

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE 'OLELO HAWAI'I COMMISSION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read  
3 as follows:

4 **"CHAPTER**

5 **'OLELO HAWAI'I COMMISSION**

6 **§ -1 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter:

7 "Commission" means the 'Olelo Hawai'i commission.

8 "Office" means the office of the governor.

9 "'Olelo Hawai'i" means the indigenous language of Hawai'i and  
10 one of the official languages of the State.

11 **§ -2 'Olelo Hawai'i commission; established.** There is  
12 established the 'Olelo Hawai'i commission within the office on a  
13 temporary basis for administrative and certain other special  
14 purposes.

15 **§ -3 'Olelo Hawai'i commission; membership.** The  
16 commission shall consist of the following:



- 1       (1) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian
- 2       affairs or the officer's designee, who shall serve as
- 3       chair of the commission;
- 4       (2) The chairs of the standing committees of the
- 5       legislature with subject matter jurisdiction
- 6       encompassing Hawaiian affairs or their designees; and
- 7       (3) A representative from the office of Hawaiian education
- 8       of the department of education;
- 9       (4) A representative from the Kawaihuelani center for
- 10      Hawaiian language at the university of Hawai'i at
- 11      Mānoa;
- 12      (5) A representative from the Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani
- 13      college of Hawaiian language at the university of
- 14      Hawai'i at Hilo; and
- 15      (6) Other subject matter stakeholders as recommended by
- 16      the chair.

17      § -4 Powers and duties of the commission. The  
18      commission shall:

- 19       (1) Coordinate efforts by the State, office, and counties,
- 20       to promote the teaching and learning of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i;



- 1       (2) Encourage the speaking of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i through
- 2               regular campaigns, activities, and educational
- 3               resources;
- 4       (3) Support private and public organizations in developing
- 5               and evaluating their own 'Ōlelo Hawai'i language plans;
- 6       (4) Conduct and commission research to support the
- 7               revitalization of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i; and
- 8       (5) Ensure that 'Ōlelo Hawai'i remains a living language by
- 9               developing new words that reflect changing social and
- 10               cultural norms and contemporary language usage.

11       § -5 **Annual report.** The commission shall submit an  
12       annual report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
13       to the convening of each regular session. The report shall  
14       include:

- 15       (1) A description of the activities conducted by the  
16               commission; and
- 17       (2) Any relevant data regarding the impact of the  
18               commission's activities on the preservation and growth  
19               of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i usage."

20       SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
21       revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$               or so



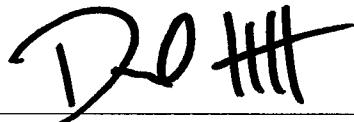
1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
2 the establishment and operation of the 'Olelo Hawai'i commission.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the  
4 governor for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

6

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 23 2026



# H.B. NO. 2046

**Report Title:**

‘Olelo Hawai‘i Commission; Office of the Governor; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes and appropriates funds for the ‘Olelo Hawai‘i Commission to coordinate and promote initiatives that support the use of ‘Olelo Hawai‘i.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

2026-0244 HB HMSO-1  
