STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1502

Honolulu, Hawaii

## MAR 3 0 2021

RE: S.C.R. No. 100

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 100 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE FREE MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS TO STUDENTS ON ALL HAWAII PUBLIC SCHOOL CAMPUSES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to promote greater gender equity in the public school system with regard to menstruation and menstrual hygiene.

More specifically, this measure requests that:

- (1) The Department of Education provide free menstrual products to students on all public school campuses in the State;
- (2) The Board of Education include criteria relevant to gender equity in the evaluation tool of the Superintendent; and
- (3) The Hawaii youth risk behavior survey include specific questions regarding menstrual equity and access to menstrual products.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women,

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii, American Association of University Women of Hawaii, Hawaii State Teachers Association, Neighborhood Place of Puna, Mai Movement Hawaii, Hawaii Women's Coalition, and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education provides students with free hygiene products such as toilet paper and hand soap in restrooms in order to maintain a healthy school environment, but does not provide free menstrual products. Your Committee notes that in the 2019-2020 school year, the Department of Education considered forty-seven percent of its public school students to be "economically disadvantaged" and further notes that a 2020 Aloha United Way report states that sixty percent of families in the State are struggling to meet basic needs due to the economic impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. Your Committee further finds that lack of access to affordable menstrual products contributes to student absenteeism and tardiness. Accordingly, your Committee believes that the requests made in this measure are worthy of consideration and may help to improve gender equity on public school campuses and encourage more consistent school attendance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 100 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chai

## The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:		D	Date:	
SCR 100	EDV, WAM			3/30/21	
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)		X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)		X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani		X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.		_ X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.		X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.		X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.		<b>X</b>			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.		X			
WAKAI, Glenn		X			
FEVELLA, Kurt		X			
				<del>_</del>	ļ
			ļ	<del> </del>	
				<u> </u>	
TOTAL		_17			
Recommendation:  Adopted  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