

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAY 01 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2138
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir and Madam:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 2138, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Adjutant General to expand the Hawaii National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program to include graduate degrees at the University of Hawaii for qualified enlisted personnel in the Hawaii National Guard.

Your Committee on Conference finds that graduate education is critical for the Hawaii National Guard to meet increasing educational and professional demands placed on its members. However, under existing law, the Adjutant General's authority to award tuition assistance funds is limited to undergraduate degrees. By expanding the Hawaii National Guard Tuition Assistance Program to include graduate degrees, this measure represents a strategic

2026-2459 SCCR SMA.docx



investment in leadership development, public service, and economic resilience.

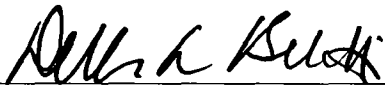
Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2138, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2138, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE



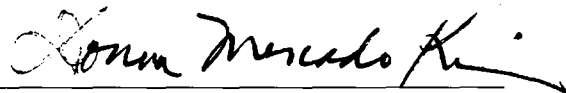
DELLA AU BELATTI
Co-Chair



CAROL FUKUNAGA
Chair



ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT
Co-Chair



DONNA MERCADO KIM
Co-Chair



DEE MORIKAWA
Co-Chair




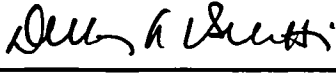
CHRIS LEE
Co-Chair



Hawai'i State Legislature

Record of Votes of a
Conference Committee

CC 98-26

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 2138, HD 1					Date/Time: 9/29/2026 1:52pm				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).									
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.									
<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure					<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.				
Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
FUKUNAGA, Carol, Chr.	✓				BELATTI, Della Au, Co-Chr.	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado, Co-Chr.	✓				GARRETT, Andrew Takuya, Co-Chr.	✓			
LEE, Chris, Co-Chr.	✓				MORIKAWA, Dee, Co-Chr.	✓			
					IWAMOTO, Kim Coco	✓			
					SOUZA, Kanani	✓			
TOTAL	3				TOTAL	5	0	0	0
A = Aye		WR = Aye with Reservations			N = Nay		E = Excused		
Senate Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted					House Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 					House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:		Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod				
		File with Conference Committee Report	House Clerk's Office	Senate Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency				