
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KALO APPRECIATION MONTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. Kalo (*Colocasia esculenta*), the Hawaiian word
2 for taro, is a culturally significant plant to the kanaka maoli,
3 Hawaii's indigenous peoples, and to the State. In 2008, the
4 legislature recognized kalo's role in the State's history and
5 well-being by designating kalo as the state plant. As Hawaiian
6 culture and the sustainability movement have flourished over the
7 past few decades, so has the resurrection of taro cultivation
8 and its popular byproduct: poi.

9 The legislature finds that while varieties of taro grow in
10 almost all tropical regions of the world, Hawaii seems to have
11 some of the strongest taro traditions. Taro is a plant of
12 unique and distinctive character which was brought to a higher
13 state of cultivation in old Hawaii than anywhere else in the
14 world. Native cultivation of taro in Hawaii created more
15 varieties adaptable to varying conditions of locale, soil, and
16 water than are to be found anywhere else in Polynesia or the
17 world.



1 The purpose of this Act is to establish the month of
2 October as "Kalo Appreciation Month" to promote kalo cultivation
3 and appreciation.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
5 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
6 read as follows:

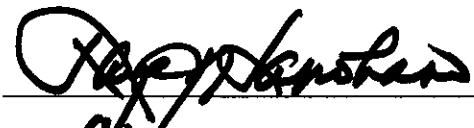



7 "§8- Kalo Appreciation Month. The month of October
8 shall be known and designated as "Kalo Appreciation Month". The
9 month of October shall celebrate the strong kalo tradition in
10 Hawaii and the cultural connection of kalo, the Hawaiian word
11 for taro, to native Hawaiians. This month is not and shall not
12 be construed as a state holiday."

13 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

15

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 25 2012



H.B. NO. 2809

Report Title:

Kalo Appreciation Month

Description:

Designates October as "Kalo Appreciation Month".

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