STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1793

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 28 , 2019

RE: H.R. No. 151
     H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Lower & Higher Education, to which was referred H.R. No. 151 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT THAT SPECIALIZES IN SCHOOL FINANCE TO STUDY THE ADEQUACY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING IN HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure The purpose of this measure is to request that the Department of Education contract with a third-party consultant that specializes in school finance to study the adequacy of public education funding in Hawaii. This measure further requires that the study shall:

   (1) Assess the equity of funding among schools throughout Hawaii's public school system;

   (2) Review school funding studies performed in other states, including the 2016 study "Using the Evidence-Based Method to Identify Adequate Spending Levels for Vermont Schools" by Picus Odden & Associates and the 2007 study "Washington Adequacy Funding Study" by the Educational Policy Improvement Center;

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(3) Employ the evidence-based method to evaluate the
     adequacy of school funding and encourage the use of the
     professional judgement method in its analysis;

(4) Identify variables most closely associated with a high-
     quality education and estimate the amount of additional
     funding needed to provide all public school students in
     Hawaii with an equal education opportunity;

(5) Compare Hawaii teacher salaries with teacher salaries in
     school districts of similar size and cost of living to
     determine compensation characteristics that impact the
     Department of Education's ability to recruit and retain
     effective teachers; and

(6) Include findings, recommendations, and any proposed
     legislation for consideration.

     The Hawaii State Teachers Association and Democratic Party of
Hawaii Education Caucus submitted testimony in support of this
measure.

     Your Committee has amended this measure by replacing language
calling for the study to employ the evidence-based and
professional judgement methods of analysis in evaluating school
funding with language requiring the study to employ multiple
methods of analysis in its assessment.

     As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your
Committee on Lower & Higher Education that is attached to this
report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R.
No. 151, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to
your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No.
151, H.D. 1.

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

_____
JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair

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State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The THIRTIETH Legislature HscR 1793

Record of Votes of the Committee on Lower & Higher Education

Bill/Resolution No.: HR 15f	Committee Referral: LHE, FIN	Date: 3/18/19

❏ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: ❏ Pass, unamended (as is) ☒ Pass, with amendments (HD) ❏ Hold
❏ Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

LHE Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. WOODSON, Justin H. (C)	✓			
2. HASHEM, Mark J. (VC)				✓
3. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)	✓			
4. DeCOITE, Lynn	✓			
5. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling				✓
6. KOBAYASHI, Dale T.	✓			
7. OHNO, Takashi	✓			
8. QUINLAN, Sean	✓			
9. TARNAS, David A.	✓			
10. TOKIOKA, James Kunane				✓
11. OKIMOTO, Val				✓
TOTAL (11)	**7**			**4**

The recommendation is: ☒ Adopted ❏ Not Adopted
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _David Tarnas_

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