

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3621

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 09 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2338  
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 2338, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase the benefits offered through the Hawaii Community College Promise Program to help meet the unmet direct costs of college attendance for eligible students.

More specifically, this measure amends the Hawaii Community College Promise Program by:

- (1) Requiring the program to provide scholarships for ninety-five percent of eligible students' unmet direct cost needs;
- (2) Excluding grants, scholarships, and other funding sources from the calculation of awards;
- (3) Authorizing the program to coordinate with federal student aid programs to maximize financial support for eligible students; and



- (4) Amending the program's definition of "direct cost" to more closely align with federal financial aid regulations.

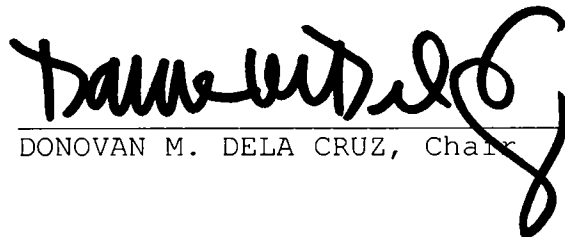
Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Education, University of Hawaii, HawaiiKidsCAN, Hawaii Food+ Policy | Purple Maia Foundation, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education, and two individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Office of the Attorney General and Harold KL Castle Foundation.

Your Committee finds that the changes made by this measure will enhance the Hawaii Community College Promise Program and help expand educational opportunities for students. Your Committee further finds that this measure will ensure that students do not lose state support if they obtain additional funding from other sources, thereby maximizing the students' financial assistance. Your Committee believes that this measure will help foster a more equitable pathway to college attendance and success for many students in the University of Hawaii system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2338, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.


Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB20308, HD1, SD1	EDU, WAM	4/6/2026		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris				X
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	12	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original             Yellow             Pink File with Committee Report             Committee             Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes