

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

673

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 04 2021

RE: S.B. No. 811

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 811 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Department of Education to publish a weekly report on schools that have reported positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii State Teachers Association, and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that although the Department of Education has stated that it has communication policies and set procedures in place to address COVID-19 cases, it generally has not provided information about positive COVID-19 test result cases on all school campuses and the limited information that it has shared has been inconsistent and incomplete. Your Committee further finds, in particular, that the Department of Education does not publicize positive COVID-19 cases listed by school. This measure will require that the Department of Education reports



positive COVID-19 cases, which will allow students, teachers, and communities to make informed decisions on how to proceed.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 811 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



