

Senate Education Committee

Trevor Currier 271-4151

SB 433-FN, establishing the seizure safe schools act.

Hearing Date: January 27, 2026

Time Opened: 9:15 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:43 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Ward, Sullivan, Prentiss and Altschiller

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Abbas

Bill Analysis: This bill requires schools to train at least 2 personnel in recognizing the symptoms of seizures and the administration of seizure rescue medication in the event a seizure occurs at school. Parent or guardian permission is required for the administration of seizure rescue medicine. The bill also establishes a seizure education program in public schools.

Sponsors:

Sen. Lang

Sen. Birdsell

Sen. McGough

Sen. Innis

Sen. Gray

Sen. Gannon

Sen. Abbas

Sen. Watters

Sen. Rosenwald

Sen. Carson

Sen. Perkins Kwoka

Sen. Fenton

Sen. Pearl

Sen. Rochefort

Sen. Altschiller

Rep. Moffett

Rep. Telerski

Who supports the bill: Senator Donovan Fenton (SD 10), Senator David Rochefort (SD 1), Senator Howard Pearl (SD 17), Senator Dan Innis (SD 7), Senator James Gray (SD 6), Senator Cindy Rosenwald (SD 13), Senator Tim McGough (SD 11), Representative Laura Telerski (*Hillsborough – District 11*), Vanessa Blais (*NH Council on Developmental Disabilities*), Karen Rosenberg (Disability Rights Center – NH), Mackenzie Nicholson (MomsRising), Dorothy Crowell, Mary Crowell, Parker Hadd, Jared Buckley, Suzanne Austin

Who opposes the bill: Sarah Trahan and Priscilla Dube

Who is neutral on the bill: No one.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Lang, *Senate District 2*

- Senator Lang introduced and testified in support of Senate Bill 433-FN.
- Sen. Lang stated that 25 states and the District of Columbia have enacted similar laws.
- He said that while coaching a high school soccer team, he saw a player have a seizure, and no one nearby was trained to handle it. So, when this bill was presented to him, he was eager to become the prime sponsor.
- Senator Lang stated that one in ten Americans will have a seizure during their lifetime and that 1,500 students in New Hampshire have epilepsy.
- He explained that this bill will help develop action plans for students with epilepsy, ensure the administration of FDA-approved medication when appropriate, and provide age-appropriate training for students and staff.
- Senator Altschiller asked if Senator Lang would support adding information to the Department of Education website. Senator Lang answered that he isn't opposed to this; however, the bill's focus is on educating those likely to be in the area where seizures are occurring, so those present can act efficiently.
- Senator Prentiss emphasized the importance of having a dedicated person consistently training people across the state, similar to the EpiPen legislation passed in previous years, to ensure uniform information throughout.
- Sen. Lang stated that this legislation is bipartisan and bicameral, and that this bill is an important step toward increasing public awareness of epilepsy and seizures overall.

Dorothy Crowell

- Ms. Crowell testified in support of Senate Bill 433-FN and stated that she has been diagnosed with epilepsy.
- She reflected that her family had faced limitations in life because they had to watch over her and be careful of her seizure triggers.
- She mentioned that in grade school, many staff members were unable to provide the necessary accommodation for her to perform well in a school setting. This bill will help schools understand how to be more considerate of students who have frequent seizures.
- She explained that the knowledge and willingness to help the school district she attended increased over time, but only because her family would talk with school members to educate them about epilepsy. Many kids would receive similar benefits after the passage of SB 433-FN.

Mary Crowell

- Ms. Crowell testified in support of Senate Bill 433-FN.
- She said that it's important for students with epilepsy to know they are valued members of the community and that their epilepsy doesn't define who they are.
- She added that, as someone who has trained school staff on epilepsy, it often happens after a school has gone through a situation that knowing how to treat a seizure in the moment would have been helpful.
- Senator Ward inquired about the duration of the training and the topics covered. Ms. Crowell clarified that the training typically lasts between 60 and 90 minutes. She also mentioned that during this period, staff learn to recognize the first signs of the three most common seizures, how to provide immediate care, and how to help those with epilepsy develop an academic action plan tailored to their needs.

Parker Hadd

- Mr. Hadd testified in support of Senate Bill 433-FN.
- He established that he was diagnosed with epilepsy at nine years old.
- He reflected that, as the son of a military family, he often moved schools and worried whether the school he was going to would be able to provide adequate support for his needs.
- He stated that he has been fortunate to attend schools in districts that were well prepared to support students like himself who needed specific aid to succeed academically. However, he noted that this was not the case across the state. He added that this bill would address the issue by establishing a standard of knowledge for all districts and schools.
- Senator Ward inquired about how Mr. Hadd's experience varied when he transferred between schools.
- He responded that he felt staff were properly trained in first aid and immediate response but did not understand how epilepsy would present itself on a day-to-day basis or how to assist those students.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None.

Neutral Information Presented: None.