

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 20, 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2472
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 Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 2472
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION
HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND STAFF SALARIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of
Trustees of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund
(Board) to establish the salary for the Assistant Administrator at
a level commensurate with private-sector compensation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Board of Trustees of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health
Benefits Trust Fund and Hawai'i State Teachers Association.

Your Committee finds that compensation for management
professionals in state service lags significantly behind
comparable private-sector salaries, making it difficult for the
Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (Trust Fund) to
attract and retain highly qualified upper level staff. This
compensation gap affects the Trust Fund's ability to maintain
experienced leadership capable of managing complex benefit
programs that serve a large statewide workforce. Your Committee
believes that allowing the Board to set a competitive salary for
the Assistant Administrator will strengthen the Trust Fund's



recruitment and retention efforts and enhance long-term operational stability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2472, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2472, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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


JACKSON D. SAYAMA, Chair



