

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

359

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 17, 2011

RE: H.B. No. 1323
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
H.B. No. 1323 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE WESTERN INTERSTATE
COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to help improve the return rates of Hawaii residents who receive state support to study in certain professional programs that are not provided in the State through the University of Hawaii system by providing the Hawaii Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) with the authority to establish a repayment policy for students who receive support through the WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP). This bill also more clearly delineates the Hawaii WICHE, and establishes a special fund to facilitate the repayment program.

WICHE supported the intent of this bill. The Department of Budget and Finance provided comments.

Your Committee notes that certain factors must be considered in the development of a new special fund, including the types of deposits the special fund is authorized to accept. Your Committee feels, however, that these considerations are beyond its purview and respectfully requests the Committee on Finance to review the establishment of the special fund in this measure to ensure that it is structured to function in the intended manner.

HB1323 HD1 HSCR HED HMS 2011-2148



Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hawaii Commissioners are appointed both as the commissioners from the State to WICHE and as Hawaii Commissioners to the Hawaii WICHE;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1323, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1323, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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



SCOTT NISHIMOTO, Chair



