

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

256

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 16 2021**

RE: S.B. No. 1219  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred  
S.B. No. 1219 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
RESEARCH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to remove the  
sunset provision of Act 39, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 39),  
thereby making the Innovation and Commercialization Initiative  
Program at the University of Hawaii permanent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the University of Hawai'i System and Hawaii Business  
Roundtable.

Your Committee finds that Act 39 provided the University of  
Hawaii with express statutory authority to enable and facilitate  
the deployment of university educational and instructional  
resources, university managerial and fiscal resources, and  
university personnel to promote the economic health and  
diversification of workforce opportunities in the State through  
the commercialization of inventions and discoveries generated by  
or at the University of Hawaii. With Act 39, the Innovation and  
Commercialization Initiative Program was established within the  
University of Hawaii under sections 304A-1951 through 1959, Hawaii



Revised Statutes. Under Act 39, this authority is set to be repealed on June 30, 2021.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii, as the only public system of higher education in the State, plays a critical role in diversifying Hawaii's economy by promoting research, discovery, and commercial innovation. For the University to remain competitive, it is imperative that it has a strong and comprehensive research program with the capacity to support commercial innovation. Your Committee believes that it is in the interest of the State to allow the efforts of the University's Innovation and Commercialization Initiative Program, which is still in its early stages, to continue to attain its goal of promoting the State's economic health and diversification of workforce opportunities.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the sunset date of Act 39 by three years, to June 30, 2024; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1219, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1219, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
**HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 1219	HRE, JDC	2-9-21

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312    
 Pass, with amendments 2311    
 Hold 2310    
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt		✓		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Recommendation:  Adopted      Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  
*Michelle N. Kidani*

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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes