

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2017

RE: S.B. No. 1294

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Higher Education, to which was referred S.B. No. 1294 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i System, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Human Services; UH West Oahu Allied Health Faculty; Native Hawaiian Health Task Force; Kamehameha Schools; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees find that multiple studies testing for factors leading to retention have identified that the more Native Hawaiian students are involved in school activities and the more interaction they have with faculty and their peers, the more likely they are to persevere and succeed in their higher education.

Your Committees further find that health care sector employment is projected to increase by more than one hundred sixty percent by 2040, and the wages in that sector are typically more consistent with a livable wage in Hawaii. These jobs typically



require a bachelor's degree at minimum. Currently only about fifteen percent of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Senate Resolution No. 60, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2014, created the Native Hawaiian health task force to improve the health of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. The goal of the task force is to articulate priorities to advance health care equity for Native Hawaiians which would in turn improve health care for all people of Hawaii. The findings for establishment of a framework were widely discussed and embraced by government agencies, community members, and affected stakeholders. The work of the task force recognized past efforts to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. The task force used nā pou kihi as the cultural framework to organize its findings and recommendations. This measure is an outcome of the recommendations of the task force.

Your Committees further find that establishment of a health sciences academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would promote integration of students into the academic college milieu. This measure reflects the position of the Senate on Native Hawaiian health care, which is to support:

- (1) Collaborative efforts to ensure that funding for Native Hawaiian health care continues;
- (2) Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders by focusing on essential social and cultural determinants that improve health outcomes amongst the State's indigenous population;
- (3) Options to improve health care for keiki and residents in rural areas; and
- (4) Collaborative efforts to provide better dental care for keiki and adults throughout the State's communities.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Higher Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1294 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

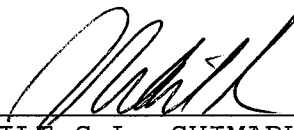


Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Hawaiian Affairs  
and Higher Education,



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KATALI'I KAHELE, Chair



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MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**  
**HWN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB1294</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HWN/HRE, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/9/2017</b>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
GREEN, Josh				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
**HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 1294	HWN/HRE, WAM	2/9/17		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KAHELE, Kaiali'i (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
ESPERO, Will				X KK
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	/			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				X KK
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

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