

SB701 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Februar	y 12, 2019	1:16 p.m.	. Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) <u>SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENTS</u> SB701, which requires that all State and County documents include accurate and appropriate Hawaiian names and language usage.

While once spoken throughout Hawai'i by Native Hawaiians and foreigners alike, 'Ōlelo Hawai'i was considered to be nearly extinct by the 1980s, when fewer than 50 fluent speakers under the age of 18 were left. A major reason for the deterioration of the Hawaiian language was an 1896 law that required English instruction in Hawai'i schools, which functioned to ban the speaking of the Hawaiian language in Hawai'i schools.

However, great strides have been made to bring about a renaissance of the Hawaiian language, through programs such as the 'Aha Pūnana Leo's Hawaiian language immersion pre-schools, the Department of Education's Ka Papahana Kaiapuni Hawaiian language immersion program, and the Hawaiian language programs of the University of Hawai'i system. Also, in 1978, the Hawai'i Constitution was amended to recognize the Hawaiian language as an official language of the State along with English, making Hawai'i the first state in the union to recognize its native language as an official language.

Although there is much momentum in the revitalization of the Hawaiian language, for 'Ōlelo Hawai'i to thrive, rather than simply survive, its usage must be normalized. SB701 would further the normalization of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i by requiring the use of proper Hawaiian spelling and punctuation in State and County documents, and in the process, reflect the deserved respect for the co-official language of Hawai'i.

The use of accurate and appropriate Hawaiian names and language, as required by this bill, would have a negligible financial impact on the State because corrections would only have to occur when the document, letterhead, symbol or emblem requires replacement or reprinting, or otherwise requires revision. Therefore, the cost of this action is far outweighed by the benefits of revitalizing and once again normalizing our islands' linguistic heritage, and reflecting the appropriate level of respect and recognition that should be directed towards one of the two official languages of the state.

OHA respectfully suggests that the committee may want to amend by deleting PART I, as the Legislature has already designated February as Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i with the passage of Act 28 in 2013. Act 28 originated as a bill in OHA's Legislative Package, and is now codified as § 8-24, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS WITH AMENDMENTS** SB701. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

<u>SB-701</u> Submitted on: 2/7/2019 4:02:14 PM Testimony for HWN on 2/12/2019 1:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Quartero	Testifying for K&R Enterprises.	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE SB 701 because it openly violates the Hawaii State Constitution, Article 15, Section 4:

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Section 4. English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawaii, except that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions only as provided by law. [Add Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978]

Since 1978, the State of Hawaii has failed in their obligation to operate under the guidance, judgement and jury of two constitutional languages and must be redressed by being properly displayed in all government business for Hawaii to evolve into a CONSTITUTIONAL EXISTENCE wherefore, SB 701 attacks and violates the protections granted to the Hawaii Islands under the Hawaii State Constitution. Hawaiian language is being denied its proper place in Hawaii Islands society. Therefore since 1978, Hawaii politicians and Hawaii courts have never ratified constitutional commencement of law by adopting both constitutional languages for official business despite being made law. If we are not proceeding under the protection of law, of what purpose do we assemble? RACISM includes a system of power, whereby one race may subject others to systemic oppression. RACISM IS ATTENDED BY ACTUAL POWER OF OPPRESSION (Unlawful Enrichment). Hawaii REQUIRES two languages to convene constitutionally.

Regards,

Robert Quartero

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies 46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205 Kane'ohe, HI 96744 (808) 247-7942 Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director e-mail <u>Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com</u> Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: Ka 'Aha Kenekoa, Ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i

