

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2234-26

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 20 , 2026

RE: S.C.R. No. 196
S.D. 1
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 Education, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 196, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A PROPOSAL FOR A TIERED, COORDINATED, AND STANDARDIZED BELL SCHEDULE FRAMEWORK FOR DEPARTMENT SCHOOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education to develop a standardized bell schedule framework for Department schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the State has established minimum instructional hour requirements to ensure that all public school students receive adequate and equitable educational opportunities. Your Committee further finds that inconsistency in school start and end times across Department schools can create challenges for students, families, and school operations, including transportation coordination, staffing efficiency, and access to extracurricular and community-based programs. Your Committee

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believes that a standardized bell schedule framework, organized by school level while maintaining flexibility within instructional hour requirements, may promote greater predictability, equity, and operational efficiency across the public education system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding additional findings regarding school bus service disruptions in the State and that improved coordination of school bell schedules can be a practical strategy to maximize limited transportation resources;
- (2) Clarifying that, in developing the standardized bell schedule, the Department of Education is requested to:
 - (A) Consult affected stakeholders, including collective bargaining representatives;
 - (B) Comply with applicable collective bargaining agreements; and
 - (C) Consider adopting the framework at the complex area or regional level, rather than requiring site-based consensus at each individual school; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 196, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 196, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

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

for Fresh to Choice
JUSTIN H. WOODSON, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Education

Bill/Resolution No.: SCR 196 SDI	Committee Referral: EDN	Date: 4/16/26		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EDN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. WOODSON, Justin H. (C)	/			
2. LA CHICA, Trish (VC)	/			
3. AMATO, Terez	/			
4. EVSLIN, Luke A.	/			
5. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya	/			
6. KAPELA, Jeanne				/
7. KILA, Darius K.				/
8. OLDS, Ikaika	/			
9. MURAOKA, Christopher L.	/			
10. SOUZA, Kanani	/			
TOTAL (10)	8	-	-	2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				