

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2010

RE: S.B. No. 2068

S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2010
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Education and Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 2068 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EARLY EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a pilot program for mandatory junior kindergarten and kindergarten attendance in one public school complex on each island.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by one state agency. Testimony in support of the intent of this measure was submitted by one private organization. The Governor submitted testimony in opposition. Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's children benefit from early learning opportunities such as junior kindergarten and kindergarten. The pilot program proposed in this measure would evaluate the effects of early education on student performance.

However, your Committee also finds that implementing the pilot program requires additional funding that is not available at this time. Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

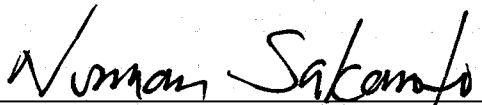
- (1) Deleting the provisions establishing the pilot program;



- (2) Requiring the Early Learning Council, with the assistance of the Department of Education, to assess the existing junior kindergarten and kindergarten program; and
- (3) Requiring the Department of Education to report to the Legislature annually for five years the findings from the Early Learning Council's assessment to inform future decisions affecting early education in Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education and Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2068, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2068, 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 and
Housing,


NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fifth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Education and Housing
EDH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB2068	Committee Referral: EDH, WAM	Date: 2-10-10		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAKAMOTO, Norman (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	/	/		/
TSUTSUI, Shan S.	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred	/			
TOTAL	5			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: right; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Michelle N. Kidani</div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes