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## HOUSE 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 malāma pono*  
10           *ana i ka aina a me ke kanaka ma ka olelo, na loina 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  
31           WHEREAS, from 1795 to 1893, during the time of the Hawaiian  
32           Kingdom, the Hawaiian language thrived; and



1  
2        *OIAI, ua hookumu ia ke kakau ana o ka olelo Hawaii ma ka*  
3 *makahiki he 1825 ma lala o ka noho aupuni ana o ka Moi*  
4 *Kauikeaouli Kamehameha III; a*

5  
6        WHEREAS, in 1825, under the direction of Moi Kauikeaouli  
7 Kamehameha III, missionaries and Native Hawaiian scholars  
8 devised a Hawaiian orthography; and

9  
10       *OIAI, ua mahuahua ae no ke kakau ana a me ka heluhelu ana o*  
11 *ka poe Hawaii ma ka olelo Hawaii, he 95 pakeneka ka nui, ma ka*  
12 *makahiki he 1834; a*

13  
14       WHEREAS, the orthography led to rapid literacy among  
15 indigenous Hawaiians, ninety-five percent of whom attained  
16 literacy by 1834; and

17  
18       *OIAI, ua hookumu ka Moi Kauikeaouli Kamehameha III i ke*  
19 *Aupuni Moi o Ko Hawaii Pae Aina ma kahi o na makahiki 1840 ma o*  
20 *ka olelo Hawaii; a*

21  
22       WHEREAS, in the 1840s, Moi Kauikeaouli Kamehameha III used  
23 the Hawaiian language to transform the Hawaiian Kingdom into a  
24 constitutional monarchy; and

25  
26       *OIAI, ua kukulu ia ke aupuni Hawaii me ka Aha Hookolokolo;*  
27 *ka Oihana Makai; ka Papa Ola; a me ka Papa Hoonaaauao o Hawaii*  
28 *nei ma o ka Olelo Hawaii; a*

29  
30       WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Monarchy's judiciary; law  
31 enforcement; health system; and public systems for education,  
32 which were the genesis of Hawaii's public education system, all  
33 functioned solely in the Hawaiian language; and

34  
35       *OIAI, ua aneane make ka olelo Hawaii mamuli o na hihia like*  
36 *ole, e like me ke Kanawai 57 o ka makahiki 1896 i hookumu ia ai*  
37 *mahope o ka hookahuli hewa ia ana o ke Aupuni o Hawaii i ka*  
38 *makahiki 1893; a*

39  
40       WHEREAS, however, by the latter half of the twentieth  
41 century, the 'Ōlelo Hawaii was pushed to the brink of extinction  
42 by several factors, including Act 57, Laws of the Republic of



1 Hawaii 1896 (Act 57), which was passed three years after the  
2 1893 overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii; and

3  
4 *OIAI, ua hookumu ia ka olelo Pelekania ma na kula aupuni*  
5 *apau o Hawaii, me ka papa pu ia ana o ka Olelo Hawaii ma na*  
6 *kula; a*

7  
8 WHEREAS, Act 57 declared an English-only law over Hawaii's  
9 public schools, prohibiting the use of 'Ōlelo Hawaii as a medium  
10 of instruction; and

11  
12 *OIAI, ua emi loa ka nui o na kanaka olelo Hawaii mai ke*  
13 *kanaha kaukani i ka makahiki 1896 a i ka elua kaukani ma ka*  
14 *makahiki 1978 mamuli o ke Kanawai 57, e hoopai ana i na haumana*  
15 *no ka hoohana ana i ka olelo Hawaii; a*

16  
17 WHEREAS, due to Act 57, many students were punished for  
18 speaking 'Ōlelo Hawaii at school, and the number of Hawaiian  
19 language speakers collapsed from nearly forty thousand in 1896  
20 to a mere two thousand in 1978; and

21  
22 *OIAI, ua papa ia ka Olelo Hawaii maloko o na kula aupuni o*  
23 *Hawaii no kanaiwa mau makahiki a aole i hoonaauao ia na haumana*  
24 *ma o ka olelo Hawaii no na hanauna he eha; a*

25  
26 WHEREAS, the 'Ōlelo Hawaii was excluded from Hawaii's public  
27 schools for ninety years and would not be heard in official  
28 instruction for four generations; and

29  
30 *OIAI, ua paa ma ke Kumu Kanawai o Hawaii:*

31  
32 *Pauku X, Mahele 4, e kakoo ka mokuaina o Hawaii i ke*  
33 *ao ana i na lolina Hawaii, na moolelo Hawaii a me ka*  
34 *olelo Hawaii; a*

35  
36 *Pauku XV, Mahele 4, kakau ia, o ka olelo Pelekania a*  
37 *me ka olelo Hawaii na olelo kuhelu o ka mokuaina o*  
38 *Hawaii; a*

39  
40 WHEREAS, the Constitution of Hawaii includes, among other  
41 provisions:



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

5 Article XV, Section 4, which states that English and  
6 Hawaiian shall be the official languages of the State  
7 of Hawaii; and  
8

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

13 WHEREAS, in spite of the foregoing amendments to the  
14 Constitution of Hawaii, 'Ölelo Hawaii was excluded from Hawaii's  
15 public schools until 1986, with the establishment of the  
16 Hawaiian Language Immersion Program; and  
17

18 *OIAI, aia no ke ola a me ka pono o ka poe Hawaii i ke aloha*  
19 *i ka aina a me ka olelo; a*  
20

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

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

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

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

40 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
41 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
42 of 2022, that this body offers this resolution as an apology to



1 the Native Hawaiian people for the effective prohibition in  
2 Hawaii schools of the instructional use of 'Ōlelo Hawaii from  
3 1896 to 1986; and

4  
5 *E hooholo ia, ke hoohiki nei keia aha e hooiaio mai i na*  
6 *hopena pili o ka hookahuli ia ana o ke aupuni Hawaii a e kakoo i*  
7 *ka pono o na hihia ma waena o Amelika a me ka poe Hawaii mai ka*  
8 *wa ma mua a i keia manawa; a*

9  
10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body expresses its  
11 commitment to acknowledge the ramifications of the overthrow of  
12 the Kingdom of Hawaii to provide a proper foundation to address  
13 the historical and contemporary issues between the United States  
14 of America and the Native Hawaiian people; and

15  
16 *E hooholo ia, ke koi nei keia aha i ka aha hooko o ka*  
17 *mokuaina o Hawaii e hooiaio mai i na hopena pili o ka hookahuli*  
18 *ia ana o ke aupuni Hawaii a e kakoo i ka pono o na hihia ma*  
19 *waena o Amelika a me ka poe Hawaii mai ka wa ma mua a i keia*  
20 *manawa; a*

21  
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the executive  
23 branch of the State of Hawaii to also acknowledge the  
24 ramifications of the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii and to  
25 address the historical and contemporary issues between the  
26 United States of America and the Native Hawaiian people; and

27  
28 *E hooholo ia, e hoouna ia ana na kope hooiaio o keia*  
29 *palapala olelo aelike i ke Kiaaina, i ka luna hoomalu o ke Keena*  
30 *Kuleana Hawaii, i ka luna hoomalu o ka Keena Aina Hoopulapula.*

31  
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the  
34 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson  
35 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Chairperson of the Board of  
36 Education, and Interim Superintendent of Education.

37  
38  
39

OFFERED BY:

MAR 11 2022

