

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

43

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 03 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 497
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 497 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs Agency from the Department of Education to the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for grants to be administered by the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs Agency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs is the state agency link between the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service and local program operators

2025-1138 HB497 HD1 HSCR HMSO



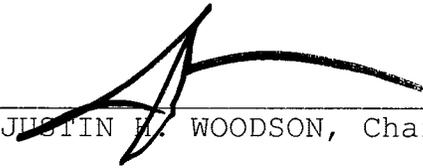
and plays a critical role in ensuring the State meets its programmatic goal of providing at least thirty percent locally grown food in the State's public schools by 2030. Currently, the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs is attached to the Department of Education under the Board of Education. Your Committee finds that it would be more appropriate for the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs to be independent from the Department of Education to allow the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs greater independence, efficiency, and flexibility in conducting compliance audits and fiscal reviews.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language establishing standards for the distribution of the funds appropriated in this measure as grants under the program administered by the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs Agency;
- (2) Amending the preamble;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, 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 is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 497, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 497, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

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



JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Education

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 497	Committee Referral: EDN, AGIR, FIN	Date: 1/28/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EDN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. WOODSON, Justin H. (C)	/			
2. LA CHICA, Trish (VC)	/			
3. AMATO, Terez	/			
4. EVSLIN, Luke A.	/			
5. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya	/			
6. KAPELA, Jeanne	/			
7. KILA, Darius K.	/			
8. OLDS, Ikaika	/			
9. SAYAMA, Jackson D.	/			
10. MURAOKA, Christopher L.	/			
11. SOUZA, Kanani	/			
TOTAL (11)	11			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small style="margin-left: 100px;">committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Justin La Chica</div>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				