H.B. NO. 2573

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE INSTRUMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds that there are sixteen 2 adopted, designation and established official symbol (thirty-3 one) if you include each flower and color of the respective individual islands) of the State of Hawai'i. From the state 4 5 motto "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono", translated to English 6 to mean "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness" 7 [L 1959, JR 4, §1; Supp, §14-5.3; HRS §5-9; am L 1979, c 145, 8 §2], to the state plant: Kalo (Colocasia esculenta (L.) Schott), 9 the Hawaiian word for taro [L 2007, c 37, §2; am L 2008, c 71, §1] these symbols are representative of all things unique solely 10 11 to the State of Hawai'i and its individual islands. Missing 12 from these symbols is the State Instrument.

13 Throughout our history, no matter our place of origin,
14 music has played an integral part on our lives. While the
15 ukulele "hailed originally from Portugal... one seldom remembers
16 this, so native has it become to the islands." (Chairman
17 Kittredge London, Our Hawai'i (New York: MacMillan, 1917) 94.
18 Referenced by: John King and Jim Tranquada, A New History of the
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1 Origins and Development of the 'Ukulele, 1838-1915, (2003): 2). 2 Popularized by Hawaiian Royalty, plantation workers and 3 musicians alike, the ukulele's fame continued to grow throughout 4 our islands, the mainland and beyond. Its first sightings can 5 be traced back to, "as early as 1886, when Honolulu newspaper 6 editor Augustus Marques noted [it] in an article on music in 7 Hawai'i." (Augustus Marques, "Music in Hawai'i Nei," HAA 8 (Honolulu: Thos. G. Thrum, 1886) 58. Referenced by: John King 9 and Jim Tranquada, A New History of the Origins and Development 10 of the 'Ukulele, 1838-1915, (2003): 2).

As we all have had to tighten our belts in wake of financial hardship, our different State Departments have continued to struggle with making budgets cuts to well deserving programs. Amongst these losses are reductions in funding from the State Department of Education for music and art education. Kindy Sproat may have said it best, "One <u>'ukulele</u> and one <u>soul</u> can do a lot."

Young and old, from the living to the legends, the ukulele has inspired musicians, recruited supporters and included fans with its beautiful sound and the camaraderie build from an impromptu jam session. In light of our current fiscal constraints and in honor of our talented ukulele instructors and

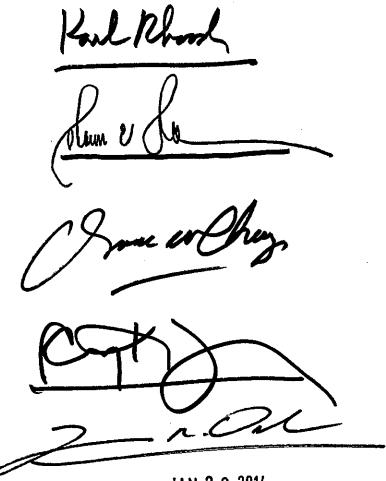


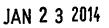
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1 musicians throughout our island and the world, and our future ukulele artists, we would like to honor this truly amazing 2 3 musical instrument and its history in Hawai'i by proclaiming it 4 the State Instrument. 5 Section 2. Chapter 5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, is amended 6 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to 7 read as follows: 8 "§5-___ State Instrument. The ukulele, (translated from 9 Hawaiian in two parts where uke, "to strike" and lele, "to jump" is established and designated as the official 'auwana instrument 10 11 of the State. 12 Section 3. New statutory material is underscored. Section 4. 13 This Act shall take effect upon its approval. ED BY: Alla 0664.doc

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Report Title:

Official 'Auwana State Instrument; Designation

Description:

Establishes and designates the ukulele as the official 'auwana instrument of the State.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

