

A Bill for an Act Relating to the State Instrument.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State has designated a state song, state flower, state tree, state marine mammal, and a state fish. However, there is no state musical instrument, despite the fact that the people of this State, particularly the native Hawaiians, have used and continue to use a variety of musical instruments for entertainment. Designation of an official state musical instrument would serve as an expression of appreciation for the significance of music in the Hawaiian culture.

The legislature further finds that in November 2014 about 130,000 Hawai'i students participated in WeVoteHawaii, a mock vote for students from kindergarten to the twelfth grade. The kids voted not only on candidates, but also on issues such as the official 'auana, or modern, and kahiko, or traditional, instruments for the State. The majority agreed that the pahu should become the official kahiko instrument of the State and the 'ukulele should become the official 'auana instrument of the State.

The purpose of this Act is to designate the official 'auana and kahiko musical instruments of the State in accordance with the results of the November 2014 WeVoteHawaii election in an effort to enthusiastically support Hawai'i's keiki in voting and the democratic process.

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

**"§5- State musical instrument; 'auana; kahiko.** (a) The 'ukulele is established and designated as the official 'auana musical instrument of the State.

(b) The pahu is established and designated as the official kahiko musical instrument of the State."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.<sup>1</sup>

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 9, 2015.)

**Note**

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.