

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2335**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2602
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 2602 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL FUND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require that excess funds in the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund at the end of the fiscal year shall lapse to the credit of the General Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the University of Hawaii System, University of Hawaii Professional Assembly, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State must be prepared to assume financial responsibility for critical programs that rely on federal support. Federal cuts, combined with broader economic trends, threaten the continuation of critical programs and projects that benefit the public. In order to bridge funding gaps, it is necessary for the State to identify and utilize idle funds for the public good. This measure will strengthen the State's fiscal stability and support the continuation of critical programs that rely on federal support.



Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2602, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2602, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Education
EDU

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2602	Committee Referral: EDU, WAM	Date: 02/13/2026		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.				/
DECORTE, Samantha	/			
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes