

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3575

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2024

RE: S.R. No. 56  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred  
S.R. No. 56 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING BUSINESSES IN HAWAII TO USE  
HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO TEACH  
EMPLOYEES HAWAIIAN AND HIRE PERMANENT HAWAII LANGUAGE  
TEACHERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request:

- (1) Businesses in Hawaii to incorporate Hawaiian language in their daily operations;
- (2) The Department of Education to develop and implement programs to teach employees Hawaiian; and
- (3) The Department of Education to hire permanent Hawaiian language teachers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and three individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.



Your Committee finds that the Hawaiian language, also known as 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, holds cultural significance and is an integral part of the State's rich heritage. Your Committee further finds that encouraging the use of Hawaiian language in business operations is a positive step toward cultural enrichment and linguistic diversity that will create opportunities for the permanent employment of Hawaiian language teachers. Your Committee believes that businesses in the State, with the assistance of the Department of Education (Department), Hawaiian cultural organizations, and Hawaiian language experts, should incorporate Hawaiian language in their daily operations to ensure that the Hawaiian language will continue to flourish.

Your Committee notes the concern raised in the testimony from the Department that this measure would request the Department to provide educational support and resources for people who are not students, which does not align with the Department's vision and mission. Your Committee also notes that the Department provides Hawaiian language courses through the Community School for Adults at multiple locations, online and in-person.

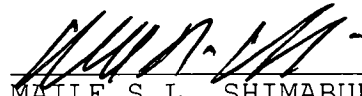
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language requesting the Department to make Hawaiian language courses available at all forty-three public high schools; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 56, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 56, S.D. 1.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,




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MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**  
**HWN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SR 56</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HWN</i>	Date: <i>04/02/2024</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	<i>X</i>			
FEVELLA, Kurt (VC)	<i>X</i>			
IHARA, Jr., Les				<i>X</i>
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	<i>X</i>			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"				<i>X</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<i>3</i>			<i>2</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:             Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes