

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

798

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 6, 2015

RE: H.B. No. 820
H.D. 2

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 820, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Executive Office on Early Learning Prekindergarten Program to serve children in the year prior to their eligibility for kindergarten. The voluntary program, which gives priority to underserved or at-risk children shall, among other things:

- (1) Prepare children for school and participation in society through the use of either of the State's two official languages; and
- (2) Provide access to high-quality early childhood education that addresses children's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development.

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, Democratic Party of Hawaii, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Phocused, Good Beginnings Alliance, Aloha United Way, Early Learning Advisory Board, and two concerned individuals supported this measure. The Department of Education, Department of Human Services, Special Education Advisory Council, State Public Charter School Commission, Hui for

HB820 HD2 HSCR FIN HMS 2015-2219



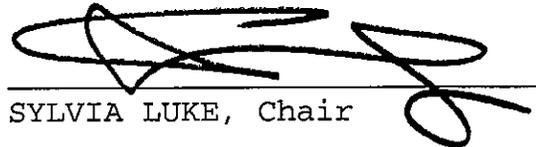
Excellence in Education, 'Aha Pūnana Leo, and Kamehameha Schools provided comments on this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2030, to facilitate further discussion; and
- (2) 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 Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 820, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 820, H.D. 2.

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


SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



