

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

91

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 6, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1530

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Higher Education and Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 1530 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to encourage college students to become educators and educational assistants and to ensure that these graduates work in our public schools by:

- (1) Establishing the Educator and Educational Assistant Loan Forgiveness Program to provide financial support to:
 - (a) Teachers who complete a state-approved teacher education program; and
 - (b) Educational assistants who complete a state-approved educational assistant certification training program,

and agree to teach in the Hawaii public school system at a school located in a rural area; and

- (2) Establishing the Hawaii Educational Assistant Loan Program to provide financial support to students who complete a state-approved educational assistant certification training program and agree to serve as an educational assistant in the Hawaii public school system.

HB1530 HSCR HED-EDN HMS 2007-1781



The University of Hawaii and Department of Education (DOE) supported the intent of this bill. The Department of Budget and Finance opposed this measure.

Your Committees note that DOE has suggested amendments to the bill, and respectfully request that the Committee on Finance incorporate the amendments, as follows:

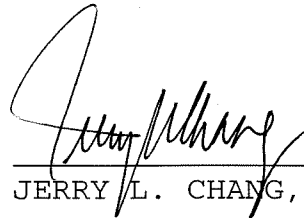
- (1) Require a financial institution within the state, rather than DOE itself, to administer the Educator and Educational Assistant Loan Forgiveness Program and to work in partnership with DOE to ensure a fair selection process; and
- (2) Verify the program that educational assistants must complete, since a state-approved educational assistant certification training program does not exist.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1530 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Higher Education
and Education,



ROY TAKUMI, Chair



JERRY L. CHANG, Chair



