STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2111

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 0 7 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2235

S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa President of the Senate Twenty-Fourth State Legislature Regular Session of 2008 State of Hawaii

## Madam:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 2235 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to provide one educational assistant for every public school class in grades kindergarten through three.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by the Hawaii State Teachers Association and one individual. Comments on the measure were submitted by the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that educational assistants play a vital role in the education and development of our public schools students. Assistance is most necessary at the early education level, as research indicates that early childhood education is instrumental in lifelong success. The State must do more to promote, enhance, and support programs and initiatives that address the needs of our young children. This measure appropriates funds for educational assistants in every public school classroom in grades kindergarten to three. Your Committee understands that the potential cost for this endeavor may be excessive, although true costs are currently unclear, particularly in light of anticipated estimations for the institution of a career ladder program for educational assistants. Therefore, your

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Committee believes that a more conservative initiative may be more appropriate at this time.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by limiting its scope to appropriate funds for an educational assistant in each public school junior kindergarten classroom only.

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. 2235, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2235, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chai

## The Senate Twenty-Fourth Legislature State of Hawaii

## Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU

SB 2235	Committee EDU,	Referral: WAM	Da	te: 2-1-01	8)
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
SAKAMOTO, Norman (C)		X			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)		X			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					X
GABBARD, Mike		X			
HEE, Clayton		<u> </u>			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.					×
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	······				×
SLOM, Sam			X		
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			in e site itsette et		
			sin simon or t		
TOTAL		4	l	Ø	3
Recommendation:  Adopted  Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes