



HOPE 4  
CHILDREN  
*with epilepsy*

*For Immediate Release*

## **Hope 4 Children with Epilepsy Announces Legislative Sponsors**

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - *Monday, October 14, 2013*

The families of Hope 4 Children with Epilepsy (H4CE) are pleased to publicly announce the House sponsorship of Representative Gage Froerer (R) of Ogden (District 8).

"I think this gives us an opportunity in the state of Utah to really be proactive, especially when it comes to the health of our citizens and being positive in what we can do to help our children," Froerer said.

It is possible that a legislative bill may not be necessary for the children to be given Alepsia, the epilepsy medicine extracted from a hybrid high-CBD/low-THC cannabis plant. As explained by Annette Maughan, President of the Epilepsy Association of Utah and mother of a child with severe epilepsy; "The fact that Alepsia has less than .3% THC means it meets the definition of an industrial hemp quality product. The current Utah law doesn't exclude its use but also doesn't allow for its use. We are in limbo until Utah lawmakers decide what to call it."

Froerer is scheduled to meet in November with Utah's Substance Abuse Advisory Council about whether or not Alepsia should be on the controlled substance list in Utah. If it is not on the list, that would allow parents to import it without fear of prosecution. If this can't be accomplished without the requirement of legislation, then he'll sponsor a bill in this upcoming session. "We need to take a strong look at this and make sure that we as a legislature and we as citizens understand really what this is and what it's not," Froerer said.

In addition, this weekend H4CE learned they have gained a Senate Sponsor. Senator Stephen Urquhart (R) of St. George (District 29) has stepped forward to lend his support behind the H4CE effort. Welcome aboard Senator and thank you!

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### **ABOUT HOPE 4 CHILDREN WITH EPILEPSY**

We are parents of children with severe forms of epilepsy. Most have multiple types of seizures every day, varying in intensity and length from seconds to hours. The seizures take a toll on the children's over-all health, ability to function, and quality of life. These children also have 10 times increased risk for sudden death. We *desperately* need new treatment options that hold hope for controlling the seizures, stopping the deterioration, and improving quality of life for our kids. We are working to get Alepsia in Utah for oral distribution: as an oil, tablet or tincture. It is NOT smoked and it CANNOT get anyone 'high', but it CAN save the lives of our children.

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