

Honolulu, Hawaii  
FEB 18 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2340  
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. 2340 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency  
appropriation for fiscal year 2025-2026 to the University of  
Hawaii to expand and sustain the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study and  
Maui Health Registry.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; one member of the Maui  
County Council; Hawaii Medical Association; American Cancer  
Society Center Action Network; Hawai'i Public Health Association;  
Kaiser Permanente; Hawai'i Climate Change & Health Working Group;  
American Lung Association in Hawai'i; Hawai'i Community Health; and  
numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study  
and the Maui Health Registry have been extremely successful in the  
wake of the disastrous Lahaina wildfires, providing services to  
more than two thousand residents, including medical and mental  
health screenings, biomonitoring, and referrals to care. Your  
Committee further finds that additional funding is needed to



expand and sustain these services, with a focus on children and other high-risk populations, as well as to ensure long-term follow-up.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,500,000.

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. 2340, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2340, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



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ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



