
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE GESTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the shaka gesture

2 should be recognized as the official gesture of the State.

3 While multiple origin theories exist, all theories have the

4 shaka developing within the State. More importantly, while

5 multiple Hawaii ethnic cultures and resident groups have

6 contributed varying layers of meaning to the shaka, there is a

7 shared agreement in the shaka's positive sentiments and usage

8 toward sharing aloha, fostering connection, and being pono.

9 The legislature further finds that the shaka is a key brand

10 symbol for the State, offering influential power to build the

11 State's economy, global brand, and resident pride. As the shaka

12 is now used around the world, this Act ensures that Hawaii

13 retains recognition as the birthplace of the shaka. It is

14 therefore appropriate that the shaka be honored as the official

15 gesture of the State to secure recognition of Hawaii as the

16 shaka's place of origin, to preserve the meaning of the shaka as

17 originated in Hawaii, to preserve Hawaii's brand association



1 with the gesture, and to share the aloha spirit around the
2 world.

3 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to adopt, establish,
4 and designate the shaka as the official gesture of the State.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
6 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
7 read as follows:

8 "§5- State gesture. The shaka is adopted, established,
9 and designated as the official gesture of the State."

10 SECTION 3. The state foundation on culture and the arts
11 may develop a public work of art related to the shaka and its
12 history to be displayed in a prominent location within the State
13 for residents and visitors to Hawaii.

14 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Official State Gesture; Shaka

Description:

Adopts, establishes, and designates the shaka as the official gesture of the State. Takes effect 1/1/2050. (SD1)

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