

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1513

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.R. No. 113

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.R.
No. 113 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
PROVIDE A DETAILED REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE TRUE COST
OF PRODUCING SCHOOL MEALS TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY AND AVOID
UNNECESSARY PRICE INCREASES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the
Department of Education to provide a detailed report to the
Legislature on the true cost of producing school meals to ensure
transparency and avoid unnecessary price increases.

Your Committee received no testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education has a
statutory mandate to ensure that funds received from the sale of
school meals are at least one-half the cost of preparing the
meals. While costs associated with food service have increased in
the last decade, there are no codified reporting procedures for
the Department of Education to report costs. Without accurate
data, students and families are unable to ascertain the
justification for increases to meal costs, which negatively impact
students who receive free or reduced-price meals. Encouraging the
Department of Education to establish proper reporting processes
will enable transparency, effective communication, and fiscal
responsibility for meal preparation.



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. 113 and recommends its adoption.

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



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



