

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
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Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
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Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
For hearing Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Re: SB 195 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF
THE STATE OF HAWAII.

Requires that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English. Requires that 'okina and kahako be used, when appropriate, in documents prepared by or for state or county agencies or officials.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

This bill is poorly written and sometimes chaotic. I wonder whether the writer is capable of logical thought and cogent expression.

The most dangerous portion of this bill is section 2 on page 2, lines 17-20; and is repeated verbatim in section 2 on page 5, lines 13-16:
"... provided that if the law in question was originally drafted in

Hawaiian and the English version was translated based on the Hawaiian version, the Hawaiian version shall be held binding."

Very few, if any, members of the legislature are sufficiently fluent in Hawaiian to be capable of reading and comprehending a bill written in Hawaiian. To the members of this committee, I ask you to be honest with yourself when you answer these questions: Did you take the time to read page 1 of this bill, written in Hawaiian language? If so, did you then feel it was not necessary for you to read the English translation of it? Of course not! You probably skipped the Hawaiian language content as you would skip a bunch of gibberish, in order to get down to business by reading the English language content.

Giving priority to Hawaiian language is a political stunt to bolster ethnic pride and get votes from a constituency that demands visible tokens of validation and status; but it has no practical usefulness. It seems likely that every person who speaks Hawaiian also speaks English with greater fluency. Hawaiian activists, following the lead of Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani (hoo dat?), sometimes insist on speaking Hawaiian in the courtroom or when giving speeches, interviews, or testimony; but they are perfectly capable of speaking and understanding English. Nobody NEEDS to speak or hear Hawaiian to express himself or to understand what someone is saying -- the activists demand it to score a political point and sometimes to simply "gum up the works."

I refer you to a large and detailed webpage "Hawaiian Language as a Political Weapon" at
<http://www.angelfire.com/big09/HawLangPolitWeapon.html>

If this bill were enacted into law, the Hawaiian language content would be the official law whether or not you understand what you voted for when you read page 1. And you can be quite sure that Hawaiian-language zealots would give top priority to writing many important bills in Hawaiian before getting them translated into English, thereby

invoking the new rule that the Hawaiian version takes priority. Would your expertise in Hawaiian be sufficient to enable you to detect kaona (wat dat?) -- subtle double meanings that you would never vote for if you knew they were in the law you just finished enacting? Kaona were widely used orally in ancient times and later in Hawaiian language newspapers, as a sort of secret code, so that insiders "in the know" would understand dangerous hidden political meanings in poetry or songs that seemed to be describing a needle piercing a flower while stringing a lei, or a bee spreading pollen while flitting from flower to flower sipping nectar. Perhaps you're aware that there are some Hawaiian sovereignty activists who would love to get you to enact laws that would undermine or even overthrow the [fake!] State of Hawaii and replace it with a rejuvenated Kingdom.

Regarding the use of 'okinas and kahakos -- notice that I place a letter "s" at the end of a word to make it plural because the sentence I am writing is in English, not Hawaiian, and I refuse to adopt the affectation of using Hawaiian grammar in the course of writing an English sentence (Hawaiian language zealots would want me to say "na 'okina" instead of "'okinas" and they would give me low marks for failing to put a kahako over the letter "o" in the word "kahako").

I merely want to point out that there were no diacritical marks in Hawaiian language until professors at the University of Hawaii invented them. The marks were invented as a way of guiding pronunciation for people who were beginners at learning Hawaiian in an environment where they seldom heard the language actually being spoken. People who are fluent in Hawaiian do not need diacritical marks to guide their pronunciation. But enforcing the marks does provide highly paid jobs for teachers who can give bad grades to students who fail to properly grovel or knuckle under. And passing this bill would create LOTS of jobs for people who have spent years learning Hawaiian language, since their expertise would now be needed by every legislator and attorney who feels a need to be thorough and careful as part of "due diligence."

Thank yo‘ū for your kind attentī‘ōn to this testimōny.

From: [Jason Cabral](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: SB 642, SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 10:15:42 AM

E ke Kenekoa Hanohano e, e Kenekoa Shimabukuro, aloha ‘oe,

Eia ke ho‘ike aku nei i ko‘u kako‘o ‘ana i na pila SB 642 a 195 ho‘i.

Na‘u, na Iota Cabral

--

Jason Iota Cabral, Ph.D.

