

**Lisa Cataldi**

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**From:** Brown, Dominique <dbrown@efa.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025 9:47 AM  
**To:** House Education Committee  
**Subject:** Support for H 5491 – Ensuring Safety and Continuity of Care for Students with Epilepsy  
**Attachments:** 2025-EF letter In Support of H5491.pdf

Dear Chairman McNamara and Members of the House Committee on Education,

I hope this email finds you well. On behalf of the Epilepsy Foundation and Epilepsy Foundation New England, I am writing to express our strong support for H 5491, which seeks to enhance the safety and well-being of students with epilepsy and seizure disorders in Rhode Island schools.

H 5491 is a critical step toward ensuring that school personnel are adequately trained to assist students experiencing seizures, including administering FDA-approved seizure rescue medications and implementing seizure action plans. Proper seizure recognition and response training for school personnel can significantly improve the educational environment for students with epilepsy, helping to minimize learning disruptions and ensure their safety.

Epilepsy affects more than 3.4 million Americans, including 11,100 Rhode Islanders, of whom 1,300 are children. By passing H 5491, Rhode Island will join 26 other states that have already enacted similar protections, reinforcing a national commitment to student safety and inclusion.

Attached is our formal letter of support outlining the necessity of this legislation. We urge the committee to advance H 5491 and help ensure students with epilepsy receive the care and support they need while at school.

Please feel free to contact me at [dbrown@efa.org](mailto:dbrown@efa.org) with any questions or for further discussion.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



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