

Honolulu, Hawaii  
**March 24**, 2014

RE: H.R. No. 188

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2014  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.R. No. 188  
entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION  
AND THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO FORM A WORKING GROUP TO ASSESS  
WHETHER CHILDREN IN HAWAII WHO ARE DEAF OR SEVERELY HARD OF  
HEARING AND WHO CHOOSE THE AURAL/ORAL ROUTE OF COMMUNICATION  
RECEIVE PROPER TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO LEARN SPOKEN LANGUAGE  
SKILLS, "

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to assess whether children in  
Hawaii who are deaf or severely hard of hearing receive the proper  
training and support to learn spoken language skills through the  
aural/oral route of communication by requesting the Superintendent  
of Education and the Director of Health to:

- (1) Establish a working group to assess the needs of deaf  
and severely hard of hearing children in Hawaii, the  
availability of qualified speech therapy professionals,  
the potential role of telehealth services in connecting  
families to necessary services, and the role of  
insurance in providing coverage of necessary therapy;  
and
- (2) Submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and  
any proposed legislation to the Legislature no later  
than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular  
Session of 2015.



The Department of Health, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and several individuals testified in support of this measure. The Department of Education offered comments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 188 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Education.

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



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Twenty-seventh Legislature

HSCR 1228-14

**Record of Votes of the Committee on Health**

| Bill/Resolution No.:<br><i>HR 100</i>   | Committee Referral:<br><i>HLT, EDN, FIN</i> | Date:<br><i>3/21/14</i> |      |          |
|---|---|-------------------------|------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.   |   |                         |      |          |
| The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold<br><input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit) |   |                         |      |          |
| HLT Members   | Ayes  | Ayes (WR)               | Nays | Excused  |
| 1. BELATTI, Della Au (C)  | ✓   |                         |      |          |
| 2. MORIKAWA, Dee (VC)   | ✓   |                         |      |          |
| 3. CARROLL, Mele  |   |                         |      | ✓        |
| 4. CREAGAN, Richard   | ✓   |                         |      |          |
| 5. HASHEM, Mark J.  | ✓   |                         |      |          |
| 6. JORDAN, Jo   |   |                         |      | ✓        |
| 7. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand  | ✓   |                         |      |          |
| 8. OSHIRO, Marcus R.  |   |                         |      | ✓        |
| 9. WOODSON, Justin H.   | ✓   |                         |      |          |
| 10. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani   | ✓   |                         |      |          |
|   |   |                         |      |          |
|   |   |                         |      |          |
|   |   |                         |      |          |
|   |   |                         |      |          |
|   |   |                         |      |          |
| <b>TOTAL (10)</b>   | <b>7</b>                                    |                         |      | <b>3</b> |
| The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted<br>If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.<br><div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">committee acronym(s)</div>                            |   |                         |      |          |
| Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ <i>[Signature]</i>  |   |                         |      |          |
| <b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee    Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office    Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO   |   |                         |      |          |