Luna Ho‘omalua, Mahele Ha‘awina Hawai‘i; Dept Chair, Hawn Studies

Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikolani; College of Hawaiian Language

Ke Kulanui o Hawai‘i ma Hilo; UH-Hilo



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Hawaiian Language Online

SB 642, SB195
Kāko'o Ikaika
'Aha Pūnana Leo
(CEO Ka'iulani Laehā)

January 28, 2019

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

'O Ka'iulani Laehā ko'u inoa. 'O wau ke Po'o Lunaho'okele o ka 'Aha
My name is Ka'iulani Laehā and I am the CEO of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

Pūnana Leo. He hui 'auhau 'ole (501(c)3) pili pae'āina mākou nona ka pahuhopu
We are a statewide 501(c)3 with the mission

'o ka ho'okuluma i ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i. I kēia wā he 12 kahua kula kamali'i mai 'ō a
to normalize the Hawaiian Language. We currently have 12 early childhood education sites

'ō o Hawai'i nei nāna e lawelawe kaia'ōlelo nei no ke kaiāulu. Ma ka 'ao'ao o ka
across Hawai'i that service our community through the medium of Hawaiian language.

'Aha Pūnana Leo, ke ho'opuka nei au i ke kāko'o nui a mākou i nā pila pili 'ōlelo
On behalf of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo I would like to express our strong support for bills

Hawai'i ma kona kūlana 'ōlelo kūhelu no ka moku'āina 'o Hawai'i,
relating to Hawaiian as an official language of the state of Hawai'i,

'oi loa aku i ka SB642.

especially SB642.

Ma ko'u 'ano iho he haumāna a'o 'ōlelo Hawai'i, ua lilo ka 'okina a me ke
As a learner of the Hawaiian language myself I have found the use of 'okina and kahakō

kahakō he 'ao'ao kōkua ikaika i ko'u maopopo 'ana i ka 'ōlelo. Ke kāko'o piha nei
to be a vital part of assisting my understanding of the language. I fully support

ho'i au i ke koina e ho'ohana 'ia ia mau mea 'elua ma nā palapala kūhelu.
the requirement of each to be used in official documents.

'O wau ma ke 'ano he kino kā'oko'a, a 'o mākou hui 'ia o ka 'Aha Pūnana
I as an individual and we as the collective 'Aha Pūnana Leo

Leo, ke ho'opuka nei i ke kāko'o ikaika nei no kēia mau pila.
voice our strong support of these bills.

Mahalo nui,

na Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā
'Aha Pūnana Leo, Inc.
Luna Ho'okele, Chief Executive Officer

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 1:12:46 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika McNicoll	Testifying for Aha Punana Leo	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha e ke KĀ• mike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'Ā• Ielo o ka Moku'Ā• ina 'o Hawai'i,

'O 'Alika McNicoll ko'u inoa a he 'elele au o ka 'Aha PĀ«nana Leo. 'O ka 'Aha PĀ«nana Leo, he papahana kula kamali'i ia e a'o ana i nĀ• keiki ma o ka 'Ā• Ielo Hawai'i ma nĀ• kula kamali'i he 12 o ka pae 'Ā• ina.

Currently, I work in Hawaiian language outreach via 'Aha PĀ«nana Leo's Niuolahiki distance learning program for PĀ«nana Leo families and students across the world.

On behalf of our PĀ«nana Leo parents and schools who have submitted written testimony for bills SB 195 and SB 642, we are in strong support of said bills relating to Hawaiian as an official language of the state of Hawai'i.

Including the 'okina and kahakĀ• in all writing assists readers in proper pronunciation and denotes the appropriate context as Hawaiian words have many meanings. Therefore, it is imperative that these marks be included.

Mahalo for your time and attention to this matter.

Mahalo a nui,

na 'Alika McNicoll
'Aha PĀ«nana Leo, Inc.
Ho'olauka'i Niuolahiki



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Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Kamaluokalani Almodova, Kahu
Pūnohu Meade, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

[Signature]
[Signature]
Kōmike Makua PL

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Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

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Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Ku'ulei Alves, Kanu

Poina'ole Laurito, Kumu Alaka'i

Ke Kōmike Makua

Ku Kōmike Makua o ka PLO Wai'anae

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Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Honolulu
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SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

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We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Leimomi Anderson, Kahu
Nāwahine Aiona, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

Leimomi Anderson
Nāwahine Aiona
Nā Kōmike Makua o ka Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

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Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Kahōkū Lindsey-Asing, Kahu
Mailelani Namau'u, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

*Ke Kōmike makua o ka Pūnana Leo o
Mānoa*

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Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Kaimana Cabebe, Kahu *Kaimana Cabebe*
Maleka Tolentino, Kumu Alaka'i *Maleka Tolentino*
Ke Kōmike Makua *Na Ke Kōmike Makua Pro Hāna*

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Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niulohiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Senator
Kahele, Kaiali'i (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 213

Senator
Shimabukuro, Maile S.L. (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 222

Senator
Fevella, Kurt (R)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 217

Senator
Ihara, Les Jr. (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 220

Senator
Keohokalole, Jarrett (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Ka'ipo Maika'i-Kahana'oi, Kahu
Kāhealani Chang, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

Kaipo Maika'i-Kahana'oi
Kāhealani Chang

No Ke Kōmike Makua o Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i



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Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Molokai