Ka 'Aha Ho'olohe, Pō'alua, Pepeluali 12, 2019/

'O SB 701 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

Designates the month of February as "Olelo Hawai'i Month" to celebrate and encourage the use of Hawaiian language. Requires all letterheads, documents, symbols, and emblems of the State and other political subdivisions that include Hawaiian words or names to include accurate and appropriate Hawaiian names, spelling, and punctuation. Establishes references for accurate, appropriate, and authentic Hawaiian names and words, including proper Hawaiian spelling and punctuation. Clarifies that the full text of bills and other official documents are not required to be written in Hawaiian and that misspelled or incorrectly punctuated Hawaiian words and names shall not invalidate the documents or render them unenforceable and no cause of action shall arise accordingly. {No ke aha 'a'ole 'ōlelo Hawai'i i keia hō'ike 'ano?] HO'IKE KAKO'O

Aloha kākou e na po'e lala o Ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i ma Ka 'Aha Kenekoa

No'u ka hau'oli e kako'o i keia pila SB701.

'Oi aku ka maika'i o kēia pila SB701 ma mua o nā pila maika'i'ole o SB195 a me SB641. No ke aha? E 'olu'olu, e heluhelu i ka'u hō'ike e pili ana i kēlā 'elua mau pila.

Mahalo iā 'oukou.

<u>SB-701</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2019 1:15:05 PM Testimony for HWN on 2/12/2019 1:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

<u>SB-701</u> Submitted on: 2/7/2019 12:39:29 PM Testimony for HWN on 2/12/2019 1:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

KÄ• koʻo au i kÄ"ia palala ʻo SB701. ʻO ka ʻÅ• lelo makuahine hiwahiwa, ko kÄ• kou pono o kÄ"ia 'Ä• ina nei.

I support bill SB701. Our precious Hawaiian language is what is righteous in these islands.

Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

PÄ• lolo, Oʻahu

<u>SB-701</u> Submitted on: 2/7/2019 1:16:25 PM Testimony for HWN on 2/12/2019 1:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehaulani Shintani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

<u>SB-701</u> Submitted on: 2/7/2019 1:19:05 PM Testimony for HWN on 2/12/2019 1:16:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kea Kala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Ekolu (3) pila e nana ia nei no ka apono: Ke kulana a me ka hoohana ana ia o na lawelawe olelo Hawaii a me na palapala i hoopuka ia e na aupuni o ka mokuaina a me ke kalana.

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195_.pdf) S.B. No. 642 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB642_.pdf) S.B. No. 701 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB701_.pdf)

Manao e hookomo ai: E hookomo i ka olelo iloko o na pila maluna nei e hoike ana he poe makamae ka poe olelo Hawaii i hanai ia ai maloko o ia olelo e like me ia i hoike ia malalo nei a he pono e kakoo ia lakou ma ke kanawai e kokua ia ai ka lakou ano olelo. E kakoo pu ia ke ao ana i ka olelo.

Manao e kue ia nei: a) ke koi ana he pono e hoohana ia ka okina me ke kahako maloko o na palapala i hoomakaukau ia e na keena a i ole na luna o ka mokuaina a i ole no ka mokuaina a i ole ke kalana, a b) ke koi ana he pono e hoohana ia na huaolelo hou maloko o ka puke, o *Mamaka Kaiao* na ka Lexicon Committee no na palapala i hoopuka ia e na keena o ke aupuni mokuaina a me ke kalana.

He noi:

1. E hookomo i ka olelo maloko o na pila i hoike ia maluna nei e hoike ana e nana ia ma ke ano he poe makamae a he poe kumu o ka ike ka poe i hanai ia ai maloko o ka olelo Hawaii ma na mokupuni a pau o ka paeaina o Hawaii, e like me ko lakou hanai ana ia no na hanauna mai kinohi mai o ka moolelo o Hawaii nei a hiki i keia manawa me ka pau ole o ka olelo mawaena o ko lakou mau ohana a he pono e hoopalekana ia ka lakou ano olelo e ke aupuni e like me ko lakou kuhikuhi ana he pono.

