

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1310

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2021

RE: S.C.R. No. 160

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 160 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN WITH GOALS TO INCREASE TREE CANOPIES ON PUBLIC SCHOOL GROUNDS, DOCUMENT EXISTING INVENTORY AND TALENT, AND IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT AND SUSTAIN THE PLAN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Education to create a landscape management plan with the goal to increase tree canopies on public school grounds, document existing inventory and talent, and identify additional resources required to implement and sustain the plan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Trees for Honolulu's Future.

Your Committee finds that the increase in hot days makes it difficult for students to learn at school. Increasing the tree canopy on school grounds will enable students to continue to play, learn, and gather outside, even as the temperature rises. Trees on school campuses will also absorb storm water, clean the air, beautify campuses, and help towards reaching county and state environmental goals. An abundance of trees on school campuses would help cool each campus and provide a multitude of learning opportunities, including learning the role trees play in the



overall health of the ecosystem, cultural uses of indigenous trees, tree propagation and care, commercial uses of trees, and participation in community programs that promote tree planting. This measure will create a plan to increase tree canopies on school campuses, which will provide students with a cooler, more beautiful, and healthier learning space.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 160 and recommends its adoption.

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



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