Pūnana Leo o Waianae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Kō'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niuhahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

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Senator
Keohokalole, Jarrett (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kânāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Karyn Kanekoa, Kahu
Leilei Ishikawa, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i



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Kaluan J.K.N. Laha

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Nā Kula Pūnana Leo

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Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kailua

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Molokai

Pūnana Leo o Waianae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Maunaloa

Pūnana Leo o Konaau Piko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hana

Nuokahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Senator
Kahele, Kaiali'i (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 213

Senator
Shimabukuro, Maile S.L. (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 222

Senator
Fevella, Kurt (R)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 217

Senator
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Hawaii State Capitol, Room 220

Senator
Keohokalole, Jarrett (D)
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Maui
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Kili Namau'u, Kahu
Kaleimaile Robia, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

Kaleimaile Robia
Kili Namau'u

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Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

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Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāe

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Senator

Kahele, Kaiali'i (D)

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 213

Senator

Shimabukuro, Maile S.L. (D)

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 222

Senator

Fevella, Kurt (R)

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Ihara, Les Jr. (D)

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 220

Senator

Keohokalole, Jarrett (D)

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Kona E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Na'aiakalani Navas, Kahu

Ake Tibayan, Kumu Alaka'i

Ke Kōmike Makua

Na ke Kōmike Makua o ka Pūnana Leo o Kona

E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i



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Pūnana Leo o Kapa'e
Pūnana Leo o Maui
Pūnana Leo o Molokai
Pūnana Leo o Waianae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Kōloa/Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niulohiki
Hawaiian Language Online

Senator
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Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'aluā, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Waimea
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Maluhia O'Donnell, Kahu
Kāhealani Tanimoto, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

Maluhia O'Donnell
Maluhia O'Donnell for parent committee

E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i



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William H. Wilson

Krope Raymond

Hulliau Wilson

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Karūlani J.K.N. Laehā

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Pūnana Leo o Waianae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Kōloa/Pōkū
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niulohiki
Hawaiian Language Online

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Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'aluā, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Waimea
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

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Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Maluhia O'Donnell, Kahu
Kāhealani Tanimoto, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua

Maluhia O'Donnell
for parent committee

E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i



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Kākau 'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

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Huilau Wilson

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Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Kōloa Poko
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Niuhahiki
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Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Hilo
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i - The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 - Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

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Me ka 'oia'i'o,
Lenneth Pavao Jr., Kahu
Kealoha Reff, Kumu Alaka'i
Ke Kōmike Makua



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K'ope Raymond

Huilau Wilson

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Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'anāe

Pūnana Leo o Kona

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Pūnana Leo o Kō'olau Poko

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Niuhahiki

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Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203

Lā: Pō'alua, Ianuali 29, 2019

Hola: 1:15 pm.

Wahi: Lumi Hālāwai 016

Testimony of the Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i – The Hawaiian Language Shall Live

SB 195 and SB 642 – Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai'i.

Aloha e ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o ka 'Aha'ōlelo o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i.

Kāko'o 'ia nā pila SB 195 a me ka SB 642 e ke kōmike makua, kumu, a me nā limahana Pūnana Leo.

We the parent group, teachers, and staff of the Pūnana Leo preschools, submit this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 195 and SB 642.

Kāko'o ho'i ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642 i kā mākou hana ho'ōla Hawai'i e kālele nui 'ia e nā kula Pūnana Leo i kēia mau makahiki he 35 a 'oi. He mea nui kēia mau kānāwai a kulekele i ke ola o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

SB 195 and SB 642 support our efforts in the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language advocated by the Pūnana Leo preschools throughout Hawai'i for over 35 years. It is imperative that laws and policies support the unencumbered use and standard implementation of Hawaiian.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

U'ilani Ramos, Kahu

Kolomona Kalua, Kumu Alaka'i

Ke Kōmike Makua

U'ilani Ramos
Kolomona Kalua
Na Ke Kōmike Makua

E O l a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Date: Ianuali 29, 2019

Where: State Capitol Room 016

TESTIMONY

By Ka‘ano‘i Walk

RE: SB 195, Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawai‘i

E ka Luna Ho‘omalu Shimabukuro, ka Hope Luna Ho‘omalu Kahele, a me nā Lālā Kenekoa o kēia Kōmike, aloha! My name is Ka‘ano‘i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Division of Kamehameha Schools.

Driven by the third goal of our strategic plan for 2015-2020, which guides our educational institution to cultivate a strong Native Hawaiian identity to instill confidence and resiliency in learners, Kamehameha Schools **SUPPORTS SB 195, with comments.**

SB 195, relating to Hawaiian as an official language of the State of Hawai‘i, requires that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English. This bill also requires that ‘okina and kahakō be used, when appropriate, in documents prepared by or for state or county agencies or officials.

‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is the language of our home—being used and celebrated by thousands across the pae ‘āina in government, education, and commerce alike. ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i enables Native Hawaiians and the larger community to gain a deeper understanding of Hawai‘i’s history and cultural practices, and unveils over a millennia of ancestral knowledge that continues to guide innovative solutions to modern problems.

Like many languages, however, the meaning and full understanding of a Hawaiian statement is often lost in translation. For this reason, we believe laws drafted in ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i should be interpreted in the same to ensure a law’s intent is accurately followed. Similarly, Kamehameha Schools supports including ‘okina and kahakō in written documents, when appropriate, to ensure accurate pronunciation of Hawaiian names and words, and clear communication of the appropriate meanings.

We also recognize the strong and vibrant community on Ni‘ihau and Kaua‘i that continues to actively engage in their ‘ōlelo Ni‘ihau, without or with limited use of the ‘okina and kahakō. As

a model community of Hawaiian language vibrancy, we urge that the needs and considerations of the ‘ōlelo Ni‘ihau community be included to ensure their sustainability.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an educational organization striving to restore our people through education and advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success, and local leadership drives global leadership.

With these comments, Kamehameha Schools **SUPPORTS SB 195.**

‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/25/2019 3:57:33 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/25/2019 9:24:29 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is in strong support. Long overdue for the host culture.

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 3:45:55 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nako'olani Warrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 195. Mahalo!

Kenekoa Maile S.L Shimabukuro, Luna Hoʻomalū, Kōmike Kuleana Hawaiʻi (HWN)
Kenekoa Kaialiʻi Kahele, Hope Luna Hoʻomalū, Kōmike Kuleana Hawaiʻi (HWN)

Lā: 29 Ianuali, 2018, Poʻalua

Hola Hālāwai: 2:18pm

Lumi Hālāwai: Lumi ʻAha Kūkā 016

Na Keiki Kawaiʻaeʻa, Laeʻula
Luna Hoʻokele, Ka Haka ʻUla O Keʻelikōlani Kōleke ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi

SB 195

Requires that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English. Requires that ʻokina and kahako be used, when appropriate, in documents prepared by or for state or county agencies or officials.

SB 642

Inserts article thirteen of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Requires that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English. Requires that ʻokina and kahako be used, when appropriate, in documents prepared by or for state or county agencies or officials.

KŪLANA PILA SB 195/SB 642: **KĀKOʻO**

Aloha e ka Lunahoʻomalū Shimabukuro, ka Hope Lunahoʻomalū Kahele a me nā Lālā o Ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawaiʻi o ka ʻAha Kenekoa o ka Mokuʻāina ʻo Hawaiʻi,

ʻO wau ʻo Keiki Kawaiʻaeʻa, ka Luna Hoʻokele o Ka Haka ʻUla O Keʻelikōlani, ke Kōleke ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi i koi ʻia e ka ʻAhaʻōlelo o ka MH 1996 e hoʻokumu ʻia ma ke Kulanui O Hawaiʻi Ma Hilo. Mai ia wā mai ua hoʻokumu ʻia ma lalo o Ka Haka ʻUla O Keʻelikōlani, he papahana hoʻomākaukau kumu, he ʻelua papahana laeoʻo, he papahana laeʻula, a me ka papahana kula hoʻokolohua. ʻO Ka Haka ʻUla ka papahana kula kamaliʻi a i ka laeʻula hoʻokahi o ʻAmelika Hui Pū ʻia i mālama ʻia i loko o kekahi ʻōlelo ʻōiwi.

ʻO ka nui loa o nā polopeka, limahana, a me ka haumāna o loko o ia papahana P-20, he ʻōiwi Hawaiʻi i walewaha i ka ʻōlelo Hawaiʻi. He loaʻa pū nā ʻōiwi Hawaiʻi ʻole kekahi i walewaha i ka ʻōlelo Hawaiʻi ma lalo o ka malu o ke Kōleke.

Ke kākōʻo nei au i nā pila ʻelua, ʻo ka SB 195 a me ka SB 642. Inā e koho au i kekahi, ʻo ka SB 642 kaʻu e koho ai. He hiki ke hoʻoikaika ʻia ka SB 642 ma ka hōʻoia ʻana ʻaʻole ʻo ka ʻōlelo Hawaiʻi he ʻōlelo kūhelu na ka Hawaiʻi wale nō akā no kākou a pau.

No laila, kūpono loa ka hoʻokomo ʻia ʻana o kēia mau pila i kēia, ka Makahiki Kauʻāina O Nā ʻŌlelo ʻŌiwi O Ka ʻAhahui O Nā Aupuni Kūʻokoʻa. Ke kākōʻo piha nei au ma hope o ka hoʻopuka ʻia o kēia mau pila.