2. E hookomo i ka olelo maloko o na pila i hoike ia maluna nei e hoike ana he pono na lawelawe a me na palapala maloko o ka olelo Hawaii i hoopuka ia e ke aupuni kalana a mokuaina no ka pono o ke kaiaulu olelo Hawaii o Niihau, he poe ohana me na kanaka o na ano hanauna like ole, maloko o ke ano kakau ana i maa ia lakou, e like me ia mai ka makahiki 1821 mai, aohe okina me ke kahako. E like no me ia i paipai ia e ka United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), i apono ia ai e Amelika Hui ia (2011):

States shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that indigenous peoples <u>can understand and be understood</u> in political, legal and administrative proceedings, where necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate means.

O ke ano olelo kakau ia ai me ka maopopo loa no ke kaiaulu Niihau, **aohe okina a kahako** maloko o na palapala: oia ke ano kakau ana i maa i na kanaka o keia kaiaulu mai ka makahiki 1821 mai a hoomau ia a hiki i keia la mawaena o keia kaiaulu.

3. Hoole a kue i na huaolelo hou i haku ia a hoopuka ia maloko o ka puke wehewehe olelo, o Mamaka Kaiao na ka Lexicon Committee. Manao ke kaiaulu Niihau he mau huaolelo ia no kahi olelo e a aole maopopo i ka poe hanai ia ai ma ka olelo Hawaii. Hoike ia maloko o na pila maluna nei ma ke ano he koi ana a he pono e hoohana ia. He pono e hoole ia keia manao.

Petition of Support and Objection for the 30th Legislative Session of the State of Hawaii, 2019

Three (3) bills being considered for ratification: The status and usage of Hawaiian language for public services and written texts published by and for state and county governments.

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195_.pdf) S.B. No. 642 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB642_.pdf) S.B. No. 701 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB701_.pdf)

Proposal: Insert language into the above bills acknowledging that **native speakers of Hawaiian** as explained below be regarded as cultural treasures and primary sources who are deserving of legislation that supports their linguistic norms. The study of Hawaiian by learners must also be supported.

Objection: a) the requirement that the *okina and kahako* must be used in Hawaiian texts produced and published by and for state and county agencies and government officers, and b) the requirement that newly invented terms in the book, *Mamaka Kaiao* by the Lexicon Committee, be used in texts produced by and for the state and county agencies and government officers.

Recommendations:

1. Introduce language into the above bills acknowledging as cultural treasures and primary sources native speakers of Hawaiian of all of the islands of the Hawaiian Islands who were raised in the language through intergenerational transmission and whose families had never lost the language as the language of their homes at any time in their families' histories and that the variety of Hawaiian they use is deserving of protection under legislation as recommended by them.

2. Introduce language into the above bills acknowledging that public services and texts produced by and for agencies and officers of state and county governments must be provided the Hawaiian-speaking Niihau community, a community consisting of families of all generations, in the orthography they are accustomed to as normal, as it has been since 1821, without okina and kahako. As stated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), adopted by the United States (2011):

States shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that indigenous peoples <u>can understand and be understood</u> in political, legal and administrative proceedings, where necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate means.

The written Hawaiian understood best by the Niihau community **does not contain okina and kahako**: the orthography that had been established since 1821 is still utilized among this community.

3. *Refuse and reject* newly invented terms created and published in the dictionary, *Mamaka Kaiao* by the Lexicon Committee. The Niihau community regard **such newly invented terms as foreign and not understandable**. The above proposed bills recommend that this book be used. This must be rejected.

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195_.pdf)

S.B. No. 642 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB642_pdf)

S.B. No. 701 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB701_.pdf)

- E hookomo i ka olelo *he poe makamae ka poe olelo Hawaii* i hanai ia ai maloko o ia olelo mai kinohi mai. E kakoo i ke ao ana ia o ka olelo kekahi;

