

SCR 52
LATE TESTIMONY

Hanakahi Council

200 W. Kāwili St. PB-12, Hilo, HI 96720

March 30, 2011

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Hawaiian Affairs Committee
Hawai'i State Legislature

Aloha e chairman Galuteria and committee members,

As previously introduced in SB1070, the Hanakahi Council of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo would like to express its support of the concept of establishing a Hawaiian Language University. We recognize the importance and significance of increasing opportunities for the usage and promotion of the Hawaiian language, particularly within higher education, and we recognize the value and potential of such a model.

Whereas, the membership of Hanakahi Council is representative of Native Hawaiian staff, students, faculty, and administrators in a wide variety of programs across UH Hilo campus, we believe that continued collaboration and discussion within the Council is necessary with regard to defining the impact that a Hawaiian Language University would have with regard to the operation of UH Hilo as a university, as well as other Hawaiian programs that are not administered by Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani. Such a collaborative effort is paramount to the success of this initiative.

The Hanakahi Council deeply appreciates the support for Hawaiian language revitalization that has been expressed by Governor Abercrombie and members of the State Legislature. We recognize the unique opportunity that SCR52 represents and recommend that it be allowed to move forward in the legislative process for a broader discussion by all stakeholders can take place.

Me ka mahalo nui,

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Hanakahi Council Executive Member