

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1638

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 , 2025

RE: H.C.R. No. 111

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.C.R. No. 111 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE A DETAILED REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE TRUE COST OF PRODUCING SCHOOL MEALS TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY AND AVOID UNNECESSARY PRICE INCREASES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to provide a detailed report to the Legislature on the true cost of producing school meals to ensure transparency and avoid unnecessary prices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education cites the current cost of producing a student lunch at \$9.00. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education has proposed an increase in school meal prices, which would lead to an increase in the price of student lunch from \$2.50 to \$4.75 for grades kindergarten through eight and from \$2.75 to \$5.00 for

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grades nine through twelve by the 2028-2029 school year. Your Committee believes that an increase in prices for school meals will negatively impact Hawaii's working families and students that receive free or reduced-price meals and finds it essential that proper reporting processes are in place to provide transparency as to the costs of producing school meals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 111 and recommends its adoption.

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

*for Justin LaChica*  
JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



