Warriors  
PCDH19 Alliance  
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation  
Rare Epilepsy Network (REN)  
RASopathies Network  
Ring14 USA  
STXBP1 Foundation  
SYNGAP1 Foundation  
The Cute Syndrome Foundation  
TSC Alliance

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