

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2023

RE: S.B. No. 155

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
S.B. No. 155 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for a Network Improvement Community Task Force to develop a kindergarten through grade twelve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teacher education degree for the University of Hawaii and report to the Legislature;
- (2) Appropriate funds for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Entrepreneur-Resident position to assist the Task Force; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the University of Hawaii Maui College's Office of International and Regional Partnerships for study abroad programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.



Your Committee finds that there is a critical need for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teachers throughout the State. A STEM teacher education degree at the University of Hawaii would help the State recruit, prepare, and retain qualified kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) STEM teachers, particularly in high-need areas. To address the State's STEM teacher shortage, this measure establishes a task force to build an infrastructure platform and administer a pilot program for the development of a K-12 STEM teacher education degree.

Your Committee further finds that studying abroad helps students develop foreign language skills and cross-cultural competence. However, studying abroad is financially inaccessible for some students, including for some enrolled at the University of Hawaii Maui College. To increase access to study abroad opportunities, this measure appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Maui College's Office of International and Regional Partnerships to subsidize travel and tuition expenses for students to study abroad.

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. 155 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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


DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Higher Education
HRE

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 155	Committee Referral: HRE, WAM	Date: 2/14/23		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				✓
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Michelle N. Kidani</div>				
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes