
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE KAWAIHUELANI CENTER FOR HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA TO FURTHER PROVIDE LEARNING
RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT PROMOTE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE
AND CULTURE.

1 WHEREAS, article XV, section 4 of the Hawaii State
2 Constitution recognizes both Hawaiian and English as the
3 official languages of Hawaii; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Department of Education supports Hawaiian
6 language fluency through Kula Kaiapuni Hawaiian language
7 immersion schools across the State; and
8

9 WHEREAS, Kamehameha III established the first public
10 education system in the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1840, making 'Olelo
11 Hawaii the first and only language of instruction at the time;
12 and
13

14 WHEREAS, the Republic of Hawaii passed section 30 of Act 57
15 in 1896, which made English the medium and basis of instruction
16 for all public schools and private schools, effectively removing
17 'Olelo Hawaii from the classroom and the school system; and
18

19 WHEREAS, children who spoke 'Olelo Hawaii in school were
20 verbally and physically reprimanded and made to feel ashamed of
21 their native tongue; and
22

23 WHEREAS, a group of Hawaiian language educators established
24 the Punana Leo Preschool in 1984 to provide an immersive
25 experience for preschool-aged children and their families to
26 learn 'Olelo Hawaii and adopt the language as their primary means
27 of communication; and
28

29 WHEREAS, section 30 of Act 57 was repealed in 1986,
30 allowing for the establishment of the first Kula Kaiapuni in
31 1987; and



1
2 WHEREAS, although the growing participation in Kaiapuni
3 education has been unmatched, the Kula Kaiapuni face struggles,
4 such as teacher shortages, insufficient facilities, and limited
5 support for curriculum development; and

6
7 WHEREAS, Kaiapuni students and their families encounter
8 limited access to activities, materials, and learning
9 opportunities that they can do together to promote use of 'Olelo
10 Hawaii in the home; and

11
12 WHEREAS, the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of
13 the University of Hawaii at Manoa strives to revitalize Hawaiian
14 language and culture through quality Hawaiian education by
15 creating and providing materials, curricula, and resources that
16 promote the use of Hawaiian; and

17
18 WHEREAS, the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of
19 the University of Hawaii at Manoa created and implemented the I
20 Hoa na Moolelo Project in 2021 to publish a quarterly children's
21 magazine written in the Hawaiian language, for the enjoyment of
22 Kaiapuni and charter school students in grades 2-6 on Oahu; and

23
24 WHEREAS, this body recognizes the value and importance of
25 the practice and preservation of the Hawaiian language and
26 culture; now, therefore,

27
28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2025, that the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of
31 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, through its I Hoa na Moolelo
32 Project, is encouraged to provide Kaiapuni students and families
33 with Hawaiian language and literacy resources and to create
34 opportunities for 'Olelo Hawaii to flourish in homes and
35 communities; and

36
37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Kawaihuelani
39 Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at
40 Manoa.

