

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1496-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 , 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2138
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
S.B. No. 2138, H.D. 1, entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

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 received testimony in support of this measure
from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Defense;
Hawai'i Army National Guard; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and
one individual.

Your Committee finds that graduate education plays a critical
role in preparing National Guard members for existing and evolving
workforce demands. Your Committee further finds that providing
National Guard members with access to affordable graduate
education at the University of Hawaii encourages them to remain in
the State, apply their advanced skills locally, and continue
serving Hawaii's communities in military and civilian capacities.

2026-2798 SB2138 HD1 HSCR HMSO



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 S.B. No. 2138, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



