

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2024

FEB 07

RE: H.B. No. 2240
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 Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 2240 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAII EDUCATOR LOANS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds into and out of the Hawaii Educator Loan Program Revolving Fund for the Hawaii Educator Loan Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; University of Hawai'i System; State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Educator Loan Program (Program) was established to recruit college students to become educators and ensure that these graduates teach in Hawaii's public schools. Specifically, the Program provides loans to students and allows for those loans to be forgiven after completion of a teaching education program and moving on to teach in a position that meets the requirements of the Program.

Your Committee further finds that Hawaii continues to face an increasing shortage of qualified teachers. Your Committee



recognizes that the seven-year service requirement may be a deterrent to increased Program participation. Your Committee further recognizes that students and teachers who agree to teach in a public charter school are just as deserving of the loans that are provided under the Program to individuals teaching at a Department of Education school.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the Hawaii Educator Loan Program to:
 - (A) Open eligibility for students and teachers who agree to teach as a full-time teacher in a public charter school;
 - (B) Decrease the service requirement for total loan forgiveness to five years; and
 - (C) Increase the percent of the total loan award to be waived annually to twenty percent;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 2240, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2240, 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 115-24

Record of Votes of the Committee on Education

Bill/Resolution No.: HB2240	Committee Referral: EDN, FIN	Date: 2/1/24		
<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)	/			
2. LA CHICA, Trish (VC)	/			
3. KAPELA, Jeanne	/			
4. MARTEN, Lisa	/			
5. MARTINEZ, Rose	/			
6. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z.	/			
7. MIZUNO, May Besario	/			
8. PERRUSO, Amy A.	/			
9. QUINLAN, Sean	/			
10. TODD, Chris	/			
11. GARCIA, Diamond	/			
TOTAL (11)		11		
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
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				