

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 03 2023**

RE: S.B. No. 1023  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2023  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 1023 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase access to preschool.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Appropriates moneys for the Preschool Open Doors program;
- (2) Provides flexibility regarding the accreditation required for Preschool Open Doors program service providers;
- (3) Expands eligibility for the Executive Office on Early Learning Public Prekindergarten program from children in their year prior to the year of kindergarten eligibility to three- and four-year-old children who are in the two years prior to entry into kindergarten;
- (4) Expands eligibility for the Preschool Open Doors program to include children who are three years old and are in the two years prior to entry into kindergarten; and



- (5) Authorizes the Preschool Open Doors Special Fund to accept federal funds.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Early Learning Board, Hui for Excellent in Education, Kamehameha Schools, Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, Early Childhood Action Strategy, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, and two individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Executive Office on Early Learning, Department of Budget and Finance, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that children who attend two years of preschool are much better prepared for success than children who attend one year of preschool or no preschool at all. Your Committee also finds that this measure will help to increase the number of preschool classrooms in the State, especially classrooms for economically disadvantaged children who would not otherwise attend preschool.

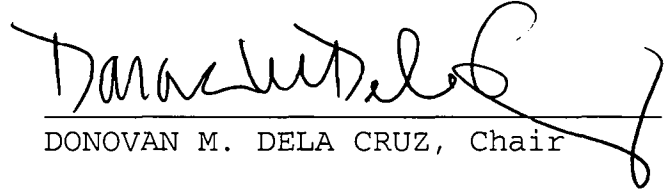
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (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. 1023, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1023, 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-Second Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB1023</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDU, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/22/23</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 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			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</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