
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE USE OR INCORPORATION OF THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE INTO
THE VOCABULARY USED TO IDENTIFY LOCAL FLORA AND FAUNA AND
INTO SAFETY WARNINGS AND ENCOURAGING THE IMPROVED
PRONUNCIATION OF WORDS IN THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaiian is one of the official languages of the
2 State, and the Legislature has a unique responsibility to
3 promote the use of the Hawaiian language and enhance the
4 Hawaiian language's role in maintaining the unique identity of
5 the State; and

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7 WHEREAS, flora and fauna of Hawai'i are highly distinctive
8 and closely associated with the Hawaiian language and culture;
9 and

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11 WHEREAS, it has long been customary for various people who
12 have made Hawai'i their home to use Hawaiian terms as the common
13 name for local flora and fauna; and

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15 WHEREAS, in recent years, for various reasons, the use of
16 Hawaiian terms for flora and fauna found in Hawai'i has
17 decreased; for example, the fish long known locally as "manini"
18 is increasingly being referred to as a "convict tang", and the
19 plant long known locally as "pōhuehue" is increasingly being
20 called a "beach morning glory"; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the use of Hawaiian names for local flora and
23 fauna has declined despite the fact that most people who move to
24 Hawai'i come from places without a tradition of calling local
25 flora and fauna by a particular name in the native language;
26 now, therefore

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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2018, that state offices, including state educational
31 entities and recreational facilities, are urged to use Hawaiian
32 names as the sole common names of local flora and fauna,



1 including distinctive Hawaiian names for different sizes or
2 varieties of flora and fauna when such names exist such as,
3 "akule" for full grown fish and "halalū" for smaller fish; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when it is important for
6 science related reasons, this body urges that the Hawaiian names
7 be used followed by the internationally recognized Latin name,
8 e.g. naupaka, *Scaevola taccada*, or with a more precise Hawaiian
9 name accompanied by the internationally recognized Latin name,
10 e.g. naupaka kahakai *Scaevola taccada*; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when a particular office needs
13 to use an English name in a safety warning, this body urges that
14 the Hawaiian name be used as well, and where possible, to use
15 the name in one or more languages indicating concern and respect
16 for the welfare of a particular community of tourists or local
17 residents; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government employees are
20 encouraged to pronounce the names of local flora and fauna
21 properly in the Hawaiian language, as indicated by the spelling
22 readily available through websites such as wehewehe.org, where
23 all 'okina and kahakō are fully marked; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in written use of the names of
26 local flora and fauna, the full spelling include the 'okina and
27 kahakō in order to further inform the public of the proper
28 Hawaiian pronunciation of such terms and promote proper
29 pronunciation; and
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government employees who are
32 unfamiliar with the rules of pronouncing the Hawaiian language
33 are encouraged to learn to do so; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local media, private schools,
36 the tourism industry and other businesses, and the general
37 public are encouraged to follow the above described practices to
38 preserve what Hawaiian terms are still in use and to increase
39 the use of Hawaiian terms that have already been largely
40 replaced by English terms; and
41



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that more effort be put toward
 2 researching terms that have been lost or that are needed to
 3 describe flora and fauna that have been recently identified as a
 4 new species or introduced to Hawai'i from elsewhere; and

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 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 7 Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Education and its
 8 offices responsible for teaching science and Hawaiian studies,
 9 State Public Charter School Commission, University of Hawai'i and
 10 its entities responsible for researching and teaching science
 11 and Hawaiian studies, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Hawai'i
 12 Association of Independent Schools, Hawai'i Association of
 13 Broadcasters, and the two largest newspapers in circulation in
 14 each of the counties.

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OFFERED BY: *Alan Telford*

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