

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 12, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 1531

H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2016  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred  
H.B. No. 1531 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SERVICE LEGAL LOAN  
REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to promote greater access to  
the justice system by establishing the Public Service Legal Loan  
Repayment Assistance Program to assist attorneys who provide  
direct legal assistance to indigent persons through a nonprofit  
organization in repaying their legal-education loans.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson  
School of Law, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 116 Task Force,  
Hawaii Coalition for Immigrant Rights, and numerous concerned  
individuals supported this measure. The Department of Budget and  
Finance and Department of Accounting and General Services  
submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

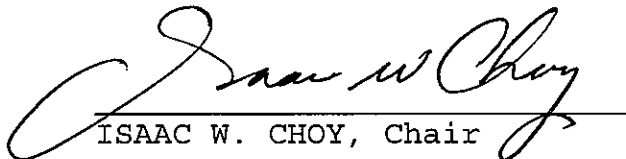
- (1) Adding a finding by the Legislature that offering  
assistance and support to attorneys who provide direct  
legal assistance to or policy advocacy on behalf of  
indigent persons through a nonprofit organization in  
Hawaii is a matter of statewide concern;



- (2) Amending the definition of "eligible employment" to mean "those positions providing direct legal assistance to or policy advocacy on behalf of indigent persons through a nonprofit organization in Hawaii";
- (3) Requiring participants in the Public Service Legal Loan Repayment Assistance Program to work in eligible employment for a minimum of two years;
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2525, to facilitate further discussion; and
- (5) 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. 1531, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1531, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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

  
ISAAC W. CHOY, Chair



