STAND. COM. REP. NO. 112

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 5 2021

RE: H.B. No. 1360

H.D. 1 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2021 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 1360, H.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:

- (1) Establish an early childhood educator stipend program to be administered by the executive office on early learning to address the shortage of qualified early childhood educators in Hawaii; and
- (2) Require stipend fund repayments for the early childhood educator stipend program to be deposited into the early learning special fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning, State Public Charter School Commission, Early Learning Board, Children's Action Network Speaks!, Kaulanakilohana, Parents and Children Together, National Association of School Psychologists, Early Childhood Action Strategy, and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the demand for quality early care and education far exceeds the amount of available and qualified early childhood educators. Your Committee also finds that preschool teachers are amongst the lowest paid occupations, earning an average less than many non-skilled positions such as parking lot attendants. Moreover, it is difficult to attract individuals to this highly specialized field with such low pay, and there is a common misperception that preschool teachers are babysitters. This measure will support those individuals seeking to become high-quality early childhood educators, thereby moving the State toward reaching its goal of increasing access to high-quality early learning programs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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 H.B. No. 1360, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1360, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and 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

The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Education EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee		Da	ate:	
HB1360, HD1	EDU,	WAM		13/17/2	2021
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
KIDANI, Michelle N. (C)					
KIM, Donna Mercado (VC)					
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.					
KANUHA, Dru Mamo		/			
FEVELLA, Kurt					
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
				ļ	
			<u></u>		
			 	 	
					
		 _	 	<u> </u>	
			<u> </u>		
			 -		
			 	ļ	
			<u> </u>	-	
	·			<u> </u>	
TOTAL		4			1
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