

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 09 , 2026

RE: H.R. No. 114

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.R. No. 114 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO
ALLOW AN OLELO HAWAII PATHWAY UNDER THE NIIHAU DIALECT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to allow an Olelo Hawaii Pathway under the Niihau dialect.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that while there have been Hawaiian language initiatives which have received support of legislation and policy by the legislature, the linguistic needs of Niihau have been overlooked resulting in a lack of substantive support for Olelo Niihau's proliferation. Your Committee also finds that Olelo Niihau is its own distinct language which has developed separately from Olelo Hawaii and has been utilized with a different degree of societal relevancy than Olelo Hawaii and that Hawaii has a unique opportunity to preserve and proliferate this dialect of the Hawaiian language. Your Committee believes that the University of Hawaii should develop an Olelo Hawaii Pathway concentrating specifically on Olelo Niihau.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this

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report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 114 and recommends its adoption.

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



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