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/27/2019 6:48:19 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Why are we still making bills and laws regarding Hawaiian language? IT is the official language of our islands. Will this bill put greater enforcement of the rules already in place? Hawaiian is NOT a foreign language and we need to stop treating it as such.

From: [Danika V](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: SB 642, SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 9:59:44 AM

Kako'o

From: [Kylee-Lynn Bush](#)
To: senkkahe@capitol.hawaii.gov; [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: SB 642 a me SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 9:58:58 AM

Kako'o

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 9:52:25 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Kamalei Stovall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kā• ko'o wau i kā"ia pila. I support this bill. The Hawaiian language must be normalized again in all situations to help begin to right the wrongs done by the State in the past and present of suppressing, ignoring, and criminalizing 'ĀĀlelo Hawai'i. E ola ka 'ĀĀlelo Hawai'i.

na Lauren Emily Kamalei Stovall

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 10:12:34 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Cabral	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

KÄ• ko'o!

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:06:34 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly D. Lepold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of this Bill. Shame on us that it is up for question. All people have the right to their language. Thank you

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:20:37 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehaulani Shintani	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

He kā• ko‘o nui kā“ia i ka ho‘opi‘i ho‘i i ke kā«lana o ka ‘Ā• Ielo Hawai‘i. I am in total support of this bill as this increases the official status of the Hawaiian language.

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:30:05 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kea Kala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:33:20 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristie-Lee P Oshiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

KÄ• ko'o piha au i ka SB 195 Relating to Hawaiian as an official language of the State of Hawai'i.

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:42:23 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

Kā• ko‘o piha wau i kā“ia pila!

Mahalo,

Na Pakalana Helekahi

‘Elele o ka ‘Aha Hui Siwila o Ke Aloha ‘Ā€ina

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 11:45:40 AM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evyn-Bree	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kā• ko'o piha wau i kā"ia pila!

Mahalo,

Na Laukeha Helekahi-Kaiwi

'Elele o ka 'Aha Hui Siwila o Ke Aloha 'Ā€ina

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 12:22:58 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 12:42:27 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
TERRY KIMOKEO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: [Bruce Torres Fischer](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#); [Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele](#)
Subject: Kako'o SB 642 a me 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 10:50:01 AM

Aloha 'olua e na kenekoa,

He wahi leo kako'o keia i na pila SB 642 a me 195. E ola ka 'olelo Hawai'i a kakou!

Na'u no me ka 'oia'i'o,
Na Bruce Torres Fischer

From: [Mary Miller](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#); [Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele](#)
Subject: SB 642, SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 11:33:41 AM

E kako‘o aku ana au i ka ‘olelo Hawai‘i. Ua kako‘o aku au i ka SB 642 a me ka SB 195.

Mahalo.

Mary Miller

From: [Yee, 文俊](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#); [Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele](#)
Cc: [Sen. Kurt Fevella](#); [Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.](#); [Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole](#)
Subject: Kako'o i ka SB642 a me SB195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 12:53:59 PM

Aloha e na Senator a me committee members,

I'm writing in to support the measures SB642 and SB195 relating to 'olelo Hawai'i as an official state language. I feel that it's important for us as residents of Hawai'i to have the right to engage in government matters in our language of preference, especially in enforcing the 'okina and kahako in the right places, so that we as the people from Hawaiian can pronounce our place names, our street names, and our home land properly, followed by understanding the meaning behind the names. Being able to pronounce the Hawaiian terms properly is the first step towards uniting everyone.

I also support the notion that article 13 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples be inserted into the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Mahalo nui for your work and time,
na Jason

From: [Elijah Scanlan](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: SB 642 / SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 1:04:55 PM

Aloha kakou,

Eia no au ‘o Ka‘ikena Scanlan ke waiho nei i ko‘u mana‘o kako‘o i ka ‘olelo Hawai‘i mai ‘o a
‘o o ka pae ‘aina nei. E ola ka ‘olelo ‘oiwi ma ka ‘aha ho‘okolokolo. Kako‘o ho‘i au i kahi
pila SB 642.

Na‘u me ka mahalo nui,

Ka‘ikena Scanlan

From: [Kinohi Neves](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: Aloha for Bill SB 642 and Bill SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 1:15:04 PM

Aloha Maile Shimabukuro,

My name is Kinohi Neves and I am for Bill SB 642 and Bill SB 195

Mahalo Kinohi

From: [Sherry Fox](#)
To: [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: Bill SB 642 and Bill SB 195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 1:19:38 PM

Aloha Maile Shimabukuro,

My name is Sheri Fox and I am for Bill SB 642 and Bill SB 195

Mahalo Sheri

From: [Tema"uonukuhiva Teikitekahioho-Wolff](#)
To: [Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele](#); [Sen. Maile Shimabukuro](#)
Subject: He leka kako'o keia no na pila SB642 a me ka SB195
Date: Monday, January 28, 2019 3:46:28 PM

Aloha nui e ka po'e e heluhelu ana i keia leka,

He leka kako'o keia i ka ho'oholomua 'ia o na pila 2, 'o ia ho'i na pila SB642 a me ka SB195, e kako'o nei ka hapai 'ia o ka 'olelo Hawai'i ma ke 'ano kuhelu no Hawai'i pae 'aina.

