From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 3:15 PM

To: HAWtestimony Cc: sterlingw@oha.org

Subject: Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM Attachments: HB1984 Hawaiian Language Month H HAW.pdf

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Malia Kaaihue

Organization: Office of Hawaiian Affairs

E-mail: sterlingw@oha.org
Submitted on: 1/24/2012



HB1984 E PILIANA I KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Kōmike 'Elele o nā Kuleana Hawai'i House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

<u>25 Ianuali 2012</u> 9:15 a.m. <u>Lumi: 329</u>

Eia au kekahi 'elele o ke Ke'ena Kuleana Hawai'i (OHA) ke PAIPAI nei i ka Pila 'Aha 'Ōlelo 1984, kekahi pila i loko o ka pū'olo kau 'aha 'Ōlelo 2012 o OHA. Na ke kaiāulu 'Ōlelo Hawai'i i mālama i ka mahina 'o Pepeluali i Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i a na lākou i paipai i ke kia'āina e ho'onoho a e kuahaua 'o ka mahina 'o Pepeluali 'o ia ka Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka makahiki 1994 a ma ka 1995.

'Oiai ua 'ōlelo 'ia ka 'ōlelo makuahine e nā 'ōiwi me nā malihini like 'ole ua 'ane halapohe 'o ia ma ka hiki 'ana i ka makahiki 1980 a ua koe paha ma kahi o kanalima mau mānaleo ma lalo o ka piha makahiki he 18. 'O ke kumu o kēia emi o ka 'ōlelo 'o ia ke kānāwai 1896 nāna i ho'opāpā i ka'ōlelo 'ōiwi o ka 'āina ma na kula aupuni.

Akā nō na'e, ma muli o ka hana huliamahi hō'ala kānaka i o ka papahana Pūnana Leo o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo, ka papahana kula kaiapuni o ke Ke'ena Ho'ona'auao a me nā papa 'ōlelo Hawai'i ma nā kulan ui ua holomua nui ka ho'ōla 'ana o ka 'ōlelo. Eia kekahi, ma ka makahiki 1978 ua ho'opāku'i 'ia ka ke Kumukānāwai 'o Hawai'i a 'ike 'o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i kekahi o nā 'ōlelo kūhelu o ka Moku'āina.

'Oiai ua holo pono ka 'aukahi 'ōlelo Hawai'i ua pono nō ka nui o nā kānaka e 'ōlelo aku, 'ōlelo mai i ua 'ōlelo hiwahiwa. Inā e ho'onoho ana ka mahina 'o Pepeluali 'o ia ka Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i a laila e ho'onui ana a e hō'ike ana i ke ko'iko'i o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i no Hawai'i nei.

No laila, eia kekahi 'elele o ke Ke'ena Kuleana Hawai'i e koi ha'aha'a nei iā 'oukou e nā po'e hanohano o ke kōmike e 'ae, e kāko'o a e HO'OHOLO i kēia Pila 'Aha 'Ōlelo 1984. Mahalo i kēia manawa e ha'i ōlelo ma kēia mea i aloha nui 'ia e mākou Hawai'i.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) strongly **SUPPORTS** HB1984, which is a bill in OHA's 2012 Legislative Package. The Hawaiian language community has long considered February "Hawaiian Language Month" and successfully advocated for

gubernatorial proclamations designating February 1994 and February 1995 as Hawaiian Language Month. This bill would codify this ceremonial designation in statute, making every February 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Month.

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 essentially banned Hawaiian students from speaking their native tongue.

However, great strides have been made to bring about a renaissance of the Hawaiian language through programs such as 'Aha Pūnana Leo's Hawaiian language immersion schools, the Department of Education's Hawaiian language immersion program and the Hawaiian language programs of the University of Hawai'i system. Also, in 1978, the Hawaii'i Constitution was amended to recognize the Hawaiian language as one of the two official languages of the State.

Although there is much momentum in the revitalization of the Hawaiian language, for 'Ōlelo Hawai'i to thrive rather than simply survive, more people need to speak the language. The designation of February as "'Ōlelo Hawai'i Month" will perpetuate the use of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and emphasize the importance of the Hawaiian Language in Hawai'i's society today.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to PASS HB1984. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Monday, January 23, 2012 6:39 AM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

gerald.cabagua@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Gerald M. Cabagua

Organization: Individual

E-mail: gerald.cabagua@gmail.com

Submitted on: 1/23/2012

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Monday, January 23, 2012 6:28 PM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

shane.nelsen@gmail.com

Subject: Attachments: Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM KUAKINI HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB OF KONA.doc

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Shane Nelsen

Organization: Kuakini Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona

E-mail: shane.nelsen@gmail.com

Submitted on: 1/23/2012

Comments:

Please submit the attached testimony in support of HB 1984. Mahalo Nui Shane Nelsen

KUAKINI HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB OF KONA Testimony of President Shane Akoni Palacat-Nelsen 82-6026 Manini Beach Road, Captain Cook, HI 96704

HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Before the House COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Aloha Madame Chair Hanohano of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, and Madame Chair Wooley of the Committee on Culture and the Arts. I am Shane Nelsen a resident of over 6 generations in Kealakekua Bay, President of Kuakini Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona, and here to testify in support of **HB 1984 Relating to Hawaiian Language**.

The Kuakini Hawaian Civic Club of Kona is a chartered club of the Association of Hawaiian Civic clubs. We are committed to uphold the traditions of our kupuna and most importantly Prince Kuhio, a non-voting Delegate of Congress in the early 1900's. We are firm advocators in the community and are concerned about the welfare of the Native Hawaiian community.

As a third generation Hawaiian from the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii, I and most others of my generation did not have the opportunity to speak our mother tongue as our great-grandparents did. The actions of the Republic of Hawaii denied those rights, and just three generations later, it has nearly died to extinction. However through legislative action we were given those privileges back. What we are facing here now, is the VALUE of the Hawaiian language.

The value of the Hawaiian language goes far beyond culture and identity; it reaches into socioeconomic concerns relating to Public Safety and Prisoners Rehabilitation, Astronomy on Mauna
Kea, Conservation and environment, and most important Ahupua'a and Resource Management
of Land and Water for sustainability. Not only Hawaiian cultural programs need to understand
the language, but Government, Public Agencies, and Private Organizations need to understand
Hawaiian language, to be able to work harmonious in the community. This is not only building
bridges between Hawaiians and Non-Hawaiians, but it is making a long-held connection that has
been disconnected from humans to environment. We already know that language is the
foundation of any culture, but more than that, it is the VALUE of the language that we here to
perpetuate.

We believe HB 1984, is a measure for perpetuation of the Hawaiian language by creating value for the Hawaiian language.

Mahalo nui loa (with deep sincerity from our "in-breath", I am humbled) for your consideration of our testimony. We urge your support of this measure.

For further information please contact Shane Nelsen, President of Kuakini Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona at shane.nelsen@gmail.com.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov From:

Monday, January 23, 2012 10:21 PM Sent:

To:

HAWtestimony kpurdyavelino@yahoo.com Cc:

Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM Subject:

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Kilia Purdy-Avelino

Organization: Individual

E-mail: kpurdyavelino@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 1/23/2012

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:15 AM

To: HAWtestimony

Cc: modegaard@gmail.com

Subject: Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Michael E. Malulani K. Odegaard

Organization: Hawai'i Bilingual / Hawai'i 'Ōlelo Pālua

E-mail: modegaard@gmail.com Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

1/24/12 Committee on Hawaiian Affairs RE: HB 1984 Relating to Hawaiian Language

Representative Say:

The State of Hawai'i State has taken significant strides to support Hawaiian language revitalization since the time 34 years ago only 1,000 speakers were estimated to live in the State. Recent estimates of the existence of as many as 30,000 speakers of Hawaiian language, at varying levels of fluency, indicate the phenomenal popularity of that State's 1978 goal to encourage the use of Hawaiian language, and, through its endorsement of the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Persons in 2005, the State of Hawai'i has confirmed its proactive stance toward Hawaiian language revitalization. Nevertheless, the State remains de facto linguistically apartheid, and until 100,000 speakers of Hawaiian may be counted, experts agree that Hawaiian will remain an endangered language that continues to depend upon unusual measures and extraordinary efforts to remediate.

The importance of the State Legislature's role in promoting the use and institutional support of Hawaiian language, including within the scope of its own operations, cannot be overestimated. Therefore, the designation of the month of February to promote Hawaiian language awareness will provide a much needed opportunity to focus public attention on ways to realize functional Hawaiian-English bilingualism in Hawai'i's public realm.

The current standard of advancement of Hawaiian language reflects improvements in the spelling of Hawaiian language that includes use of the 'okina as 13th letter of the Hawaiian alphabet as well as the macron, or kahakō. As such, any Hawaiian text in the Resolution should reflect the incorporation of this standard.

As Founder of the grassroots campaign Hawai'i Bilingual / Hawai'i 'Ōlelo Pālua and a representative of 19,000 Hawai'i voters who, in 2010, supported the increased availability of Hawaiian language public services, I commend your support and urge the House to adoption of HB 1984 without delay.

From:

Crystal Kia Paul [crystalkpaul@yahoo.com] Tuesday, January 24, 2012 6:52 AM

Sent:

To: Subject:

HAWtestimony Testimony HB 1984 HB1984 CKP.pdf

Attachments:

Please forward

HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE - COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS - Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Mahalo

Crystal Kia Paul

"Unite to Move Forward"

January 24, 2012

Honorable Chair Hanohano Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Legislature

Honorable Chair Wooley Committee on Culture and the Arts Hawai'i State Legislature

RE: HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAHAN LANGUAGE - COMMITTEE ON HAWAHAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS - Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Aloha Madame Hanohano and Madame Wooley,

As I was talking story with my Father Albert Ainoa Kia he told me that his Grandparents spoke fluent Hawaiian, as well as both his Fathers which he was able to understand and speak to them back in the 1940's. He said the older siblings of his Fathers were able to speak fluently. However, when he attended school it was discouraged to speak his native tongue. When my Father joined the military in the 1950's, speaking Hawaiian was not encouraged either. My Father just turned 76 years old and those that know him know he is in full mental capacity he knows phrases but hasn't had a full conversation in Hawaiian since his childhood.

In 2007, while attending a family reunion there were several of us asked to participate in the Hiapo ceremony. After the reunion, I was speaking with one of my cousins who also participated in the ceremony about Hawaiian history. He went to a Hawai'i school and graduated in 1980, but didn't know much about Hawaiian History. I asked him did he cut school during Hawaiian history class, the answer is no because there were no Hawaiian History classes before the 1980's.

I am supporting this bill and ask you to pass it to recognize February as 'Olelo Hawai'i Month. The Hawaiian Language has been revitalized by those who stood before previous legislations giving testimony to implement Hawaiian immersion schools and other programs. The time is now to revitalize our language and the importance of our heritage worldwide. I believe it will also improve the quality and morale of Hawaiians worldwide.

My name is Crystal Kia Paul and one of many descendants of Ali'i Nae'ole. Although, I currently reside in Texas, I am pro-active of all things Hawai'i and Hawaiian. By the grace of Akua, I am able to travel to Hawai'i for family functions and cultural events, such as the Pu'ukohola Heiau National Historic Site 38th Annual Ho'oku'ikahi Establishment Day on Hawai'i. It was the first time in 200 years the Nae'ole Ohana sat in Council. I am proud to submit this testimony to you and ask that you please pass this bill.

Crystal Kia Paul PO Box 51198 Denton, Texas 76266 972-822-5642

From:

Ka piko Lamaku [kapikolamaku@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:21 AM HAWtestimony

To: Subject:

Testimony HB 1984

Attachments:

HB1984 Ka Piko Lamaku.pdf

Please foward this email to the following committees

HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE - COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS - Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Mahalo,

Akoni & Keahi

January 24, 2012

Honorable Chair Hanohano Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Legislature

Honorable Chair Wooley Committee on Culture and the Arts Hawai'i State Legislature

RE: HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAHAN LANGUAGE - COMMITTEE ON HAWAHAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS - Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Aloha Madame Hanohano and Madame Wooley,

Ka Piko Lamaku broadcasts live weekly from Kealakekua, Hawai'i and North Texas on www.blogtalkradio.com/kapikolamaku, with our hosts Shane Akoni Nelsen and Crystal Keahi Kia-Paul. We discuss issues that affect our Hawaiian community worldwide — Culture, Education, Health & Government-Political Issues.

We support HB 1984 and ask you to pass it to recognize February as 'Olelo Hawai'i Month. The Hawaiian Language is the koko – (the blood) of the Hawaiian people.

Shane Akoni Nelsen Kealakekua Bay Hawai'i

Crystal Keahi Kia-Paul Denton, Texas

From: Sent:

James Paul [the_fishguy@yahoo.com] Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:26 AM HAWtestimony

To:

Subject: Attachments: HB 1984 HB1984 JRP.pdf

Please forward to

HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE - COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS - Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Thanks James Paul James R. Paul PO Box 51198 Denton, Texas 76266 972-822-5642

January 24, 2012

Honorable Chair Hanohano Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Legislature

Honorable Chair Wooley Committee on Culture and the Arts Hawai'i State Legislature

RE: HOUSE BILL 1984 RELATING TO HAWAHAN LANGUAGE - COMMITTEE ON HAWAHAN AFFAIRS and CULTURE AND THE ARTS - Wednesday January 25, 2012, 09:15 a.m. Room 329

Aloha Madame Hanohano and Madame Wooley,

My wife, Crystal Kia Paul is of Hawaiian ancestry and is a descendant of Ali'i Nae'ole. We've been married for 21 years and in that time I have learned of the many atrocities inflicted on the Hawaiian nation by western nations. I believe my passing this bill it will improve the Hawaiian community worldwide with pride of their people and culture. Please pass this bill to recognize February as 'Olelo Hawai'i Month. The Hawaiian Language is an important identity of the Hawaiian people and their culture.

James R. Paul PO Box 51198 Denton, Texas 76266 972-822-5642

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:46 AM

To: HAWtestimony

Cc: kaleopono@hawaii.rr.com

Subject: Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Kaleopono Norris

Organization: Individual

E-mail: <u>kaleopono@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

'Olelo Hawai'i is such a pleasant language to overhear, and is the essence of the aloha spirit. We should do all we possibly can to encourage its usage and vitality. Aloha.

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Tuesday, January 24, 2012 11:27 AM

To:

HAWtestimony

Cc:

kealiisplace@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB1984 on 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM

Attachments:

2012 HB1984.docx

Testimony for HAW 1/25/2012 9:15:00 AM HB1984

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

Organization: Individual

E-mail: <u>kealiisplace@gmail.com</u>

Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

3204 Carlos Long St., Honolulu, Hawai`i 96816 808-349-3636

To: Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

From: Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

Date: 24 February 2012

RE: Support for HB 1984

I strongly support this measure to improve assessment tests in reading, math, and science. As a scientist and Hawaiian language speaker, I have developed science curriculum for the Hawaiian language immersion program. Student assessment tests are an important measure of how effective curriculum like mine is having on the students. Hawaiian language is an official language of the State of Hawai'i and the education of our keiki in Hawaiian language should be of the highest priority.