

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20

, 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2233
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 Higher Education, to which was referred
H.B. No. 2233, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM-EDUCATION PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the
University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
Resilience and the Department of Health to continue their
implementation of the Hawaii Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
Program-Education Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Health; Executive Office on Early Learning;
Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Public
Health Institute; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm
Bureau; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network;
and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in
opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee
received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i
System and Executive Office on Aging.

Your Committee finds that the discontinuation of the federal
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education Program has
eliminated a proven, preventive public health resource that



improved nutrition, reduced food insecurity, and strengthened families and communities. Your Committee further finds that continued state support is necessary to sustain the program's educational and community-based benefits. This measure will provide funding to enable the University of Hawaii and the Department of Health to continue implementing the Hawaii SNAP-Ed program.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$600,000 each to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience and the Department of Health, for a total of \$1,200,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2233, 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 Higher Education,



ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-third Legislature

HSCR 612-26

Record of Votes of the Committee on Higher Education

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>HB 2233 HDI</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HSH, HED, FIN</i>	Date: <i>02.18.2026</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HED Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya (C)	✓			
2. AMATO, Terez (VC)	✓			
3. EVSLIN, Luke A.	✓			
4. KAPELA, Jeanne	✓			
5. KILA, Darius K.	✓			
6. LA CHICA, Trish	✓			
7. OLDS, Ikaika	✓			
8. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
9. MURAOKA, Christopher L.	✓			
10. SOUZA, Kanani	✓			
TOTAL (10)	<i>10</i>			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <i>Jay...</i>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				