

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

245

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2007

RE: S.B. No. 607
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.B.
No. 607 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR EXPERIENTIAL
LEARNING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to expand
experiential learning opportunities in the State.

Specifically, this measure appropriates funds for the
research and development of a statewide web-based database of
experiential learning opportunities and for a study to identify
barriers to businesses or organizations voluntarily providing
experiential learning opportunities.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the
Department of Education, the Department of Business, Economic
Development, and Tourism, the University of Hawaii, the Workforce
Development Council, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State is currently experiencing
workforce shortages in various areas and fields. Increased
efforts are necessary to not only recruit and retain qualified and
skilled workers, but also to grow a highly skilled and
knowledgeable workforce to meet the needs of the State. Your
Committee further finds that experiential learning opportunities
provide a manner by which businesses and organizations can benefit
from additional assistance and workforce development and our



students can benefit from the opportunities to learn and gain experience in various fields. Experiential learning consists of learning through actual experience, allowing students to test academic theories through real world applications. Your Committee believes that experiential learning will afford students with invaluable opportunities to relate their studies to real world experiences.

This measure seeks to expand experiential learning opportunities throughout the State by providing funding to develop a statewide web-based database of experiential learning opportunities. Additionally, this measure commissions a study to identify barriers to businesses and organizations providing experiential learning opportunities to students. Your Committee believes that these efforts will help to increase experiential learning opportunities for students and, in turn, strengthen the development of a skilled and knowledgeable workforce.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 607, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 607, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Education,



NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair



