

Honolulu, Hawaii  
FEB 02 , 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1631  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 1631 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the School Facilities Authority to work with the Department of Education to prioritize projects for the construction of educator workforce housing;
- (2) Require the School Facilities Authority to include in its annual report to the Legislature its planned actions to increase educator workforce housing; and
- (3) Require the Department of Education to collaborate with certain state and county agencies to submit a preliminary report to the Legislature on the status of lands designated to be transferred to the Department of Education pursuant to Act 307, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the School Facilities Authority; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Department of Research and Development

2024-1034 HB1631 HD1 HSCR HMSO



of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Holomua Collaborative; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Hawaiian Host Group; Hawai'i Community Foundation; HPM Building Supply; Mana Up; Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative; Hawai'i Gas; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; Aio; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Housing and Community Development of the County of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a shortage of qualified teachers, which is further exacerbated by the lack of affordable housing in the State. Your Committee further finds that providing workforce housing is a key strategy for the recruitment and retention of teachers, as it can help make the teaching profession more attractive and also help lessen the financial burden of teachers currently living in Hawaii.

Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education and School Facilities Authority share similar missions in providing workforce housing for educators in the State. However, your Committee believes clarification is needed regarding the collaborative efforts between the Department of Education and School Facilities Authority to ensure the School Facilities Authority has all the necessary tools it needs to provide workforce housing for educators.

Your Committee notes that the lands to be transferred to the Department of Education pursuant to Act 307, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 307), contains lands that are or were under the jurisdiction of the Department of Land and Natural Resources or the counties of Kauai and Maui. However, the Department of Education may want to consider looking at other lands under the jurisdiction of other state and county agencies not covered under Act 307 to utilize any unused or underutilized facilities for educator workforce housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1631, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second



Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1631, H.D. 1, and  
be referred to your Committee on Education.

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

*LAC.*

---

LUKE A. EVSLIN, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Housing

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB11631</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HSG, EDN, FIN</b>	Date: <b>1/31/2024</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HSG Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. EVSLIN, Luke A. (C)	✓			
2. AIU, Micah P.K. (VC)		✓		
3. KILA, Darius K.	✓			
4. KITAGAWA, Lisa				✓
5. MIYAKE, Tyson K.	✓			
6. ONISHI, Richard H.K.		✓		
7. TODD, Chris	✓			
8. MATSUMOTO, Lauren	✓			
<b>TOTAL (8)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>Neil A...</i></u>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				