



SB1248 SD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

March 18, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB1248 SD1, which would contribute to the revitalization of the Hawaiian language, by allowing the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Hawaiian Language College to generate its own revenues from its vital and ground-breaking language services.

The Hawaiian language nearly went extinct in the latter twentieth century; however, programs such as the Hawaiian Language College have since endeavored to revitalize and perpetuate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, which is one of the few Native languages in the United States expected to survive to the middle of the 21st century. The advances made to revitalize the Hawaiian language have been significant, yet the task of reintegrating and normalizing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i into the daily lives of Hawai‘i’s residents is far from complete.

As a primary provider of Hawaiian language materials and services, it is essential that the Hawaiian Language College be allowed increased revenue-generating opportunities, as the demand for its services grows with continuing revitalization efforts. The college has received requests to support external entities (both within and outside of Hawai‘i) for translation and other services. However, the College is currently restricted from charging for any services and products other than Hawaiian language books. Instead, if they choose to provide additional services, they must do so for free or with alternative funding. Allowing the Hawaiian Language College to generate more revenue will enable the college to continue and increase its foundational role in the movement to revitalize ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, and provide services such as: Hawaiian language class curricula; the development of Hawaiian educational materials, including assessment tools; teacher trainings; family workshops; book and alternative media publications; the creation and maintenance of online Hawaiian repositories; and research and development of modern Hawaiian vocabulary.

SB1248 SD1 will accordingly enable the Hawaiian Language College to continue to expand its efforts in language revitalization locally, nationally, and internationally, by allowing the college to generate revenue through its services, and in the process be more self-sustainable.

OHA therefore urges the Committee to **PASS** SB1248 SD1. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 10:00am
by
Donald O. Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 1248 SD1 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and I am presenting the University's testimony on SB1248 SD1.

Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani, College of Hawaiian Language provides essential support for the revitalization of the Hawaiian language and its increased use in our bilingual state. In addition to university degree programs, the college prepares teachers to instruct in schools throughout the state, provides in-service training for practicing teachers, and other important support activities to help the language thrive.

The legislature created the college with a specific mandate to teach and revitalize the Hawaiian language. The revolving fund was created to support the work to achieve that mission. The college has expanded its programs to promote the Hawaiian language beyond the simple "materials" reference in the original legislation. If the language of this bill made it clear that the revenues to be deposited in the revolving fund were only those generated by college programs, activities, and materials that were language-related, the university could support the bill. Section 2 should be adjusted to read, "There is established the Hawaiian language college revolving fund into which revenues generated by the Hawaiian language college from language-related programs of the Hawaiian language support center, and indigenous outreach language and training programs through fee for service, and the sale of language related materials shall be deposited. Monies deposited into this fund shall be expended to support the Hawaiian language college at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo established under section [304a-1301]."

16 February 2015

RE: SB1248 SD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE Support

Date of Hearing: 2-18-2015

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Conference Room 325

Testimony of Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a in support of SB1248 SD1 Hawaiian Language College; Revolving Fund

Chair Ing and members of the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha. I am Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a, Director of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language. I ask that you pass SB 1248 SD 1.

In 1997, the Hawaiian language college was established at UH Hilo through Act 315. To my knowledge, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani college is the only government entity within the state that is internally administered and operated through the Hawaiian language. In addition to its charge to provide quality education primarily through the medium of the Hawaiian language, three additional functions were identified which include 1) an indigenous language outreach program; 2) a Hawaiian medium teacher training program incorporating its laboratory schools and 3) a Hawaiian language support center (the Hale Kuamo'o) with educational specialists in the areas of research, curriculum development, language development, archival work, and educational technology. To assist the college in accomplishing its many duties a revolving account was also included to provide additional revenues for the college to address its mandate.

Its Hawaiian language support center the Hale Kuamo'o is a crucial entity for Hawaiian medium education in our state. It is the primary source of curriculum and instructional materials for the Hawaiian language immersion schools P-12 including the Papahana Kaiapuni schools, Hawaiian immersion/medium charter schools and the Pūnana Leo preschools. It is also responsible for teacher in-service training, the developing and disseminating of Hawaiian contemporary vocabulary through its Māmaka Kaiao dictionary, the Nā Maka o Kana Hawaiian language newspaper, Hawaiian language research and culture revitalization outreach and technology and telecommunications.

With over 60 community partners, the Ulukau Hawaiian digital library houses multiple collections in the Hawaiian language including land, genealogy and Hawaiian knowledge

resources which are accessible online to the public. Its Hawaiian dictionary collection directly accessible through “wehewehe.org” is a standard portable resource for speakers and learners of the Hawaiian language.

Monthly Ulukau averages over 1 million hits per month and has received over 116 million hits to date since its inception in 2003. Many other impactful projects such as the standard Hawaiian keyboard on the Apple computer have been made possible through the hard work of the college.

Every year we have numerous visitors from American Indian tribes and international indigenous peoples come to see our exemplary P-20 Hawaiian medium model which includes Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u laboratory school, the baccalaureate degree, the Kahuawaiola Indigenous teacher education program and graduate M.A. and Ph.D. programs taught through Hawaiian. As part of their visit we share with them our campus partner the ‘Imiloa Hawaiian/English bilingual astronomy museum and our community non-profit partner the Hilo headquarters of the statewide Pūnana Leo.

We are the only full preschool to the doctorate program of this sort in the United States or in the North Pacific Basin. Data on our college and P-12 model laboratory site and its 15 straight years of 100% high school graduation and 80% college attendance are used nation-wide to support the development of education through Native American languages.

Its support center the Hale Kuamo‘o survives primarily through grants and its limited ability to charge for its products. As grant funding has become more difficult to obtain, self-sufficiency measures has become increasingly important for the Center to address its mandate. The revolving fund provides a vehicle to outreach to the broader community in its language revitalization efforts by making its books and materials available to the public.

There are many opportunities to increase self-sufficiency of the college. Among such opportunities are consulting to Indian Tribes and territorial governments, provisions of workshop trainings outside Hawai‘i, translation services into Hawaiian, and in-service workshops on teaching Hawaiian. We also have the ability to print books in languages other than Hawaiian.

As numbers of students wishing to attend Hawaiian immersion schools increase, so does the need for curriculum, support materials and teacher training support. The current wording that established the revolving account precludes us from charging for any such work other than for materials we publish in the Hawaiian language. We wish to broaden

the current language of the revolving fund authority to include fees for services, training and other products which in turn would also support our ability to expand public support and services.

Thanks to the bold "out-of-the box" move of the 1997 legislature to created our college, we have been able to provide many benefits to the state that were constrained when we were a department in the UH Hilo College of Arts and Sciences. Yet, many frustrating constraints remain that were designed for English medium education, rather than an endangered indigenous language for which there are no external sources of support.

We ask that you pass SB1248 SD 1 that will increase our ability to serve the larger Hawaiian language medium education needs of our state. Mahalo for your support in the revitalization of the Hawaiian language, our official state language.

Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Representative Isaac W. Choy, Chair
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair
House Committee on Higher Education

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2015
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Conference Room 325, State Capitol

SB1248 SD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE: Support **with Amendments**

Aloha Legislators:

My name is April Housman, an Associate Professor of Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, College of Hawaiian Language. I serve as the Director of the Hale Kuamo'o Hawaiian Language Center.

I wish to support SB 1248 S.D.1 **with amendments**.

There is established the Hawaiian language college revolving fund into which revenues generated by the Hawaiian language college, Hawaiian language support center, and indigenous outreach program through fees for services, training, and the sale of language-related materials shall be deposited.

Although the Hale Kuamo'o has been able to achieve remarkable feats since 1989, the Center currently has no permanent employees paid through the University of Hawai'i to carry out the important work of language revitalization. Projects are completed through employees who have been in temporary positions for over 15 years and paid with grant money or through the Revolving Account of the College. Each year, new constraints are placed upon the College budget and the Revolving account, which will have detrimental effects on the service that can be provided to the Hawaiian speaking community in the future.

It is for these reasons that we support SB1248. The Center has been providing services (translations, teacher inservice training, assessment development, indigenous outreach, Ulukau hosting and licensing, curriculum development, workshops, summer programs, internships, and cultural items) free of charge to the public, since the categories of these services do not currently fit within the guidelines of the Revolving Account as it now stands. SB1248 will make it possible to broaden the scope of services to other organizations and at the same time help the Hale Kuamo'o continue to be sustainable in fulfilling the enormous needs of the Hawaiian speaking community.

Mahalo nui for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of **SB 1248 S.D.1 with amendments**.



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Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Time: 10:00am

Location: Conference Room 325

*Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Non-Profit Educational
Organization*

Dedicated to the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language

SB1248 SD1 - Support

Aloha Legislators:

My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo's position on SB1248 SD1 is support without change.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo worked closely with the legislature in establishing the Hale Kuamo'o in the early 1980s. The Hale Kuamo'o has been hampered recently by restrictions placed on it by the University of Hawai'i system that have hampered its ability to better serve the needs of schools taught through Hawaiian and the larger public.

The Hale Kuamo'o is in considerable part self supporting depending on grants and charges for products and services. The University of Hawai'i has restricted the Hale Kuamo'o from charging for services including assistance to Native American groups and others that wish to pay a fair price for the work of the Hale Kuamo'o. The University of Hawai'i has also restricted the Hale Kuamo'o to charging solely for books in the Hawaiian language, therefore restricting it from charging for proprietary rights when books it has produced in Hawaiian are translated into other languages, or to charging for products that are in electronic form.

SB1248 SD1 as written addresses the need to update the powers of the Hale Kuamo'o to allow it to bring in funds from a variety of sources and thus better serve the needs of the Hawaiian language schools and larger public.

Mahalo nui,

M. 'Ekekela Aiona
Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo
96 Pu'uhonu Place
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 3:21 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: hii.vuta@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1248 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB1248

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hiilei Vuta	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of SB 1248 the way it is worded in SD1. Mahalo!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:08 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kaulanad@ymail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1248 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB1248

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulana Dameg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:49 AM
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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1248 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB1248

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for your support of SB 1248. Larry Kimura Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elik ōlani College of Hawaiian Language

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ing2-Mary

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1248 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB1248

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lehua Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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