
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE TREE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the 'ōhi'a lehua
2 (Metrosideros polymorpha) is the most common native tree in the
3 Hawaiian islands and is found nowhere else in the world.

4 The 'ōhi'a lehua grows at nearly all altitudes, from over
5 six thousand feet in the mountains down to the sea. Not only is
6 'ōhi'a lehua vital to Hawaii's watershed forests, its nectar is
7 also the mainstay of our brilliant native honeycreepers.

8 The 'ōhi'a lehua is the pioneer tree growing from new lava
9 flows, beginning the cycle of life on previously barren ground.
10 It is the living symbol of major Hawaiian deities, including
11 Pele, Laka, and Ku, and its wood is valued the world over for
12 its beauty and strength.

13 SECTION 2. Section 5-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "**§5-8 State heritage tree; state native tree.** (a) The
16 kukui tree, also known as the candlenut tree (Aleurites
17 Moluccana), is adopted, established, and designated as the



1 official heritage tree of the State, to be effective so long as
2 the legislature of the State does not otherwise provide.

3 (b) The ohia lehua (Metrosideros polymorpha) is adopted,
4 established, and designated as the official native tree of the
5 State, to be effective so long as the legislature of the State
6 does not otherwise provide."

7 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

Kukui tree as state heritage tree; 'Ōhi'a lehua as state native tree

Description:

Makes the kukui tree (*Aleurites Moluccana*) the official state heritage tree, and makes the 'ōhi'a lehua (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) the official state native tree. (HB1637 HD1)

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