

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2004
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. 2004 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the Librarian Pilot Program established by Act 135, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025, through 2030; and
- (2) Authorize the Department of Education to select a second school complex on Oahu to be part of the Librarian Pilot Program if no appropriate school complex on the neighbor islands can be identified.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Hawai'i State Public Library System. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that school librarians are an invaluable resource for educational communities, serving students, faculty, and staff with a safe place to develop literacy skills, achieve



reading fluency, and conduct research. Extending the Librarian Pilot Program and giving the Department of Education more flexibility in determining participation in the Pilot Program will help bolster library services in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by 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. 2004, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2004, 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



