

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

460

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 , 2021

RE: H.B. No. 546
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 546 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to amend the composition of the Early Learning Board to make a representative from Aha Punana Leo a standing member.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Aha Punana Leo, Kupuna for the Mo'opuna, Ke Kula O Nawahiokalaniopuu Iki Lab Public Charter School, Punana Leo o Hilo, Association of Hawaiian Civics Club and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Early Learning Board. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning Board.

Your Committee finds that Aha Punana Leo is currently the only provider of Hawaiian immersion statewide that offers programs to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and that, to date, the Hawaiian medium early learning provider seat on the Early Learning Board has been filled by a representative of Aha Punana Leo. Your Committee further finds that the Hawaiian medium early learning provider seat is limited to two consecutive, two-year terms.

2021-1656 HB546 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Other provisions of state law prevent the Aha Punana Leo representative from serving more than two consecutive terms, which makes it difficult for the board member to develop and maintain the institutional knowledge and relationships that are necessary to ensure effective advocacy. This measure will remove the Hawaiian medium early learning provider seat and in its place establish the chief executive officer of Aha Punana Leo, or the chief executive officer's designee, as a voting member on the Early Learning Board.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 2050.

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 H.B. No. 546, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 546, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

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


JUSTIN D. WOODSON, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Education

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 546	Committee Referral: EDN, JHA	Date: 2/11/2021		
<input 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. KAPELA, Jeanne (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au				✓
4. DeCOITE, Lynn	✓			
5. GANADEN, Sonny	✓			
6. GATES, Cedric Asuega	✓			
7. HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
8. OHNO, Takashi				✓
9. QUINLAN, Sean				✓
10. TAKAYAMA, Gregg				✓
11. YAMANE, Ryan I.	✓			
12. OKIMOTO, Val	✓			
TOTAL (12)	8			4
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				