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stand. com. rep. no. 3903

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 1 9 2024

RE: H.C.R. No. 205

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 205 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO ADOPT AND PUBLICIZE A STATEWIDE EQUITY STATEMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii to adopt and publicize a statewide equity statement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that college and university-based diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives provide critical support to their respective student populations. However, diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives have faced scrutiny and attacks in recent years, threatening academic freedom and undermining future student success. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii has made substantial contributions to the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion at all ten campuses in the University of Hawaii System, creating opportunities for historically underrepresented populations in higher education, including Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, Filipinos, first-generation college students, and Pell Grant recipients. Therefore, this measure urges the adoption and



publication of a statewide equity statement to affirm support and demonstrate the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 205, and recommends its adoption.

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

DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair

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The Senate Thirty-Second Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Higher Education HRE

Bill / Resolution No.:* HCR 205	Committee Referral: HRE			Date: 04-16-24	
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)					
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)		V/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol		//			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.		V/			
FEVELLA, Kurt					
-					
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	-				
TOTAL		5			
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Michelle Lideri					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

*Only one measure per Record of Votes