

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 795

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05 2021

RE: S.B. No. 245
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 245 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase the number of high school students who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

More specifically, this measure requires the Department of Education's existing working group dedicated to increasing FAFSA awareness and completion to:

- (1) Create a state plan to make FAFSA completion, or an opt-out waiver for FAFSA completion, a statewide graduation requirement by the 2023-2024 school year; and
- (2) Submit a report to the 2022 Legislature.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, Maui Chamber of Commerce, HawaiiKidsCAN, and five individuals.

Written comments in opposition were received from four individuals.



The Department of Education and Office of Information Practices submitted written comments on the measure.

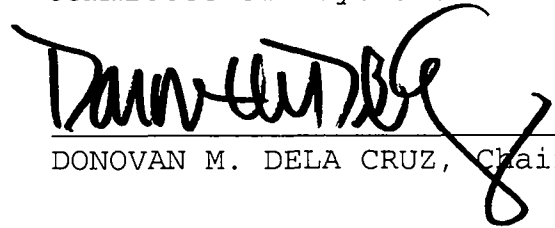
Your Committee finds that facilitating FAFSA completion will allow more high school graduates to make use of federal financial aid for higher education and thus reduce the need for private student loans that often have higher interest rates and lack consumer protections.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 245, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 245, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

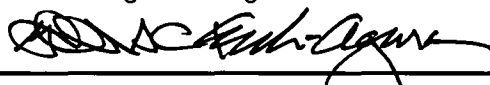


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 245	EDU/HRE, WAM	2/26/21		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.				X
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	10			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes