
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

APOLOGIZING TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE FOR THE EFFECTIVE
PROHIBITION IN HAWAII SCHOOLS OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL USE OF
THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE FROM 1896 TO 1986.

1 *OIAI, o ka olelo Hawaii ka olelo o ka lahui Hawaii no na*
2 *makahiki he elua kaukani a oi ae paha; a*

3
4 WHEREAS, 'Ōlelo Hawaii, the Hawaiian language, has been the
5 native language of Hawaii's indigenous people for more than two
6 thousand years; and

7
8 *OIAI, ma mua o ka hiki ana mai o ka poe haole i Hawaii i ka*
9 *makahiki 1778, ua kukulu ia he aupuni Hawaii ma o ka malama pono*
10 *ana i ka aina a me ke kanaka ma ka olelo, na lolina a me na akua*
11 *Hawaii; a*

12
13 WHEREAS, prior to the arrival of the first Europeans in
14 Hawaii in 1778, the Native Hawaiian people lived in a highly
15 organized, self-sufficient, subsistent social system based on
16 communal land tenure with a sophisticated language, culture, and
17 religion; and

18
19 *OIAI, o ka olelo Hawaii ka mea e paa ai ke kahua o ka*
20 *nohona Hawaii, ke aupuni Hawaii, ka hoonaauao Hawaii, ke*
21 *akeakamai Hawaii, na oihana hana lima Hawaii a me ka hana noeau*
22 *Hawaii; a*

23
24 WHEREAS, 'Ōlelo Hawaii has provided the foundation for the
25 establishment and development of Hawaiian society, including
26 government, education, sciences, trades, and arts; and

27
28 *OIAI, ua ola a mahuahua ka olelo Hawaii i ka wa o ke aupuni*
29 *Hawaii mai ka makahiki 1795 a ka makahiki 1893; a*
30



1 WHEREAS, from 1795 to 1893, during the time of the Hawaiian
2 Kingdom, the Hawaiian language thrived; and

3
4 OIAI, ua hookumu ia ke kakau ana o ka olelo Hawaii ma ka
5 makahiki he 1825 ma lala o ka noho aupuni ana o ka Moi
6 Kauikeaouli Kamehameha III; a

7
8 WHEREAS, in 1825, under the direction of Moi Kauikeaouli
9 Kamehameha III, missionaries and Native Hawaiian scholars
10 devised a Hawaiian orthography; and

11
12 OIAI, ua mahuahua ae no ke kakau ana a me ka heluhelu ana o
13 ka poe Hawaii ma ka olelo Hawaii, he 95 pakeneka ka nui, ma ka
14 makahiki he 1834; a

15
16 WHEREAS, the orthography led to rapid literacy among
17 indigenous Hawaiians, ninety-five percent of whom attained
18 literacy by 1834; and

19
20 OIAI, ua hookumu ka Moi Kauikeaouli Kamehameha III i ke
21 Aupuni Moi o Ko Hawaii Pae Aina ma kahi o na makahiki 1840 ma o
22 ka olelo Hawaii; a

23
24 WHEREAS, in the 1840s, Moi Kauikeaouli Kamehameha III used
25 the Hawaiian language to transform the Hawaiian Kingdom into a
26 constitutional monarchy; and

27
28 OIAI, ua kukulu ia ke aupuni Hawaii me ka Aha Hookolokolo;
29 ka Oihana Makai; ka Papa Ola; a me ka Papa Hoonaaauao o Hawaii
30 nei ma o ka Olelo Hawaii; a

31
32 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Monarchy's judiciary; law
33 enforcement; health system; and public systems for education,
34 which were the genesis of Hawaii's public education system, all
35 functioned solely in the Hawaiian language; and

36
37 OIAI, ua aneane make ka olelo Hawaii mamuli o na hihia like
38 ole, e like me ke Kanawai 57 o ka makahiki 1896 i hookumu ia ai
39 mahope o ka hookahuli hewa ia ana o ke Aupuni o Hawaii i ka
40 makahiki 1893; a
41



1 WHEREAS, however, by the latter half of the twentieth
2 century, the 'Ōlelo Hawaii was pushed to the brink of extinction
3 by several factors, including Act 57, Laws of the Republic of
4 Hawaii 1896 (Act 57), which was passed three years after the
5 1893 overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii; and

6
7 OIAI, ua hookumu ia ka olelo Pelekania ma na kula aupuni
8 apau o Hawaii, me ka papa pu ia ana o ka Olelo Hawaii ma na
9 kula; a

10
11 WHEREAS, Act 57 declared an English-only law over Hawaii's
12 public schools, prohibiting the use of 'Ōlelo Hawaii as a medium
13 of instruction; and

14
15 OIAI, ua emi loa ka nui o na kanaka olelo Hawaii mai ke
16 kanaha kaukani i ka makahiki 1896 a i ka elua kaukani ma ka
17 makahiki 1978 mamuli o ke Kanawai 57, e hoopai ana i na haumana
18 no ka hoohana ana i ka olelo Hawaii; a

19
20 WHEREAS, due to Act 57, many students were punished for
21 speaking 'Ōlelo Hawaii at school, and the number of Hawaiian
22 language speakers collapsed from nearly forty thousand in 1896
23 to a mere two thousand in 1978; and

