STAND. COM. REP. NO. **625** 

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 304

H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

## Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 304 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that in 2007, the United Nations adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and this measure would contribute to the growing international movement for the protection of the rights of the world's indigenous peoples.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Hawaiian version of a law shall be binding if the law has not been later amended, codified, recodified, or reenacted in English;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 304, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 304, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair

## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-third Legislature



## Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee	e Referral:	Date:	1-1	_
HB304	UHA,	FIN		1/31/3	25
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to:  Pass, unamended (as is)  Pass, with amendments (HD)  Hold  Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
JHA Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (	C)	$\overline{}$			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (V	C)				
3. BELATTI, Della Au			and the second s	<u> </u>	<u>a</u>
					1 4 5 / 1
4. COCHRAN, Elle					
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	7-17-1				
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin			And Shirt And Shirt	all the state of t	
			The state of the s	nada ja ne ne ne esta Para la la la la la	
7. PERRUSO, Amy A.				W. Algaria	
Q TAKAYAMA Crogo					
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg					
9. TODD, Chris		10 July 17 July 18			
10. GARCIA, Diamond	Me and Market 14 (1844)				<u>189 - 1891 - 188</u> 1
			Sala Addition		
11. SHIMIZU, Garner M.		<b>V</b>	A STATE OF THE STA	SCOUNTERED AND SCOOL	
		a			
TOTAL (	11)		0	0	2
The recommendation is:  Adopted  If joint referral, did not support recommendation.  committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					