He mea nui, a he mea waiwai loa i ka ho'oholomua a'e i ka po'e Hawai'i keia palapala, a me ka 'olelo ho'i o keia 'aina, 'a'ole no na Haeai'i wale no, aka, no ka po'e a pau o keia pae 'aina. He kokua nui keia mau pila i ka ho'ihoi 'ana aku i ka mana, ka ho'ihii, a me ke aloha o ka 'olelo Hawai'i.

I keia manawa 'ano, 'a'ole lawa na hana e kokua aku ai i ka 'olelo Hawai'i a me ka ho'ihoi i kona 'ano laha ma Hawai'i nei, a eia no he ala pono e ho'ihoi mai i ka laha 'ana o ka 'olelo i keia 'aina nei.

Me ia mau mana'o, ke noi ha'aha'a nei au e 'ae 'oukou i ka ho'oholomua i keia mau pila no ke kako'o aku i ka 'olelo makuahine o keia 'aina.

Na'u no,
na Tema'u



To and Before: The Members of the Senate Committee On Hawaiian Affairs

Specifically To: The Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
And The Honorable Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice-Chair

Hearing Date: January 29, 2019

Time of Hearing: 1:15 p.m. Room: 016

Re: SB 642 and SB 195 Relating to Hawaiian as an Official Language of the State of Hawaii

The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement testifies in strong support of both bills, but would prefer that of the two, SB 642 be advanced because it makes specific reference to Article 13 of the United Nation's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples relating to the protection, usage and respect of indigenous languages, and, in this particular case, the indigenous language of the only indigenous people of Hawaii, Native Hawaiians, and their indigenous language, Native Hawaiian, which, by the Constitution of Hawaii, is one of the two official languages of the State of Hawaii, the other official language of the state of Hawaii being the English language.

CNHA is of the opinion that requiring that the proper and appropriate punctuation of Hawaiian words and names in official government documents will go a long way towards increasing the understanding, knowledge, and respect of all who create, read, and use these government documents. It will also assist in the proper pronunciation of these Hawaiian words and names by all.

CNHA takes notice of the fact that the headnote summaries of both of these bills contained in the notice of hearing are miswritten and not in sync with the actual language contained in both SB 642 and SB 195 which is as follows: "provided that if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and the English version was translated based on the Hawaiian version, the Hawaiian language version shall be held binding." (Emphasis supplied.) CNHA supports referring to the actual Native Hawaiian language used when the meaning of a Hawaiian law is called into question that was originally written in Hawaiian and later translated into English. CNHA holds this position because translations of Hawaiian to English may be misleading, inaccurate, or not consistent with the intention of the original drafter of that word, phrase or term, and that the most accurate meaning of a Hawaiian word, phrase, or term is to be found in the Native Hawaiian language in which it was originally written.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin Kippen, Policy Director
Colin@hawaiiancouncil.org



Legislative Testimony

LATE

SB642/SB195
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE STATE
OF HAWAI‘I

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

January 29, 2019

1:15 p.m.

Room 016

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS** SB642 and SB195, which would (1) provide Hawaiian language speakers with long-awaited and adequate language protections; (2) require the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding, if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian; and (3) require the proper use of ‘okina and kahakō in documents prepared by or for state or county agencies or officials. OHA commends the intent and purpose of these measures, which would give “teeth” and true meaning to the Hawaiian language’s designation as a co-official language of the State, and offers amendments to further their vision of upholding Hawaiian as an official state language.

- a. These measures are a step towards addressing the significant challenges Hawaiian language speakers continue to face in their use and normalization of Hawaiian in public spaces.**

Article XII, section 4 of the constitution establishes Hawaiian as an official state language, in recognition of the decades of systemic oppression that led to the unjust and often racially motivated marginalization of the Hawaiian language, culture, and people. However, the full spirit and intent of this constitutional mandate has yet to be realized, as Hawaiian speakers continue to face myriad impediments to speaking Hawaiian even in fundamental civic settings. For example, in 1994, a federal district court judge denied a Hawaiian language speaker the opportunity to express himself in Hawaiian in a deposition.¹ Naturally, this judicial restriction significantly undermined Hawai‘i’s designation as an official language of the State; as recently as last year, this case was cited as persuasive precedent by a Maui district court judge to silence and deny another Hawaiian speaker the right to use his ‘ōlelo makuahine, or mother tongue, before the court. Effectively compelling Hawaiian language speakers to speak English, such cases stand in contravention to the mandates, policies, and intent of various laws and other documents, including Article XII, section 4 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution; HRS § 1-13;

