STAND. COM. REP. NO. 345

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2025

RE: S.B. No. 494 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 Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 494 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Budget and Finance, in collaboration with the Auditor, to conduct a financial audit of each charter school operating in the State;
- (2) Require a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Public Charter School Commission, Office of the Auditor, Department of Budget and Finance, and Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network.

Your Committee finds that the State's charter schools use public funding to support daily expenses and operational costs. Therefore, ensuring accountability is necessary to effective school operations and high achievement outcomes for students. Accordingly, this measure ensures operational efficiency of charter school operations while providing a high quality education to Hawaii's children.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

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 S.B. No. 494, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 494, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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

MICHELLE N KIDANI Chair

The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:	
SB 494	EDU.	WAN	\cap	2/7/	2025
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 (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)				·	
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)					
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.					
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	·	/			
DECORTE, Samantha					

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TOTAL		6			
Recommendation:		I		<u> </u>	1
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes