

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 09**, 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2172

H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 2172 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OF RETIRANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a five-year Critical Skills Retention Pilot Program within the Department of Education to authorize the rehiring of retired educators for hard-to-staff positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Employees' Retirement System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the State has been facing a shortage in teachers and educational officers for positions in hard-to-staff geographic regions and specialized subject areas under the Department of Education, making it very challenging to provide a quality education for Hawaii's students. Your Committee believes that retirants are an asset that can be used to take on difficult-to-fill positions and positions in teacher shortage areas.

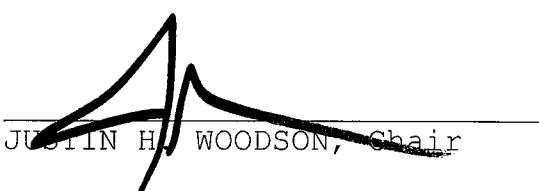


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that no retirant participating in the Critical Skills Retention Pilot program shall have been employed by the State or a county during the twelve calendar months, rather than six calendar months, prior to the first day of reemployment;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) 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. 2172, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2172, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

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

  
JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



HSCR 68-26

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2172		Committee Referral: EDN, LAB, FIN		Date: 2/5/20	
<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. MURAOKA, Christopher L.		/			
10. SOUZA, Kanani		/			
TOTAL (10)		10			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ Trish La Chica					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					