

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

339

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11, 2025

RE: H.B. No. 621
H.D. 1

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

Madame:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 621 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to pay salary differentials for English learner educators; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to fund the pay differentials.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center; Secondary Student Conference Student Achievement Committee; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Collective Bargaining. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and State Public Charter School Commission.

2025-1436 HB621 HD1 HSCR HMSO

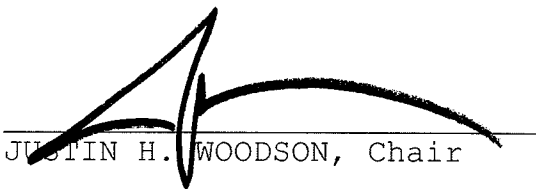


Your Committee finds that there is a critical shortage of qualified English language learner educators in Hawaii, which is having a detrimental impact on the education of students whose primary language is not English. Your Committee further finds that providing a pay differential to English language educators is a proven strategy to incentivize skilled professionals to enter and remain in the profession.

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

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 621, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 621, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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


JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



HSCR 339

Bill/Resolution No.: HBC21	Committee Referral: EDN, FIN	Date: 2/4/25		
<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)				
EDN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. WOODSON, Justin H. (C)	X			
2. LA CHICA, Trish (VC)	X			
3. AMATO, Terez	X			
4. EVSLIN, Luke A.	X			
5. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya	X			
6. KAPELA, Jeanne	X			
7. KILA, Darius K.	X			
8. OLDS, Ikaika	X			
9. SAYAMA, Jackson D.	X			
10. MURAOKA, Christopher L.	X			
11. SOUZA, Kanani	X			
TOTAL (11)	11			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u>Trish La Chica</u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				