

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3109

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2014

RE: S.C.R. No. 76
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Health and Education, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 76 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT 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, "

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Request the Superintendent of Education and the Director of Health to convene 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;
- (2) Request the working group to assess whether a gap in education and health care exists for children who are deaf or severely hard of hearing such that they do not adequately receive the guidance of therapists who are trained in the field of oral speech therapy and that children are given the accommodations required by law for their schooling; and



- (3) Require the working group submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Education, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and five individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Aloha State Association of the Deaf.

Your Committees find that the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects the rights of individuals with disabilities to access programs and services that are supported by federal funds. Since public schools receive federal funds, they must provide a free education in the least restrictive environment to students with physical impairments.

Your Committees further find that for children who are seriously hard of hearing or deaf, some of the accommodations that the State is required to provide under these laws are access to least restrictive environments, including carpeted rooms and tiles on the ceiling to absorb sound, and individual education programs to establish a specific course of action for these children's education. This measure will support children in Hawaii who are hard of hearing or deaf and may not be receiving adequate educational opportunities that are legally afforded to them.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that the working group submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Education that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 76, as amended herein, and recommend that it be

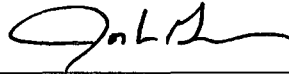


referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 76, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Health and Education,



JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair

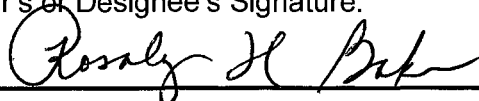


JOSH GREEN, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SCR 76	HTH / EDU, WAM	3-24-2014
<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	
GREEN, M.D., Josh (C)	✓	
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓	
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓	
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.		✓
SLOM, Sam	✓	
TOTAL	4	—
Nay	Excused	1
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
Distribution:		
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency
Goldenrod Committee File Copy		

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Education
EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:* SCR 76	Committee Referral: HTH/EDU, WAM	Date: 3-24-14		
<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
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes