

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3640

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2022

RE: S.R. No. 116

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred  
S.R. No. 116 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO  
REPORT ON THE PAMANTASAN COUNCIL'S SYSTEMWIDE EFFORTS TO  
IMPROVE THE STATUS OF FILIPINOS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the  
University of Hawaii to report on the Pamantasan Council's  
systemwide efforts to improve the status of Filipinos at the  
University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from University of Hawaii Pamantasan Council, Tinalak Filipino  
Education Council, Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights, Sariling Gawa  
Youth Council, and twelve individuals.

Your Committee finds that Filipinos represent one-quarter of  
Hawaii's population, the second largest ethnic group in the State,  
the largest ethnicity in public schools, the third largest in  
community colleges, and the fourth largest at four-year campuses.  
However, Filipino students continue to be underrepresented at the  
undergraduate level and significantly underrepresented in graduate  
and professional degree programs. Additionally, Filipino faculty,  
who have also provided leadership and service to the State and  
Filipino community, are also underrepresented at all University of  
Hawaii campuses as many faculty members serve in temporary



positions while critical, permanent faculty positions remain unfilled.

Your Committee further finds that throughout the University of Hawaii campuses, there are few Filipino-related courses such as Philippine languages, Philippine studies, and Filipinos in Hawaii that are offered. While the University of Hawaii received funding for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions to support the Pamantasan Council and its activities at the University of Hawaii through Act 266, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, the onset of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic prevented the disbursement of funds. Addressing the lack of representation of Filipino students, faculty, and staff may provide the University of Hawaii System with information to increase representation; courses on Philippine languages, culture, and history; and the status of Filipinos at the University of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 116 and recommends its adoption.

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



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-First Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
**HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SR 116</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HRE</b>	Date: <b>3-29-22</b>
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312     
 Pass, with amendments 2311     
 Hold 2310     
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.				/
WAKAI, Glenn				/
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>

Recommendation:     
 Adopted     
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  


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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes