

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2535
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. 2535 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INSTRUCTIONAL TIME,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to devise four bell schedules for each grade level to standardize instructional periods across all schools, with the exception of charter schools and multi-track schools; and
- (2) Require each school to choose and implement one of the available bell schedules for each grade level beginning no later than the 2014-2015 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education, Hui for Excellence in Education, and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii State Teachers Association, IMUAlliance, and sixty-five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that there are a number of individual bell schedules that schools have developed and implemented, and while this empowers decision making at the school community level, it has made establishing a base level of instructional time for



all students difficult. This measure will allow for equitable instructional time across all schools while providing each school with a certain amount of flexibility and continuing the discussion of how to best quantify instructional time and increase student access to opportunities where learning takes place.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education shall devise four bell schedule options for elementary, middle, and high schools, rather than for each grade level; and
- (2) Amending the definition of "student instructional hours" to mean:
 - (A) Student learning time in elementary schools during which students are engaged in learning activities, including regularly scheduled instruction, project-based learning assignments, technology-assisted learning, learning assessments within the curriculum, and all other activities in which there is a related general learner outcome attached to such time; and
 - (B) Student learning time in secondary school during which students are engage in learning activities, including regularly scheduled instruction, project-based learning assignments, technology-assisted learning, and learning assessments within the curriculum; provided that for the purposes of determining the adequacy of instructional time for secondary schools, "student instructional hours" may include presentations by persons other than teachers, directed study, time spent in homeroom, student advisory time, statewide performance assessment, and all other activities in which there is a related general learner outcome attached to such time.

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. 2535, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2535, 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



