

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3262**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 30 2026**

RE: H.B. No. 1891  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 1891, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to implement dyslexia sensitive linguistically appropriate universal screenings and evidence-based interventions, offer professional development on structured literacy and evidenced-based interventions, and support pre-teacher programs in training candidates in structured literacy instruction; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Public Library System; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Special Education Advisory Council; Teach for America Hawai'i; HawaiiKidsCAN; The Reading League Hawai'i; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Early Childhood Action Strategy; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter; and thirty-six individuals.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that an estimated fifteen to twenty percent of the school population has dyslexia, yet Hawaii remains the nation's only state without dyslexia-specific student support laws. Early identification of and intervention for dyslexia are critical to improving reading outcomes. Research demonstrates that students who are not reading proficiently by third grade face long-term academic challenges, which often lead to disengagement or behavioral issues. This measure will help to improve instructional quality systemwide and support more inclusive classrooms where students with diverse learning needs can succeed.

Your Committee notes the testimony by the Department of Education that it will pilot dyslexia-sensitive screeners in select schools in academic year 2026-2027 and implement statewide utilization of dyslexia-sensitive screeners in academic year 2027-2028. The Department testified that, based on the outcomes of its pilot project, each school will be allowed to select a dyslexia-sensitive screener for adoption from an approved list. Your Committee finds, however, that requiring statewide adoption of one dyslexia-sensitive screener would better promote consistent, accessible, systemwide utilization for enhanced educational equity. Your Committee further notes that reports from the Department of Education on the school-level implementation of dyslexia-sensitive screeners and related outcomes would increase accountability. Accordingly, your Committee respectfully requests that subsequent Committees to which this measure is referred consider these issues as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 31, 2055, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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

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



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Education**  
**EDU**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1891 HD1	EDU, WAM	03/23/26		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				✓
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink File with Committee Report     Committee     Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes