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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE, AS PART OF THE MINIMUM COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, A REQUIREMENT THAT ALL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OBTAIN CREDIT FOR THE EQUIVALENT OF ONE YEAR OF INSTRUCTION IN HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

1           WHEREAS, in the late 1800s, a law of the Republic of Hawaii  
2 required that the English language be used as the sole medium  
3 and basis for instruction in all public and private schools; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in accordance with the English-only law, the  
6 Hawaiian language was strictly forbidden at school and students  
7 who spoke Hawaiian were punished; and  
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9           WHEREAS, as a result of the suppression of the Hawaiian  
10 language, the opportunity to speak Hawaiian outside one's home  
11 diminished and the Hawaiian language neared extinction; and  
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13           WHEREAS, efforts to revive the Hawaiian language began in  
14 the 1970s; and  
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16           WHEREAS, after the 1978 constitutional convention, voters  
17 ratified several amendments to the state constitution relating  
18 to the Hawaiian language; and  
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20           WHEREAS, article XV, section 4 of the Constitution of the  
21 State of Hawaii recognizes Hawaiian as one of two official  
22 languages of the State; and  
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24           WHEREAS, article X, section 4 of the state constitution  
25 directs the State to promote the study of Hawaiian culture,  
26 history, and language, and requires that the State provide a  
27 Hawaiian education program in the public schools; and  
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29           WHEREAS, the recognition and preservation of the Hawaiian  
30 language is important because the language is essential to the  
31 preservation and perpetuation of the Hawaiian culture; and  
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# H.R. NO. 152

1 WHEREAS, all public high school students should have the  
2 opportunity to learn the Hawaiian language; and  
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4 WHEREAS, all public high school students in the State  
5 should be required to demonstrate some proficiency in Hawaiian  
6 language as a condition of graduation; now, therefore  
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
10 of 2011, that the Board of Education is urged to include, as  
11 part of the minimum course and credit requirements for high  
12 school graduation, a requirement that all high school students  
13 obtain credit for the equivalent of one year of instruction in  
14 the Hawaiian language; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Resolution be transmitted to each member of the Board of  
18 Education.  
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OFFERED BY:













