

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 529-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1596
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 Human Services & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 1596, H.D. 1, entitled

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii, at a campus designated by the University, to establish a Basic Needs Pilot Program and to allow the University to establish a Housing Stability Pilot Project at that campus.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Aloha United Way; and Hawaii Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that basic needs insecurity, including housing instability, food insecurity, and limited access to essential supports, significantly affects student persistence, academic progress, and overall wellbeing within the University of Hawaii System. This measure establishes a pilot program on a single campus to evaluate whether targeted basic-needs support improves student outcomes before consideration of systemwide expansion.

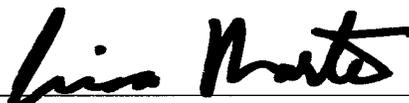
2026-1559 HB1596 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee notes that this measure currently contains an unspecified appropriation amount. Your Committee has requested information regarding the appropriation amount necessary for the University of Hawaii to fulfill the requirements of this measure and once received, will pass this information along as this measure moves through the legislative process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1596, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services &
Homelessness,



LISA MARTEN, Chair



