STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3195

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2008

RE: S.C.R. No. 121 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.C.R. No. 121 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR SPEAKERS OF HAWAI'I PIDGIN IN HAWAI'I PUBLIC SCHOOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education to develop bidialectal teaching strategies for teachers whose students' mother tongue is Hawai'i Pidgin.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by fourteen individuals. Testimony in opposition of the measure was submitted by the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is composed of diverse ethnic, as well as socioeconomic, political, religious and philosophical groups. One aspect of the local culture is the use of Hawaii Pidgin by children and adults, particularly in specific geographic areas within the State. Your Committee finds that the implementation of bidialectal, or speaking fluently two dialects of the same language, learning strategies has been beneficial in helping Hawaii Pidgin speaking students to succeed on Standard Achievement Test scores. This measure requests the Department of Education to develop bidialectal teaching strategies for teachers whose students' mother dialect is Hawaii Pidgin to provide students with the skills and knowledge to speak Hawaii Pidgin at home with family and friends but also learn to speak standard

American English while at school or as otherwise necessary and appropriate.

The Department of Education indicated that it currently maintains standards for educating students in the use of standard English, including through programs for English as a Second Language students and English Language Learner students, and opposed this measure due to its low priority and the increased costs associated with its implementation. Your Committee determines that although the Department supports some efforts to assist Hawai'i Pidgin-speaking students, the implementation of additional strategies may still prove useful.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Sato Center for Pidgin, Creole and Dialect Studies and the Department of Second Language Studies of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, in consultation with the Department of Education and the College of Education and the Department of Linguistics of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, to develop bidialectal teaching strategies for teachers whose students' mother tongue is Hawai'i Pidgin, as well as to develop plans for conducting a controlled empirical study on the effectiveness of bidialectal teaching strategies for Hawai'i public schools with strong Hawai'i pidgin populations; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity 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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 121, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 121, S.D. 1.

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

NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair

2008-2012 SCR SSCR SMA.doc

The Senate Twenty-Fourth Legislature State of Hawaii

Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:* SCR 121	Committee Referral: Date: EDU 3 17 08				
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)		ン			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					X
GABBARD, Mike		X			
HEE, Clayton					X
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.					7
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.		X			
SLOM, Sam				- X -	
				rentil	
TOTAL		4		941	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