

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 24, 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2981
S.D. 1
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 Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 2981, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to recognize American Sign Language as a world language and allow public school students who successfully complete courses in American Sign Language to receive credit toward graduation requirements for world language.

The Disability and Communication Access Board, Aloha State Association of the Deaf, Hawaii Deaf Surfriders Association, and several concerned individuals supported this measure. The Department of Education submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.



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. 2981, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2981, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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

Roy M. Takumi

ROY M. TAKUMI, Chair



