

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1789

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 06 2023

RE: H.B. No. 961
H.D. 1
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 961, 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 increase access to early learning.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Appropriates moneys into and out of the preschool open doors special fund for the preschool grant program, to fill new temporary positions to support the Preschool Open Doors Program and to address data governance issues as required by law;
- (2) Provides greater flexibility for accreditation of service providers;
- (3) Expands access to early learning public prekindergarten programs; and
- (4) Authorizes the preschool open doors special fund to receive federal funds.



Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, University of Hawaii, Executive Office on Early Learning, Early Learning Board, HE'E Coalition, Parents and Children Together, Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Kamehameha Schools, and four individuals.

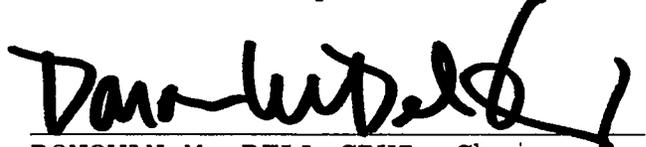
Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Department of Budget and Finance, Early Childhood Action Strategy, Commit to Keiki, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that expanding access to childcare and preschool will help to prepare children to attend kindergarten and create opportunities for their parents and families to return to the workforce.

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

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. 961, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 961, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

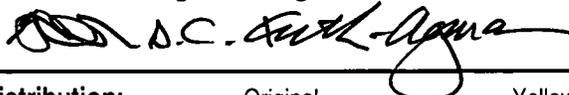
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB961, HD1, SD1	EDU, WAM	4/4/23
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____		
The Recommendation is:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313		
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)
Nay	Excused	
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X	
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X	
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X	
DECOITE, Lynn	X	
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X	
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X	
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X	
KIM, Donna Mercado	X	
LEE, Chris	X	
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X	
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X	
WAKAI, Glenn	X	
FEVELLA, Kurt	X	
TOTAL	13	
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
Distribution:		
Original	Yellow	Pink
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency
		Goldenrod
		Committee File Copy

*Only one measure per Record of Votes