

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2116
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 2116 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Board of Education to contract for an Implementation and Transition Coordinator to assist with the implementation of S.B. No. 2115, Regular Session of 2012 (S.B. No. 2115); and
- (2) Make an appropriation in an unspecified amount to the Department of Education for the Board of Education to contract for an Implementation and Transition Coordinator.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor, Charter School Administrative Office, National Governors Association, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, Macalester College Center for School Change, Hawaii Public Charter School Network, Hawai'i Educational Policy Center, Hawai'i Island Charter Schools, Ho'okako'o Corporation, Hawaii Technology Academy, Kanu o ka 'Aina 'Ohana, Kaneohe Ranch, Kewalo Hawaiian Homestead Community Association, and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.




Your Committee finds that the Charter School Governance, Accountability, and Authority Task Force ("Task Force") was established pursuant to Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011, in response to questions and concerns raised by policy makers and advocates alike about the integrity of Hawaii's charter school governance structure and the overall strength of Hawaii's laws in establishing clear lines of authority to ensure accountability of the charter school system.

The Task Force concluded its work and issued its report and recommendations to the Legislature, which are included in S.B. No. 2115. This measure will provide the Department of Education and charter school stakeholders with the means to create a comprehensive transition framework to implement the recommendations of the Task Force to move Hawaii's charter schools toward greater student outcomes.

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

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. 2116, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2116, 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,



JILL TOKUDA, Chair



