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# 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 kalo cultivation  
8 and its popular byproduct, poi.

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



1           The purpose of this Act is to designate 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" to  
9 celebrate the strong kalo tradition in Hawaii and the cultural  
10 connection of native Hawaiians to kalo, the Hawaiian word for  
11 taro. This month is not and shall not be construed as a state  
12 holiday."

13           SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

Kalo Appreciation Month

**Description:**

Designates October as "Kalo Appreciation Month". (HB1089 HD1)

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