

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2658
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. 2658 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Board of Regents to expend funds appropriated to renew, improve, or modernize existing University of Hawaii facilities for only those purposes and not for current, ongoing, or anticipated capital improvement projects; and
- (2) Require annual reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that it is of critical importance that public funds are used specifically for their intended purposes. Funds appropriated to the University of Hawaii for Renew, Improve, and Modernize projects, or "RIM" projects, should be used specifically for those projects and not for current or anticipated



capital improvement projects. This measure will hold the University of Hawaii accountable for its expenditures and promote the integrity of state infrastructure investments and ensure that the maintenance and modernization of public facilities are appropriately prioritized.

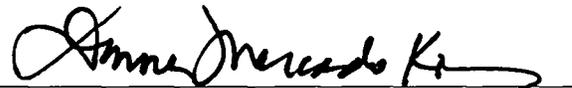
Your Committee notes the concern raised by the Department of the Attorney General that pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution, this measure requires language identifying it as a matter of statewide concern. Therefore, amendments to this measure are necessary to address this issue.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language identifying the issue addressed in this measure as a matter of statewide concern; and
- (2) 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. 2658, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2658, 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 2658	Committee Referral: EDU, WAM	Date: 02/13/2026
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 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:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:
Michelle N. Kidani

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 Original Yellow Pink
 File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes