

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

46

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 5, 2019

RE: H.B. No. 649  
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 Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 649  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHER HOUSING SUBSIDIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to improve teacher recruitment  
and retention by establishing a teacher home assistance program  
that provides housing vouchers to full-time department of  
education and charter school teachers who teach in hard-to-fill  
schools and meet certain income requirements.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association, Democratic Party of  
Hawai'i Education Caucus, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative  
Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and two individuals  
submitted testimony in support of this measure. The Hawaii  
Housing Finance and Development Corporation submitted testimony in  
opposition to this measure. The Department of Education submitted  
comments on this measure.

Your Committee notes the concern of one of its members that  
if a housing voucher is renewable for one additional year without  
verification, a housing voucher could be used by a former teacher,  
rather than a current teacher.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

HB649 HD1 HSCR HSG HMS 2019-1590



- (1) Amending the maximum, single-year amount for a housing voucher to be an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2050, to promote further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 649, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 649, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Lower & Higher Education.

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

  
TOM BROWER, Chair



