

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1016

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 2017

RE: H.B. No. 499  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Human Services and Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 499, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PRESCHOOL OPEN DOORS PROGRAM,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the priority given by the preschool open doors program to children who are not eligible to attend public school kindergarten in the calendar year in which they turn five years of age because their birth date occurs after the kindergarten eligibility date; and
- (2) Provide that priority given by the preschool open doors program to undeserved or at-risk children shall be given to children whose family income is at or below two hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning, State Public Charter School Commission, Native Hawaiian Education Council, Hawaii Children's Action Network, and Kamehameha Schools. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Parents and Children Together.



Your Committees find that the preschool open doors program is Hawaii's school readiness program that provides critical subsidies for low to moderate income families sending their children to a licensed preschool to prepare them for kindergarten. By providing priority for underserved or at-risk children or children who are not eligible to attend public school kindergarten in the calendar year in which they turn five years of age because of their date of birth occurring after the eligibility date, the preschool open doors program creates short-term and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole.

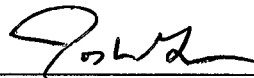
Your Committees have amended this measure by reinstating language that provides priority for the preschools open doors program to four-year-old children who are not eligible to attend public school kindergarten in the calendar year in which they turn five years of age because their birth date occurs after the kindergarten eligibility date.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 499, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 499, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Human Services  
and Education,



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



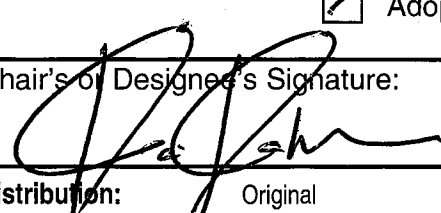
JOSH GREEN, Chair





The Senate  
Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Education**  
**EDU**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 499 HD 1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HMS/EDU, WAM</b>	Date: <b>3/20/2017</b>		
<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
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)	/			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i (VC)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				/
ESPERO, Will	/			/
RIVIERE, Gil				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
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