

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2550**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 18 2022**

RE: S.B. No. 2543  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Education and Agriculture and Environment,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 2543 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the  
Department of Education to establish zero-emission vehicle goals  
as part of the sustainable school's initiative and report to the  
Legislature regarding the same.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from Hawaii State Energy Office, Hawaiian Electric Company,  
Ulupono Initiative, 350 Hawaii.org, Climate Protectors Hawaii, and  
two individuals. Your Committees received comments on this  
measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committees find that traditional internal combustion  
school bus engines emit exhaust, which children breathe in while  
riding buses and sitting in traffic, and can potentially increase  
asthma and other health problems. Your Committees further find  
that electric school buses, in contrast, provide potential  
benefits to the quality of student health, the environment,  
utility infrastructure, and cost savings.

Your Committees note, however, that based on the testimony of  
the Department of Education, the transition to zero-emission



transportation cannot be accomplished overnight. Any such transition must limit or avoid disruptions to critical transportation services provided by or through the Department of Education to students.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure to remove the mandate to transition to zero-emission vehicles by a date certain and instead require the Department of Education to conduct a feasibility study regarding the transition to zero-emission transportation in Hawaii's public schools by 2030.

Your Committees have therefore amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (2) Amending section 2 to remove the transition mandate and instead require a feasibility study; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2543, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2543, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Education and  
Agriculture and Environment,

  
MIKE GABBARD, Chair

  
MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes  
Committee on Education  
EDU**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2543</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDU/AEN.WAM</b>	Date: <b>02/07/22</b>
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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
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	/			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt		/		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>		

Recommendation:  Adopted       Not Adopted


Chair's or Designee's Signature:  
*Donna Mercado Kim*

Distribution:      Original      Yellow      Pink      Goldenrod  
 File with Committee Report      Clerk's Office      Drafting Agency      Committee File Copy

**\*Only one measure per Record of Votes**

The Senate  
 Thirty-First Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2543</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDU/AEN, WAM</b>	Date: <b>02/07/22</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
RHOADS, Karl	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt		/		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>		
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency        Committee File Copy				

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