

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2786

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 04 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2782
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2782 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to create an incentive program for educational assistants that work in hard-to-fill schools to attain teacher licensure if they commit to teaching in a hard-to-fill school for three years.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Education, Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission, College of Education at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Special Education Advisory Council.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education struggles to place teachers in schools with high turnover rates or that are designated as hard-to-fill. Although they lack teacher licensure, educational assistants serve important roles in the classroom, including tutoring, mentoring, and assisting the teacher with classroom management and safety. One obstacle many educational assistants face in obtaining teacher licensure is the cost.

Your Committee believes that providing educational assistants with tuition reimbursement for teacher certification programs will encourage more educational assistants to seek out the necessary education to become certified teachers. Additionally, your

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Committee believes that requiring educational assistants to commit to working at a hard-to-fill school for three years in order to receive tuition reimbursement will assist the Department of Education with its hiring needs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation from \$870,000 to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

Your Committee notes that as this measure moves forward, the Department of Education is expected to consider and report back on the estimated cost for providing the alternate route to teacher certification proposed under this measure.

Further, should a standing committee in the House of Representatives decide to hear this measure, your Committee respectfully requests the committee to consider inserting the clarifying language proposed in the Department of Education's testimony regarding this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2782, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2782, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,




JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2782	Committee Referral: EDU/CPH, WAM	Date: 2/26/2016		
<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)	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (VC)				✓
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				✓
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
HARIMOTO, Breene				✓
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	7			4
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes