

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 22 2008

RE: H.C.R. No. 314

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2008  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Education and Human Services and Public Housing, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 314 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A REHABILITATIVE AND RELATED SERVICES GRADUATE SCHOOL LOAN PROGRAM WITHIN ITS CENTER ON DISABILITY STUDIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii to establish and administer a rehabilitative and related services graduate school loan program within its Center on Disability Studies.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by the Hawaii Chapter, American Physical Therapy Association, the Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii, Easter Seals Hawaii, and twenty-four individuals. Testimony in opposition to the measure was submitted by the University of Hawaii System.

Your Committees find that the current workforce cannot support the growing need for licensed and qualified rehabilitative and related services professionals in the State. Unfortunately, accredited programs for all of these fields are not available in the State; therefore, we must look to qualified individuals from outside of the State or local residents who have been educated and trained outside of the State to return to Hawaii to provide necessary services. Your Committees find that the provision of assistance to individuals enrolled in graduate programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology,



and school psychology is a viable option for growing the required workforce.

This measure urges the University of Hawaii to establish a rehabilitative and related services graduate school loan program to support the local workforce. Similarly, the Hawaii Educator Loan Program, administered by the University of Hawaii, has been successful in attempting to recruit teacher candidates to teach in critical needs areas in the Department of Education. Your Committees believe that the establishment of a similar program for rehabilitative and related services professionals may also prove successful. Representations were also made that there has been positive feedback from financial institutions that would be willing to administer such a program, if established. Additionally, testimony provided further emphasized the gravity of this situation, and your Committees recognize that further action may be warranted, including the possibility of convening a task force to address the workforce shortage.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Human Services and Public Housing that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 314, and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Education and  
Human Services and Public  
Housing,

*Suzanne Chun Oakland*

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair

*Norman Sakamoto*

NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair





The Senate  
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Human Services and Public Housing**  
**HSP**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HCR 314</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDU/HSP</b>	Date: <b>4/18/08</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
HOOSER, Gary L.				✓
SAKAMOTO, Norman	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original    Yellow    Pink    Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office    Drafting Agency    Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes