STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1472

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 1 2025

RE: H.B. No. 429

H.D. 1 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 429, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate moneys to hire teachers and teacher assistants to staff public preschools, and for the purchase of equipment and services for public preschools.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Department of Education, Department of Human Services, Executive Office on Early Learning, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission, Hana High and Elementary School, Hauula Elementary School, Kaala Elementary School, Lanai High and Elementary School, Maunaloa Elementary School, Sunset Beach Elementary School, Early Learning Board, Hawaii Business Roundtable, Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, Hawaii Government Employees Association, Hawaii State Teachers Association, Kamehameha Schools, Special Education Advisory Council, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that public preschools statewide are experiencing significant staffing shortages, especially for

teachers and teacher assistants, and lack sufficient equipment and services to provide a rich environment for Hawaii's young children to learn. Your Committee further finds that appropriating moneys to hire teachers and teacher assistants and to purchase equipment and services for public preschools will help address these challenges and improve student learning outcomes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 429, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ. Ch

The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:		Date:			
HB429 HD1 SD1	Ebu, WAM		3/28/25			
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.						
If so, then the previous decision was to:						
The Recommendation is:						
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313						
Members		Aye	Aye (W	R) Na	ay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)		X				
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)		Z				
AQUINO, Henry J.C.		X		1		
DECOITE, Lynn		X		İ		
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.		X		Ì		
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.		X				
INOUYE, Lorraine R.		X				
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		X			Î	
KIDANI, Michelle N.		X			Ì	
KIM, Donna Mercado		X				Y.
LEE, Chris						V
WAKAI, Glenn		X				
FEVELLA, Kurt						X
TOTAL		11		0		2
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted						
Chair's or Designee's Signature:						
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy						

^{*}Only one measure per Record of Votes