

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1217
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
S.B. No. 1217 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO POSITIONS AT THE JOHN A. BURNS
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate
funds to the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine
(JABSOM) to establish:

- (1) Faculty positions in the fields of cardiovascular
biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health
biostatistics; and
- (2) An Environmental Health and Safety Officer staff
position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine and
University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

Your Committee finds that advancing the research conducted by
JABSOM will enable the health care community to better understand
potential health disparities across a wide spectrum of conditions
and diseases commonly experienced by many residents of the State.
Establishing additional faculty positions in cardiovascular



biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics will allow JABSOM to further innovate and fulfill long-term goals to improve health in the State and the Asia-Pacific region. Your Committee further finds that the Honolulu Board of Water Supply will not renew its contract with JABSOM to maintain the chiller plant-cooling system at JABSOM's Kakaako Health and Wellness Medical School. Therefore, JABSOM requires personnel to provide regular maintenance of the system, which is essential to the continued operation of emergency services. This measure appropriates funds to JABSOM to support its goals to improve health outcomes in the State and the Asia-Pacific region and provide emergency services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1217, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1217, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