24
25 OIAI, ua papa ia ka Olelo Hawaii maloko o na kula aupuni o
26 Hawaii no kanaiwa mau makahiki a aole i hoonaauao ia na haumana
27 ma o ka olelo Hawaii no na hanauna he eha; a

28
29 WHEREAS, the 'Ōlelo Hawaii was excluded from Hawaii's public
30 schools for ninety years and would not be heard in official
31 instruction for four generations; and

32
33 OIAI, ua paa ma ke Kumu Kanawai o Hawaii:

34
35 Pauku X, Mahele 4, e kakoo ka mokuaina o Hawaii i ke
36 ao ana i na lolina Hawaii, na moololelo Hawaii a me ka
37 olelo Hawaii; a

38
39 Pauku XV, Mahele 4, kakau ia, o ka olelo Pelekania a
40 me ka olelo Hawaii na olelo kuhelu o ka mokuaina o
41 Hawaii; a
42



1 WHEREAS, the Constitution of Hawaii includes, among other
2 provisions:

3
4 Article X, Section 4, which requires the State to
5 promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history, and
6 language; and
7

8 Article XV, Section 4, which states that English and
9 Hawaiian shall be the official languages of the State
10 of Hawaii; and
11

12 *OIAI, me ke ku no o ke Kumu Kanawai o Hawaii, aole no i*
13 *komo ka olelo Hawaii ma na kula aupuni a i ka hookumu ia ana o*
14 *na kula ma o ka olelo Hawaii i ka makahiki 1986; a*
15

16 WHEREAS, in spite of the foregoing amendments to the
17 Constitution of Hawaii, 'Ōlelo Hawaii was excluded from Hawaii's
18 public schools until 1986, with the establishment of the
19 Hawaiian Language Immersion Program; and
20

21 *OIAI, aia no ke ola a me ka pono o ka poe Hawaii i ke aloha*
22 *i ka aina a me ka olelo; a*
23

24 WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the Native Hawaiian
25 people are intrinsically tied to their deep feelings and
26 attachment to the land and language; and
27

28 *OIAI, ua luku ia no ka poe Hawaii ma muli o ka loli ana o*
29 *ke aupuni Hawaii, ka hookele waiwai o Hawaii a me ka nohona*
30 *Hawaii i na kenekulia he 19 a me 20; a no laila,*
31

32 WHEREAS, the long-range economic and social changes in
33 Hawaii over the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries have
34 been devastating to the population and to the health and well-
35 being of the Native Hawaiian people; now, therefore,
36

37 *E hooholo ia, ua apono ia keia palapala aelike e ka aha*
38 *olelo 31 o ka mokuaina o Hawaii, kau mau 2022, me ka aelike o ka*
39 *aha kenekoa, i palapala mihi i ka poe Hawaii no ka papa ana i ke*
40 *ao ana i ka olelo Hawaii ma na kula aupuni mai ka makahiki 1896*
41 *a hiki i ka makahiki 1986; a*
42



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that this body offers this
4 resolution as an apology to the Native Hawaiian people for the
5 effective prohibition in Hawaii schools of the instructional use
6 of 'Ōlelo Hawaii from 1896 to 1986; and

7
8 *E hooholo ia, ke hoohiki nei keia aha e hooiaio mai i na*
9 *hopena pili o ka hookahuli ia ana o ke aupuni Hawaii a e kakoo i*
10 *ka pono o na hihia ma waena o Amelika a me ka poe Hawaii mai ka*
11 *wa ma mua a i keia manawa; a*

12
13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body expresses its
14 commitment to acknowledge the ramifications of the overthrow of
15 the Kingdom of Hawaii to provide a proper foundation to address
16 the historical and contemporary issues between the United States
17 of America and the Native Hawaiian people; and

18
19 *E hooholo ia, ke koi nei keia aha i ka aha hooko o ka*
20 *mokuaina o Hawaii e hooiaio mai i na hopena pili o ka hookahuli*
21 *ia ana o ke aupuni Hawaii a e kakoo i ka pono o na hihia ma*
22 *waena o Amelika a me ka poe Hawaii mai ka wa ma mua a i keia*
23 *manawa; a*

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the executive
26 branch of the State of Hawaii to also acknowledge the
27 ramifications of the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii and to
28 address the historical and contemporary issues between the
29 United States of America and the Native Hawaiian people; and

30
31 *E hooholo ia, e hoouna ia ana na kope hooiaio o keia*
32 *palapala olelo aelike i ke Kiaaina, i ka luna hoomalu o ke Keena*
33 *Kuleana Hawaii, i ka luna hoomalu o ka Keena Aina Hoopulapula.*

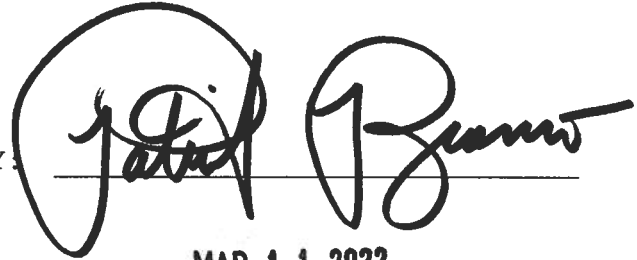
34
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
37 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
38 Affairs, Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
39 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Interim
40 Superintendent of Education.



H.C.R. NO. 1770

1

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Paul Bennett", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

MAR 11 2022