¹ Tagupa v. Odo, 843 F. Supp. 630 (D. Haw. 1994).

the Native American Languages Act (NALA) of 1990;² and Article 13 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.³

The prominence and active favoring of English over Hawaiian is not only isolated to the court system, and is arguably rooted in a history of systemic oppression that must be acknowledged, repudiated, and rectified. Notably, Hawaiian was the first language of Hawai‘i’s legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Many would also be surprised to know, **“Hawai‘i published its laws in both Hawaiian and English until 1943.”**⁴ However, policies such as an 1896 law requiring English to be the medium of instruction in public and private schools, the Organic Act’s subsequent mandate requiring all legislative proceedings be conducted in English only, and a 1943 statute abolishing the practice of publishing laws in Hawaiian, reflect an ongoing historical movement to suppress the use of Hawaiian in social and civic arenas. As illustrated by the aforementioned court cases, the legacy of systemic linguistic oppression lives on to this day; as noted in this measure, existing statutory language even explicitly states that “Hawaiian *shall not* be required for public acts and transactions.”⁵

Accordingly, OHA strongly supports these measures as an important step towards rectifying the historical and ongoing suppression of the Hawaiian language, and giving teeth to the constitutional vision of Hawaiian as a true official language of the state.

b. OHA respectfully suggests that the expertise and capacity of the Office of Language Access be expanded to include the accommodation of Hawaiian language speakers.

As a means to further effectuate the intent of this measure, OHA proposes that these measure include amendments to HRS § 321-C, which establishes the Office of Language Access. In past years, various testimony on similar language bills have identified the need for the State to “designate or establish an agency to provide translation services to make Hawaiian versions of government records available to the public at no cost.” OHA agrees and suggests that OLA’s expertise and capacity in providing government materials to non-English speakers may make it well suited for this task. While OHA recognizes that language access for “limited English proficient” falls under a categorically different framework than upholding the right to use Hawaiian in Hawai‘i, there is little reason why an agency with experience and resources in facilitating non-English interactions with government processes cannot also help to promote the substantial state interest in upholding Hawaiian as a true official language of the state.

Accordingly, OHA respectfully offers the following additional sections for inclusion in the subject bills:

² Codified as 25 U.S.C.A. §§ 2901-2906 (1990).

³ UNDRIP Art. 13, Right to Language.

⁴ Paul F. Nahoia Lucas, *E Ola Mau Kākou I ka ‘Ōlelo Makuahine: Hawaiian Language Policy and the Courts*, HWN J. HIST., 4 (2000).

⁵ HRS 1-13.

SECTION ____ . Section 321C-1, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§321C-1 General purpose; purpose of the office of language access. The Hawaiian language is the indigenous language of Hawai'i. Article XII, Section 4 of the State Constitution has long recognized Hawaiian as an official state language co-equal with English. To better uphold this constitutional mandate and facilitate the rejuvenation and realization of Hawaiian as an official language of the State of Hawai'i, state and county agencies must provide Hawaiian language speakers with the equal opportunity to transact government business and access government services. Accordingly, the purpose of the office of language access shall be to provide Hawaiian language speakers with meaningful Hawaiian language access to services, programs, and activities offered by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government, including departments, offices, commissions, boards, or other agencies, and all covered entities.

~~[Many]~~ In addition, many individuals living in ~~[Hawaii]~~ Hawai'i read, write, speak, and understand English. There are many individuals, however, who are limited English proficient. Language for limited English proficient persons can be a barrier to accessing important benefits or services, understanding and exercising important rights, complying with applicable responsibilities, or understanding other information provided by state-funded programs and activities.

The purpose of this chapter is also to affirmatively address, on account of national origin, the language access needs of limited English proficient persons. It is the intent of the legislature that these services be guided by Executive Order No. 13166 and succeeding provisions of federal law, regulation, or guidance.

The purpose of the office of language access is to also address the language access needs of limited English proficient persons and ensure meaningful access to services, programs, and activities offered by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government, including departments, offices, commissions, boards, or other agencies, and all covered entities, for limited English proficient persons."

SECTION ____ . Section 321C-2, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a definition to read as follows:

“Hawaiian language speaker” means an individual who, speaks Hawaiian with enough proficiency to read, write, speak, or understand the Hawaiian language.””

SECTION ____ . Section 321C-3, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a definition to read as follows:

“§ 321C-3 Oral and written language services.

(a) Each state agency and all covered entities shall take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to services, programs, and activities by Hawaiian language speakers and limited English proficient persons ~~[persons, which]~~ persons. Limited English proficient persons will be determined by a totality of circumstances, including the following factors:

- (1) The number or proportion of limited English proficient persons served or encountered in the eligible service population;
- (2) The frequency with which limited English proficient persons come in contact with the services, programs, or activities;
- (3) The nature and importance of the services, programs, or activities; and
- (4) The resources available to the State or covered entity and the costs.

