

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 492-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1891
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. 1891 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require schools to administer Department of Education-approved dyslexia-sensitive universal screening as a part of the universal screening process;
- (2) Implement evidence-based interventions for students who are identified as having dyslexia and students who are flagged as having language and literacy challenges through the Hawaii multi-tiered system of supports;
- (3) Provide professional development for teachers to increase the implementation of structured literacy instruction; and
- (4) Support pre-service teacher programs in training their general and special education teacher candidates in structured literacy instruction.



Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Special Education Advisory Council; HawaiiKidsCAN; The Reading League Hawai'i; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawai'i State Literacy Coalition; He'e Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education aims to address poor reading proficiency rates by administering a universal screener at the beginning, middle, and end of the year for all students from kindergarten to grade nine to identify students who may be at risk for reading failure and to provide evidence-based interventions to support these students. Your Committee notes that not all universal screeners are able to detect or identify students who may have certain underlying language challenges that impact learning, which is challenging because students with dyslexia or other developmental language disorders may need more intensive support or a more individualized intervention program. This measure will support students with dyslexia and students with language and literacy challenges, which will enable these young students to achieve academic success in an effective and efficient manner.

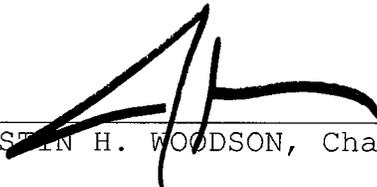
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Delaying the administration of Department of Education-approved dyslexia-sensitive universal screenings to the beginning of the 2028-2029 school year; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

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. 1891, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1891, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.



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


JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



