
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§1-13 Official languages.** (a) English and Hawaiian are
4 the official languages of Hawaii. Whenever there is found to
5 exist any radical and irreconcilable difference between the
6 English and Hawaiian version of any of the laws of the State,
7 the English version shall be held binding. Hawaiian shall not
8 be required for public acts and transactions[~~-~~] except as
9 provided in subsection (b).

10 (b) All state signs in state buildings, parks, and other
11 state public facilities shall be in English and the Hawaiian
12 language; provided that, on the effective date of this Act:

13 (1) Existing signs not in compliance with this section
14 shall comply when a replacement for the existing sign
15 is required;

16 (2) Existing signs subject to this section that are only
17 in the Hawaiian language shall not, upon replacement,



1 be required to be in English in addition to the
 2 Hawaiian language; and
 3 (3) Signage in the Hawaiian language shall include okina
 4 and kahako where appropriate to reflect the proper use
 5 of the Hawaiian language."

6 SECTION 2. Section 1-13.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 7 amended to read as follows:

8 "~~§~~1-13.5 **Hawaiian language; spelling.** Macrons and
 9 glottal stops may be used in the spelling of words or terms in
 10 the Hawaiian language in documents prepared by or for state or
 11 county agencies or officials. Any rule, order, policy, or other
 12 act, official or otherwise, that prohibits or discourages the
 13 use of these symbols shall be void. All signs subject to
 14 section 1-13 shall use macrons and glottal stops to reflect the
 15 proper use of the Hawaiian language."

16 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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Report Title:

State Signs; Hawaiian Language

Description:

Requires signs in state buildings, parks, facilities, and other state public sites to be in Hawaiian and English. Requires use of okina and kahako on signs in the Hawaiian language to reflect proper use of the language.