O makou, ka poe i kuni ia ai ka inoa malalo nei, ua heluhelu makou i ka palapala maluna nei ma ka olelo Hawaii me ka Pelekania a ke kakoo nei i na manao i hoike ia ai maloko.	We, the undersigned, have read the above proposals in Hawaiian and English and support what is presented them.
Inoa	Helu Wahi
KUUANBIQ MUNIZ	728 meawa Gt. Kailua Hi, 96734
Kaholta waikula omani Hesla	45-154 PAhikali PI. VANE ohe. HI 16744
Damu Mafua	41-1425 KUMUUlast. Waimanalo, 41,96795
E. Sanborn Kanahil	12/46 Gregory St. Hon #196817
Brian Faria	46-318 Haiku Rd.
Gus Gabb-Adam	1077 VINDER hi Loop, Kallon
KINA KAZALOI	91-1030 AUKATHI ST. KAPOLE, HI 96707
Ardis Eschenberg	45-328 Lehnuila St Kanshell 96744
Tisha Reed	47-669 Melekula Rd Kaneshett 96744
Konco Hadber	45-412 Konale PI, Kenede HI 9674
PANOHY JUDD	43-173 B. Kahalu'u
Francesca Gregg	45-669 Waranni St. Kaneshe 96744
Malia Matale	45-038 Waikalua Rd Kansohe 96744
Kamalani Kahanu	47-374 Keohapa PI. Keneone, H19674
Kamomi Laimana	45-520 ALOKAN ST KANZONE

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195_.pdf) S.B. No. 642 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB642_.pdf)

S.B. No. 701 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB701_.pdf) – E hookomo i ka olelo *he poe makamae ka poe olelo Hawaii* i hanai ia ai maloko o ia olelo mai kinohi mai. E kakoo i ke ao ana ia o ka olelo kekahi;

O makou, ka poe i kuni ia ai ka inoa malalo	We, the undersigned, have read the above
nei, ua heluhelu makou i ka palapala maluna	proposals in Hawaiian and English and
nei ma ka olelo Hawaii me ka Pelekania a ke	support what is presented them.
kakoo nei i na manao i hoike ia ai maloko.	
Inoa	Helu Wahi
Amanda Nelson	75-5818 Neve Place Kailing - Kong H1 96740
Kamauliola Coloma	96744 kane ohe
Lehuanani Lilinoe Coloma	POB 438 Kancohe HI 96744
NIGING KILVELT	P.O. Max TUF trailua AI 9075+
Arshluy Alkana	41-140 Nalu A. Waimanalo.HI
Pahony Coleman	Kaciai Waimanela
Pahony Coleman Nota Healani Farra	1250 Kupan St Kailere, H
Kahā Barbieto	Kailyo
Leigh Mahealani Barbieto	1250 Kupau St. Kailua H 96734
Candido O. Barbeto II	1250 Kupan St. Kailua #1 95734
Napua Barbieto	1250 Kupau St. Kailua H 96734
GWEN BRUHN	KAILUA, HAWATI

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195_.pdf)

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O makou, ka poe i kuni ia ai ka inoa malalo nei, ua heluhelu makou i ka palapala maluna nei ma ka olelo Hawaii me ka Pelekania a ke kakoo nei i na manao i hoike ia ai maloko.	We, the undersigned, have read the above proposals in Hawaiian and English and support what is presented them.
Inoa	Helu Wahi
Kenneth MO. Jr.	41-72-7 Ala Kog St Waingholo HT 96795
Monna Ozawa	445 Seoside Ave APT 34101, Hoholulu, MI, 9681.
Kalan Isuac	2411 ROSE ST. APT 1015 tomoleuly in guorg
Kapela Wong	91-07391 Wehelani Si ENG Brach, 111 96704
Ka'ano'i Alcarca	855A 946 Are. Hourbulu, HI 96816
Hau'oli Akaka	45-435 Kulauli 54 Kane 26 96744
SARAH ODA	99-905 AULTAU PL ALEA, HI90201
BEENDON BINDG	gazis pullar pr Dun fu guros
CAREN KANAHELE	1002 MAIHA CIRCLE PEARL CITY, HI 96782
H. KAIPO KANAHELE	1002 MAIHA CIRCLE PEARL CITY, HI 96782
LIHAN GTOWNEDA	UA-471 Lulani Street Kaneolte HI 96744
Ghayla Gouveia	AT-471 WIQUI ST. Kanovho HI 90744
KEVIN WONG	45-739 KAMEHAMETA HUT KANEUHE H 94744
KURT WONG	91-0739 WOHELAW ST DUA OBJEH H 96706
LAWRENCE WONG. JR.	45-739 KAMEHAMEHA HWY. KANEOHE, HI 96744

