



GOV. MSG. NO. 1264

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

June 29, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 29, 2023, the following bill was signed into law:

SB110 SD1 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO GENDER-NEUTRAL
TERMINOLOGY.
ACT 161

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D." in a cursive style.

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on JUN 29 2023

THE SENATE
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 110
S.D. 1
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GENDER-NEUTRAL TERMINOLOGY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 578, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§578- Interpretation of words to be gender-neutral.

5 With regard to the rights, benefits, protections, and
6 responsibilities of persons set forth in this chapter, all
7 gender-specific terminology, such as "wife", "husband",
8 "mother", "father", or similar terms, shall be construed in a
9 gender-neutral manner. This rule of interpretation shall apply
10 to all administrative rules adopted hereunder."

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 580, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
13 and to read as follows:

14 "§580- Interpretation of words to be gender-neutral.

15 With regard to the rights, benefits, protections, and
16 responsibilities of persons set forth under this chapter, all
17 gender-specific terminology, such as "wife", "husband",
18 "mother", "father", "aunt", "uncle", "niece", "nephew", or



1 similar terms, shall be construed in a gender-neutral manner.
2 This rule of interpretation shall apply to all administrative
3 rules adopted hereunder."

4 SECTION 3. Section 578-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "§578-1 Who may adopt; jurisdiction; venue. Any [~~proper~~]
7 unmarried adult person, [~~not married, or~~] any person married to
8 the legal [~~father or mother~~] parent of a minor child, or a
9 [~~husband and wife~~] married couple jointly[~~7~~] may petition the
10 family court of the circuit in which the person or persons
11 reside or are in military service [~~or the family court of the~~
12 ~~circuit~~], in which the individual to be adopted resides or was
13 born, or in which a child placing organization approved by the
14 department of human services under the provisions of section
15 346-17 having legal custody (as defined in section 571-2) of the
16 child is located[~~7~~] for leave to adopt an individual toward whom
17 the person or persons do not sustain the legal relationship of
18 parent and child and for a change of the name of the individual.
19 When adoption is the goal of a permanent plan recommended by the
20 department of human services and ordered pursuant to section
21 587A-31, the department may petition for adoption on behalf of



1 the proposed adoptive parents. The petition shall be in [~~such~~]
2 a form and shall include [~~such~~] information and exhibits as may
3 be prescribed by the family court."

4 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

APPROVED this 29th day of June, 2023



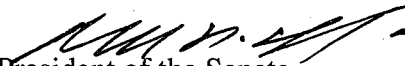
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII




THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 2, 2023
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2023.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 110, SD 1, HD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 2, 2023
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives