



SB1248 SD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 26, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB1248 SD1, which would contribute to the revitalization of the Hawaiian language by allowing the Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo to increase its ability generate revenue and become more self-sustainable.

After the Hawaiian language nearly went extinct in the 1980s, programs such as the Hawaiian Language College have worked hard 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; however, 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 provided with 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 inside and outside Hawai‘i) for translation and other services. However, the College is currently restricted from charging for services and products other than solely Hawaiian language books.

Instead, if they choose to provide the services they must do it for free or seek alternative funding. If they are able to generate more revenue they will be able 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 allow the Hawaiian Language College to continue and expand its efforts in language revitalization locally, nationally, and internationally, by allowing the college to generate revenue through its services.

OHA therefore urges the Committee to **PASS** SB1248 SD1.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



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Hawaiian Language Online

Rep. Jill N. Tokuda
Rep. Ronald D. Kouchi
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date of Hearing: 2-26-2015
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Conference Room 211

Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Non-Profit Educational Organization
Dedicated to the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language

SB1248 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE: SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is in **SUPPORT** of SB1248.

SB1248 expands the scope of the Hawaiian language college revolving fund at the University of Hawaii at Hilo to allow any funds generated by the Hawaiian language college, Hawaiian language support center, and indigenous outreach program through fees for services, training, and the sale of all products to be deposited into the revolving fund. SB1248 allows these funds to be expended at the discretion of the Hawaiian language college enhancing timely and efficient services.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo respectfully asks for your support of SB1248.

Mahalo nui,

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SB1248

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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