
HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE UNIQUE LANGUAGE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO HAWAIIAN
CULTURE OF THE NIIHAU COMMUNITY.

PART I

A Recognition of the Unique Language of the Niihau Community

WHEREAS, the Niihau community is the last intact community of native speakers of traditional Hawaiian in the world from newborns to the elderly who maintain Hawaiian as the primary language of the home; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the Niihau community deserves recognition for having maintained the Hawaiian language of their families from generation to generation until today against great odds; and

WHEREAS, while the Niihau variety of Hawaiian has proven resilient, it is nonetheless under threat of extinction and an endangered variety of an endangered language; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes the invaluable contribution of the Niihau community to Hawaiian culture and the unique culture of Hawaii's society; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes that the Niihau community represents a unique and authentic cultural and linguistic worldview that contributes to the maintenance of the Hawaiian language in many ways; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that this body hereby recognizes the Niihau community, a particular community of the Hawaiian people, and their linguistic variety unique, centuries-old treasures of Hawaii



1 worthy of recognition and support so that their variety of
2 Hawaiian language may carry on into the future.

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4 PART II

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6 Palapala Hooko a Hookumu no na Elele Kanaka o Niihau
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8 OIAI, o na ohana Niihau ka poe hope loa e malama nei i ka
9 olelo kumu a ka poe Hawaii e koe nei ma ke ao holookoa, mai na
10 keiki ai waiu no a hiki i na kupuna oo e hoomau nei i ka olelo
11 Kanaka oia ka olelo kuakahi ma ka aina; a
12

13 OIAI, ke nana ia nei he kupono ke hoomaikai ia na ohana
14 Niihau no ko lakou malama ana i ka olelo Kanaka mawaena o ko
15 lakou mau ohana mai ia hanauna aku a ia hanauna aku a hiki loa
16 mai i keia la me na popilikia he nui no nae; a
17

18 OIAI, ua ikaika ka hoomau ia ana o ka olelo Kanaka a hiki i
19 keia la, ua oia mau no nae ke kulanalana o kona hoomau ia ana e
20 like no me ke kulana o ka olelo Hawaii, he olelo i kanalua ia ai
21 kona hoomau ana; a
22

23 OIAI, ke nana aku nei ka Mokuaina o Hawaii i ka waiwai
24 palena ole o ke kokua ana o na ohana Niihau i ka noho ana o ka
25 lahui Hawaii ma ke ano he noho ana i ku hookahi mai o a o o ka
26 Paeaina o Hawaii; a
27

28 OIAI, ke nana aku nei ka Mokuaina o Hawaii he hoailona na
29 ohana Niihau no kekahi ano manao ana a me kekahi olelo ku
30 hookahi e kokua aku nei i ka hoomau ia ana o ka olelo Hawaii ma
31 na ano he nui hewahewa; ano, nolaila,
32

33 E HOOHOLO IA e ka Hale o na Luna Makaainana o ka Ahaolelo
34 Umikumamakolu o ka Mokuaina o Hawaii, Kau Noho Maamau o ka
35 makahiki 2020, me ka aelike pu mai o ka Aha Kenekoa, ke kuahaua
36 aku nei o na ohana Niihau, he mahele hoi o ka lahui Hawaii, a me
37 ka lakou olelo makuahine ku hookahi he mau haneli makahiki ka
38 loihi o kona hoomau ia ana, he waiwai maoli io no ia mau mea e
39 kupono ai ka hoomaikai a me ke kakoo ana i mea e hoomau ia ai
40 mai keia hanauna aku no a ia hanauna aku no.



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