

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 11**, 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2518  
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. 2518 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of  
Hawaii to develop a facilities and student housing master plan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the University of Hawai'i System; CARES; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's shifting demographic and  
workforce landscape is creating uneven enrollment patterns and  
increasing pressure on instructional facilities, research  
infrastructure, and student housing across the University of  
Hawaii System. Your Committee further finds that these challenges  
call for a coordinated, systemwide approach to facilities and  
housing planning that aligns with projected enrollment, workforce  
priorities, and capital planning needs. This measure will ensure  
that the University develops an integrated master plan to support  
academic excellence, expand workforce training capacity, and  
improve student access and success statewide.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Changing the frequency of updates to the master plan from every five years to every six years;
- (2) Specifying that the University of Hawaii shall submit an initial report to the Legislature before the 2028 Regular Session;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation for an unspecified amount for the University of Hawaii to hire consultants and to make improvements to information systems;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 2518, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2518, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

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

  
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ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



