

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1028

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 549
H.D. 3

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 549, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AN EARLY LEARNING
APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program, to be administered by the University of Hawaii, to assist publicly- or privately-run early learning program service providers participating in state- and federally-approved early learning apprenticeship programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Pride at Work-Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawaii; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Commit to Keiki; Holomua Collaborative; Parents And Children Together; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that the financial assistance provided to eligible early learning



program service providers will be limited to covering costs associated with personnel expenses and wages, training expenses, mentorship stipends, administrative costs, and certain compensation enhancements.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 549, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 549, H.D. 3.

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



KYLE T. YAMASHITA, Chair



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