

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1623

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2019

RE: S.R. No. 49

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.R. No. 49 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING TO EXAMINE AND CONSIDER A SLIDING SCALE TUITION OR FEE SCHEDULE FOR STATE PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the Executive Office on Early Learning to examine and consider a sliding scale tuition or fee schedule for state pre-kindergarten programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning and State Public Charter School Commission. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii State Teachers Association.

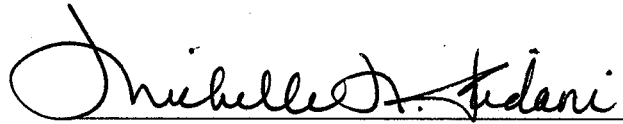
Your Committee finds that it is essential that Hawaii's children attend pre-kindergarten programs to develop the physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional skills necessary to prepare them for success in school life. Additionally, the past decade has seen a substantial increase in public investment in early learning programs by federal, state, and local governments, particularly for economically disadvantaged children. With the State's commitment to early childhood education, there will be greater access to early childhood education for more families.



However, as some households will be able to pay for some of the costs associated with pre-kindergarten education, a sliding scale tuition or fee schedule should be examined and considered.

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.R. No. 49 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



