STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1382-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 24, 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2615
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 S.B. No. 2615 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL CAFETERIA MEAL COSTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education to charge no less than one-quarter of the cost of preparing a school meal for each school meal.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that access to nutritious meals is essential for students' academic achievement and overall health. However, increasing school meal costs impose a significant burden on families, resulting in reduced student participation in school meal programs. This measure aims to decrease the required meal cost offset collection and enhance affordability of school meals within Department of Education schools.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and

(2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment 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 S.B. No. 2615, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2615, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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

Committee on Education,

JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair

State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-third Legislature

HSCR 1382-26

Record of Votes of the Committee on Education

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2615	EDN, FIN	3/19/26

☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: ☐ Pass, unamended (as is) ☑ Pass, with amendments (HD) ☐ Hold
☐ 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: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: Trish La Chica

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