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SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS OPERATING IN THE STATE OF HAWAII TO INCORPORATE THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IN THEIR AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES.

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian language is an official language of the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the use of the Hawaiian language is being systematically perpetuated as a functional language for Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, the various schools of Hawaiian language, such as the Hawaiian immersion schools and Hawaiian language charter schools, and the Hawaiian language classes offered by community education programs and the University of Hawaii campuses throughout the State, are resulting in the exponential growth of a Hawaiian language proficient population; and

WHEREAS, people who are not fluent in the Hawaiian language would be compelled to learn more about the language if it was a language choice in an automated teller machine; and

WHEREAS, banks and credit unions that provide a Hawaiian language option on their automated teller machines will likely attract customers who are culturally curious or might not otherwise frequent their automated teller machines; and

WHEREAS, a Hawaiian language option in automated teller machines would contribute significantly to a "Hawaiian sense of place", and would convey a lasting impression on the several million visitors each year who seek an authentic Hawaiian experience; and

WHEREAS, providing a Hawaiian language option in automated teller machines would be a gesture of respect for the host Hawaiian culture, by acknowledging the relevance of the language to contemporary business practices; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawaii Tourism Authority have expressed a sincere interest in pursuing the inclusion of the Hawaiian language in automated teller machines with interested banks and other financial institutions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that banks and credit unions operating in the State of Hawaii are encouraged to work with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Hawaii Tourism Authority to incorporate the Hawaiian language in their automated teller machines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, President of Bank of Hawaii, President of American Savings Bank, President of First Hawaiian Bank, President of Hawaii National Bank, President of Hawaii State Federal Credit Union, President of Honolulu City and County Employees Federal Credit Union, President of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, President of the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, Chairperson of the Board of the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, Chief Executive Officer of Kamehameha Schools, Chairperson of the Board of Queen Liliuokalani Trust, and Chairperson of the Board of The Queen's Health Systems.

OFFERED BY:

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