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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE KAWAIHUELANI CENTER FOR HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA TO FURTHER PROVIDE LEARNING RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT PROMOTE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE.

1           WHEREAS, article XV, section 4 of the Hawaii State  
2 Constitution recognizes both Hawaiian and English as the  
3 official languages of Hawaii; and

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5           WHEREAS, the Department of Education supports Hawaiian  
6 language fluency through Kula Kaiapuni Hawaiian language  
7 immersion schools across the State; and

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9           WHEREAS, Kamehameha III established the first public  
10 education system in the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1840, making 'Olelo  
11 Hawaii the first and only language of instruction at the time;  
12 and

13  
14           WHEREAS, the Republic of Hawaii passed section 30 of Act 57  
15 in 1896, which made English the medium and basis of instruction  
16 for all public schools and private schools, effectively removing  
17 Olelo Hawaii from the classroom and the school system; and

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19           WHEREAS, children who spoke 'Olelo Hawaii in school were  
20 verbally and physically reprimanded and made to feel ashamed of  
21 their native tongue; and

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23           WHEREAS, a group of Hawaiian language educators established  
24 the Punana Leo Preschool in 1984 to provide an immersive  
25 experience for preschool-aged children and their families to  
26 learn 'Olelo Hawaii and adopt the language as their primary means  
27 of communication; and

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29           WHEREAS, section 30 of Act 57 was repealed in 1986,  
30 allowing for the establishment of the first Kula Kaiapuni in  
31 1987; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, although the growing participation in Kaiapuni  
3 education has been unmatched, the Kula Kaiapuni face struggles,  
4 such as teacher shortages, insufficient facilities, and limited  
5 support for curriculum development; and

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7 WHEREAS, Kaiapuni students and their families encounter  
8 limited access to activities, materials, and learning  
9 opportunities that they can do together to promote use of ‘Olelo  
10 Hawaii in the home; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of  
13 the University of Hawaii at Manoa strives to revitalize Hawaiian  
14 language and culture through quality Hawaiian education by  
15 creating and providing materials, curricula, and resources that  
16 promote the use of Hawaiian; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of  
19 the University of Hawaii at Manoa created and implemented the I  
20 Hoa na Moololelo Project in 2021 to publish a quarterly children's  
21 magazine written in the Hawaiian language, for the enjoyment of  
22 Kaiapuni and charter school students in grades 2-6 on Oahu; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, this body recognizes the value and importance of  
25 the practice and preservation of the Hawaiian language and  
26 culture; now, therefore,

27  
28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
29 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
30 of 2025, that the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of  
31 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, through its I Hoa na Moololelo  
32 Project, is encouraged to provide Kaiapuni students and families  
33 with Hawaiian language and literacy resources and to create  
34 opportunities for ‘Olelo Hawaii to flourish in homes and  
35 communities; and

36  
37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Kawaihuelani  
39 Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at  
40 Manoa.

