

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1254

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2021

RE: H.B. No. 1362
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Education and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ACCESS TO LEARNING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Hawaii early childhood educator stipend program to address shortage of early childhood education educators;
- (2) Extend certain effective dates for implementation of Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, relating to access to learning;
- (3) Require the application of a uniform assessment for public and charter school kindergarten students; and
- (4) Allow educational data to be shared using an existing system.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Board of Education, HE'E Coalition, Children's Action Network Speaks!, Early Childhood Action Strategy, Special Education Advisory Council,



Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus, and one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Education, Department of Human Services, Executive Office on Early Learning, Department of the Attorney General, State Public Charter School Commission, Early Learning Board, Kamehameha Schools, and Kaulanakilohana.

Your Committees find that persons considering a career in the early childhood education field face formidable obstacles. Even highly qualified and motivated workers are paid very low wages. As a result, recruitment and retention of workers in the early childhood education field can be extremely challenging. This measure will support individuals seeking to become high-quality early childhood educators, thereby moving the State toward reaching its goal of increasing access to high-quality early learning programs.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that that the purpose of the measure is to improve assessment of the longitudinal education and workforce outcomes of students who were provided with early childhood services;
- (2) Removing the prohibition for private partnership funds to go directly to Department of Education schools for the purposes of opening prekindergarten classrooms;
- (3) Specifying that beginning with the 2024 school year, any parent, guardian, or other person having the responsibility for, or care of, a child who will be at least five years of age on or before December 31 of the school year shall enroll the child in a public school kindergarten unless the child is enrolled at a private school or the child's attendance is otherwise exempt;
- (4) Specifying that a collection agency that is contracted by the Executive Office on Early Learning is allowed to collect a commission;
- (5) Clarifying that the Department of Human Services and the Executive Office on Early Learning shall collaborate to identify the need for child care and early learning in



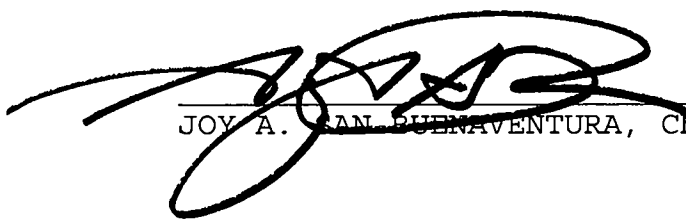
geographic regions of the State and consider using public facilities, including school, libraries, and the University of Hawaii System as locations for child care and early learning programs rather than collect annual data;

- (6) Clarifying that joint reports to be submitted by the Department of Human Services and Executive Office on Early Learning to monitor the progress of implementing the early care and education sector programs shall be submitted to the Legislature prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027;
- (7) Inserting section 13 of Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, to be amended to clarify that the Department of Human Services will work with other state departments and agencies provide inter-departmental data sharing through the statewide longitudinal data system for the purposes of evaluating outcomes through early education to workforce;
- (8) Clarifying that the Department of Human Services will provide licensure for all programs funded by section 15 of Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, for the purposes of health and safety;
- (9) Inserting a blank appropriation to fund one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to coordinate, staff, and facilitate the implementation of Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, which will report to the Early Learning Board; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Education and
Human Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



MICHELLE N. KIDANI, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB1362 HD1	EDU/HMS, WAM	3/22/2021


The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
ACASIO, Laura	✓			
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5			

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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*Only one measure per Record of Votes