

MAR 01 2018

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# SENATE 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

6  
7           WHEREAS, flora and fauna of Hawai'i are highly distinctive  
8 and closely associated with the Hawaiian language and culture;  
9 and

10  
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

14  
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 Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
29 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,  
30 that state offices, including state educational entities and  
31 recreational facilities, are urged to use Hawaiian names as the  
32 sole common names of local flora and fauna, including



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1 distinctive Hawaiian names for different sizes or varieties of  
2 flora and fauna when such names exist such as, "akule" for full  
3 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  
11

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  
18

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  
24

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  
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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  
 5

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:








