

MAR 16 2011

S.R. NO. 55

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE
UNIVERSITY WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT HILO FROM ITS
HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE AND A RESPONSE REGARDING THAT
PLAN FROM THE PUKO'A COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaiian is an official language of the State of
2 Hawaii which citizens should have a choice to use as their
3 medium of education and in receiving comprehensive services from
4 state educational agencies; and

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6 WHEREAS, the provision of education through the Hawaiian
7 language is a matter of statewide concern that is appropriately
8 addressed by the Legislature; and

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10 WHEREAS, in his 2011 State of the State Address, Governor
11 Abercrombie praised the progress made in education using
12 Hawaiian as the language of instruction, drawing attention to
13 the 2010 awarding of a doctorate degree in Hawaiian and
14 Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization from the Ka Haka
15 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language established at
16 the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; and

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18 WHEREAS, the path to the use of Hawaiian as an official
19 language in delivering state educational services, other than
20 the second language instruction of Hawaiian students, began in
21 1986 with the Legislature's removal of legal barriers to the use
22 of Hawaiian as the language of instruction in public schools,
23 the legislative establishment of what is now the Hale Kuamo'o
24 Hawaiian language support center for public schools taught
25 through Hawaiian at the University of Hawai'i in 1989, and the
26 legislatively mandated establishment of a Hawaiian language
27 college at the University of Hawai'i in 1997 to provide "a
28 quality education primarily through the medium of the Hawaiian
29 language"; and

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31 WHEREAS, in the short time since the legislative mandate to
32 establish the Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian
33 Language, the State has seen the graduation of the first seniors



1 from the College's laboratory school in 1999, the first teachers
2 to be certified completely through Hawaiian in 1999, the
3 awarding of the first master's degree in Literature taught
4 entirely through Hawaiian in 2004, the first master's degree in
5 Education taught through Hawaiian in 2008, and the first
6 doctorate taught through Hawaiian in 2010--all national firsts
7 for an indigenous language; and
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9 WHEREAS, while praising the progress made to date, the
10 Governor called for the "next step", that is a "university-
11 within-a-university", to move forward further with the use of
12 Hawaiian as the language of education and its administration
13 "for the benefit of all"; and
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15 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1070 (2011) was introduced in the
16 Legislature to develop a Hawaiian language university-within-a-
17 university at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, incorporating
18 the legislatively mandated Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of
19 Hawaiian Language and building on its twelve-year record of
20 leadership in institutionalizing the use of Hawai'i's official
21 Hawaiian language as the medium of all internal administration,
22 operations, support services, and delivery of education and in a
23 variety of academic fields from the preschool level through the
24 doctorate level; and
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26 WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Legislature to gather
27 more details on how a Hawaiian language university-within-a-
28 university could be created at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo
29 to further expand the use of Hawaiian as the official language
30 of administration, operations, support services, and academic
31 program delivery in a variety of fields for the State of Hawai'i;
32 and
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34 WHEREAS, it is also appropriate that the Legislature
35 receive input from the Chancellors and President of the
36 University of Hawai'i System on how the work of a Hawaiian
37 language university within the University of Hawai'i at Hilo
38 might integrate efforts on other campuses of the University and
39 at the system-level itself to further support the study of
40 Hawaiian language, culture, and history throughout the
41 University of Hawai'i System; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Puko'a Council of the University of Hawai'i was
2 chartered in June 2009 to provide a formal, independent voice
3 and organization through which the Native Hawaiian faculty,
4 administrators, and students of the University of Hawai'i System
5 can participate in the development and interpretation of
6 system-wide policy and practice as it relates to Native Hawaiian
7 programs, activities, initiatives, and issues; and
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9 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Legislature receive
10 input from the Puko'a Council regarding the impact on Native
11 Hawaiians in the University of Hawai'i System that would result
12 from a Hawaiian language university within the University of
13 Hawai'i at Hilo; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,
17 that the Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language
18 prepare a plan for the development of a Hawaiian language
19 university within the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan be delivered to the
22 Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President of the University of
23 Hawai'i System, Executive Council members of the Puko'a Council,
24 and members of the Legislature no later than August 31, 2011,
25 for their consideration; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Puko'a Council is requested
28 to develop a response to the plan based on a formal symposium of
29 the Native Hawaiian entities in the University of Hawai'i System
30 that will include at least one representative from all Hawaiian
31 studies programs of the University of Hawai'i System and the Ka
32 Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the symposium is requested to
35 convene at a time and place that ensures maximum participation
36 by faculty, students, and others from the University of Hawai'i
37 System, private and public educational organizations and other
38 entities committed to the advancement of the Hawaiian language,
39 and interested members of the community; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan developed by the Ka
42 Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language consider at



1 minimum the following issues related to establishment of a
 2 Hawaiian language university within the University of Hawai'i at
 3 Hilo: the mission, governance and administration, curriculum
 4 and degrees, facilities and technology requirements, financial
 5 and other resources available or that may be obtained, a
 6 timetable for implementation, and any other issues, as
 7 appropriate; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the University
 10 of Hawai'i System and the Puko'a Council report in writing to the
 11 Legislature and the Governor regarding their response to the
 12 plan produced by the Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College of
 13 Hawaiian Language and to the implementation issues described
 14 above no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of
 15 2012; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 18 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Ka Haka 'Ula O
 19 Ke'elikolani College of Hawaiian Language at the University of
 20 Hawai'i at Hilo, President of the University of Hawai'i System,
 21 Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, and Puko'a Council
 22 Executive Council members.
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