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S.B. No. 701 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB701_.pdf)

- E hookomo i ka olelo *he poe makamae ka poe olelo Hawaii* i hanai ia ai maloko o ia olelo mai kinohi mai. E kakoo i ke ao ana ia o ka olelo kekahi;

We, the undersigned, have read the above proposals in Hawaiian and English and support what is presented them.
Helu Wahi
WCC Kaniohe
45739 Kan they Cluede Hr
Heeia, Habaii
Makaweli, Hawali
Makaveli, Havani
makaweli', Wawaii
malante, Hanni

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessioner S.B. No. 642 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB642_.pdf) S.B. No. 701 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawali.gov/session2019/bills/SB701_.pdf) - E bookomo i ka olelo he poe makamae ka poe olelo Hawaii i hanai ia ai maloko o ia olelo mai

kinohi mai. E kakoo i ke ao ana la o ka olelo kekahi;

D makou, ka poe l kuni ia ai ka inoa malalo nei, ua heluhelu makou i ka palapala maluna nei ma ka olelo Hawaii me ka Pelekania a ke nakoo nei i na manao i hoike ia ai maloko.	We, the undersigned, have read the above proposals in Hawaiian and English and support what is presented them.
Inca	Helu Wahi
Sobrina Shintan'i	Elepaio 7453 7931 Ke Kahn
Sherlin K (Shintan)	Elephio 7981 11
Mana Shintor	Elepaio 7931 "
Steven Shintoni	Elepsio 7931 11
Heary Sullivan	PO Boy 893 Ketaha - he
Kunter Kaaum vang	P.O. Box 1021 Hampere
Stora Syllivoi	PO Boy 893 KeKah
Jangetryhel	P.º Box 690265 Materich
1000 King	POB 734 Anchola, H 9670 2 PO BUP 12 Anahola, HI 9670
Halee Fage	TO PUP 12 Amahola HI 9670
John Thather	1188 Kaumana Dr. Hila
Acre Hirakum	BB 6558, Kennela 14 95742
Beer H. ratem	12-4265 Poly Valepona 96778
Kuhl Benion:	10/11 Kamue 19 96743
Chiltoe	48-140 Konschangehr Huy 96740
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S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195 .pdf)

S.B. No. 642 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB642_.pdf)

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- He pono na lawelawe a me na palapala maloko o ka olelo Hawaii i hoopuka ia e ke aupuni kalana a mokuaina no ka pono o ke kaiaulu olelo Hawaii o Niihau, aohe okina me ke kahako;

- Hoole a kue i na huaolelo hou i haku ia a hoopuka ia maloko o ka puke wehewehe olelo, o Mamaka Kaiao na ka Lexicon Committee.

O makou, ka poe i kuni ia ai ka inoa malalo We, the undersigned, have read the above nei, ua heluhelu makou i ka palapala maluna proposals in Hawaiian and English and nei ma ka olelo Hawaii me ka Pelekania a ke support what is presented them. kakoo nei i na manao i hoike ia ai maloko. Inoa Helu Wahi 808-652-76 (808)212-6454 M 808-346-341 8032 Turpelena 808 7,944 le A Ka10 Cd [7 Quintoh Q Chell kaawahui 7 YHANG HUAAN COM Kekaha 12a Gal Cah Kekaha ichner 1A a 0 Kekaha Karakand Keolalani P.O. Box 9 Waimen Hi 96796 *Canahele* PO Box 9 Waines Werner H; 96796 Hasha

S.B. No. 195 (e nana i ka https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/SB195_.pdf)

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– E hookomo i ka olelo *he poe makamae ka poe olelo Hawaii* i hanai ia ai maloko o ia olelo mai kinohi mai. E kakoo i ke ao ana ia o ka olelo kekahi;

He pono na lawelawe a me na palapala maloko o ka olelo Hawaii i hoopuka ia e ke aupuni kalana a mokuaina no ka pono o ke kaiaulu olelo Hawaii o Niihau, aohe okina me ke kahako;
Hoole a kue i na huaolelo hou i haku ia a hoopuka ia maloko o ka puke wehewehe olelo, o

Mamaka Kaiao na ka Lexicon Committee.

