

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

232b

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2022

RE: S.B. No. 3277
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
S.B. No. 3277 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit the
President of the University of Hawaii System from serving
concurrently as a campus chancellor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters and two
individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to
this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that it is a matter of statewide concern
that the President of the University of Hawaii System serves
simultaneously as the chancellor of the University of Hawaii at
Manoa. The combination of both chancellor and system president
leads to inevitable conflicts of interest. While a 2015 report
prepared by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
supported maintaining two distinct and separate positions, the
president of the University of Hawaii served as interim chancellor
of the University of Hawaii at Manoa until the position was
abolished to transition into the newly-established provost
position in 2019. To address concerns regarding simultaneous



service as both chancellor of a University of Hawaii campus and as president of the University of Hawaii, this measure prohibits simultaneous service in both roles.

Your Committee also received testimony from the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, which raised concerns about the president of the university also simultaneously serving as the chief procurement officer. Your Committee further finds that this is also problematic and warrants addressing as the chief procurement officer's role is to comply with the complexities of the procurement code, while the president has other obligations and duties that may not allow for the attention and focus required for such detailed compliance oversight.

Your Committee therefore has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting proposed language to prohibit the president of the University of Hawaii from simultaneously serving as the chief procurement officer for the university; and
- (2) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose.

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. 3277, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3277, 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