(b) Subject to subsection (a), each state agency and covered entity shall provide competent, timely oral language services to Hawaiian language speakers and limited English proficient persons who seek to access services, programs, or activities.

(c) Subject to subsection (a), each state agency and covered entity shall provide written translations of vital documents to Hawaiian language speakers and limited English proficient persons who seek to access services, programs, or activities, as follows:

- (1) Written translations of vital documents for Hawaiian language speakers and each eligible limited English proficient group that constitutes five per cent or one thousand, whichever is less, of the population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be affected or encountered; or
- (2) If there are fewer than fifty persons in a limited English proficient group that reaches the five per cent threshold in paragraph (1), written notice in the primary language to the limited English proficient

language group of the right to receive competent oral interpretation of those written materials, free of cost.

(d) To the extent that the State requires additional personnel to provide language services based on the determination set forth in this section, the State shall hire qualified personnel who are bilingual to fill existing, budgeted vacant public contact positions."

c. Inclusion of language relating to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into Hawai'i Revised Statutes will enable Hawai'i to join in international efforts to protect and perpetuate indigenous languages.

Lastly, OHA would like to spotlight the global initiative currently taking place to stabilize indigenous languages, which like Hawaiian, are often classified as endangered languages. The United Nations has proclaimed 2019 the Year of Indigenous Languages to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages. Indigenous languages, in general, are key vehicles for cultural transmission and traditional ecological knowledge. For Hawaiians specifically, 'ōlelo Hawai'i, our heritage language, is an important marker for our collective identity and an important connection to our ancestral legacy. In light of this worldwide attention, Hawai'i has a unique opportunity to join this concerted effort and align its laws, policies, and practices for its own indigenous language, Hawaiian. **Accordingly, OHA respectfully urges the inclusion in SB195 of language found in SB642, inserting article thirteen of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into Hawai'i Revised Statutes.**

For the reasons set forth above, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS WITH AMENDMENTS** SB642 and SB195. E ola nō ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i! Mahalo piha for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

LATE



BENTON KEALII PANG, PH.D.,
PELEKIKENA



KOOK.PELEKIKENA@GMAIL.COM



808-349-3636

3204 CARLOS LONG ST.
HONOLULU, HI 96816

SEN. MAILE SHIMABUKURO, SEN. KAIALI'I KAHELE,
AND THE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Aloha e Sen. Maile Shimabukuro, Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele,
and the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

Ke One O Kākuhihewa supports SB 642 and SB 195.

Inserting article 13 of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, providing interpretation services to allow proceedings in 'ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language), binding the Hawaiian language version of laws, and adding 'okina and kahakō enables our Hawaiian language speakers, from keiki to Kūpuna to conduct business in the official language of this State.

As a Hawaiian language student since 1989, I am proud that Hawai'i allows this beautiful language to flourish throughout our communities.

Ke One O Kākuhihewa-O'ahu Council is a member of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs with 25 clubs on the island of O'ahu.

Sincerely,

Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D., Pelekikena

SB-195

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 10:45:19 PM

Testimony for HWN on 1/29/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamalukea Moke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

KÄ• ko'o au i kÄ"ia pila SB195!

Kāko'o

LATE

Jacqueline Fernandez <jkf4@hawaii.edu>

Mon 1/28/2019 7:34 PM

To: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro <senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov>; Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele <senkkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov>;

Aloha mai kākou,

Makemake au e ha'i iā 'olua, kāko'o au i nā pila SB 642, ame SB 195.

Mahalo,

Hiwa Fernandez, no Waiau, O'ahu mai au

SB642/ SB195

Lily Gavagan <lgavagan@hawaii.edu>

Mon 1/28/2019 11:01 PM

To: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro <senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov>;



Kāko'o!

Kako'o: SB642, SB195

LATE

Malia Benz-Marrs <maliabm@hawaii.edu>

Tue 1/29/2019 6:00 AM

To: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro <senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov>;

Cc: Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele <senkkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov>;

Aloha nō,

'O au 'o Malia Benz-Marrs. No Kahikinui, Maui mai au. Kako'o wau i nā pila 'elua ka SB195 a me ka SB642.

Me ka ha'aha'a,
Malia Benz-Marrs

Ka 'Ohana Benz-Marrs

Malia, Brandon
Kauila
Kaileonui
Keaka

SB 642 & SB 195

Sheldon Rosa <srosa3@hawaii.edu>

Mon 1/28/2019 7:17 PM

To: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro <senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov>; Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele <senkkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov>;

Kāko'o wau i SB 642 a me SB 195.

LATE