O makou, ka poe i kuni ia a		We, the undersigned, have read the above	
nei, ua heluhelu makou i ka	a palapala maluna	proposals in Hawaiian and English and	
nei ma ka olelo Hawaii me		support what is presented them.	
kakoo nei i na manao i hoil	ce ia ai maloko.		
Inoa		Helu Wahi	
Kelalni St	enced	PODOPICOS Lawar HI 96765	
Cennor Kunah	de /	PO BOX 135 MAKAWEH H196969	
25		P.O. Bor 336 Kekh, HI 96352	
Kikalla	A.S.S.		
		Karawanui	
Keiki, Pa.	hy leha	7715 ili, Polehard	
Kamani Ben		P.O. Box 690179 Makaweli H. 967	69
			,

Ke aloha no ia oukou apau e na Poo o ko Hawaii Aha Kau Kanawai,

Eia no au ke waiho aku nei i kahi manao no ia palapala SB701 i hoolaha ia maila imua o ka lehulehu. Ke hoomau aku nei no keia ma o ka olelo elua o Hawaii nei.

I **support the intent** of the bill to celebrate and encourage the use of Hawaiian language and, I **strongly recommend** the following revisions:

- Pages 1-3: **The Hawaiian language need significant revisions**. In its current form in the bill, the Hawaiian language carries the worldview of English. It appears to be a document generated in English and translated into Hawaiian, for instance the use of newly created words found in Mamaka Kaiao like halapohe are unknown historically and in the native speaking community, make loa would be a better choice. These may seem small but the spirit of this bill is to give Hawaiian equal standing yet the Hawaiian language being used is still dependent on English. Therefore, I strongly suggest that the written Hawaiian in this bill be revised in a way that reflects the true spirit of the bill which means writing it in a way that is consistent with the writings of the 1800s and early 1900s as well as that of the native speakers of today.
- **Correct the narrative of Hawaiian language**. The banning of Hawaiian language as a medium of instruction in schools in 1896 definitely contributed to the decline of the Hawaiian language across Hawaii. However, there is an error in the data, as I am one of those individuals in 1980 under the age of 18 who were native speakers and did not speak English well or at all, and I can say with confidence that there was definitely a lot more than 50 of us at that time. I ask that these incorrect statements be corrected or omitted from any past or future bills or legislation (see page 4).
- Page 4, Line 16: There are many others that have worked to preserve and perpetuate the Hawaiian language, such as the owners of Niihau who are responsible for maintaining the environment where Hawaiian language has been able to continue and thrive. Without the support of the Niihau community the first Punana Leo in Kekaha, Kauai would not have been realized. There have been many native speakers who have given to this language revitalization movement whose voices' have been put aside and forgotten in this official recounting of events and I would ask that either name ALL of these people who gave to this movement or name no one.

It is in the best interest of all of Hawaii that we uphold and preserve the Hawaiian language in its most original form, and that we put forth an accurate narrative of the history of the Hawaiian language. The spirit of this bill demands that Hawaiian be given equal weight and the best way to do that would be to allow it to exist as it did, when Hawaiian held equal and greater weight politically in Hawaii, the reminder of this is expressed in nearly a million pages of newspapers from the 1800s to early 1900s, along with our music and our sole remaining native speaking community (see page 9, lines 11-16).

No ka pono o ka aina, a no ke ola o ka lahui,

Kahea Kaohelaulii Faria