



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**House Committee on Judiciary**

**April 5, 2013**

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.**  
**Director of Health**  
**HCR 221/HR 175**

**WRITTEN ONLY**

1 **Department's Position:** Comments.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** The services requested by this resolution cannot be supported by the existing  
3 budget of DOH Office of Health Status Monitoring (OHSM). An additional \$1,000,000 is required.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The Department of Health's goal is to issue all the vital records in our  
5 custody in a timely and accurate manner, particularly those with Hawaiian diacritical marks.

6

7 DOH appreciates fund previously appropriated by the legislature to modernize and electronically capture  
8 vital records and migrate away from a paper-based system. However, accommodating Hawaiian  
9 diacritical marks was not technologically feasible at the time, and thus was not a high priority  
10 requirement.

11

12 Although modern IT systems can now easily accommodate diacritical marks, tens of thousands of vital  
13 records have been added to the system since the modernization project in the 1980s. Significant  
14 investment beyond OHSM's annual budget appropriation is required.

1 The initiative has two major components, requiring an estimated \$1,000,000 investment in DOH  
2 infrastructure to complete:

3

4 1) Document Hawaiian names correctly for new vital records going forward, and

5 2) Retroactively correct existing records within the electronic system and verify against paper-  
6 based records.

7

8 This could be accomplished either through amending Hawaii Revised Statute to permit DOH to increase  
9 fees for vital records transactions or through supplemental budget appropriations.

10

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**LATE**

**HCR221**  
**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH,  
MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, OR DEATH CONTAINING NAMES IN THE HAWAIIAN  
LANGUAGE AS ACCURATELY AND TIMELY AS CERTIFICATES CONTAINING  
NAMES THAT ARE NOT IN THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.**

House Committee on Judiciary

April 5, 2013

2:00 p.m.

Room 325

The Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment (BAE) Committee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** HCR221, which requests the Department of Health (DOH) to issue records containing Hawaiian language as accurately and timely as records containing names that are not in the Hawaiian language.

The Hawaiian language is the native language of Hawai'i and is recognized by Hawai'i's Constitution as one of the two official languages of the state. Access to DOH records is critical to Native Hawaiians because these records are needed to verify ancestry for certain programs offered by the OHA, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Kana'iowalu and Kamehameha Schools. Having these DOH records issued in a timely manner with the accurate spelling of Hawaiian names speaks to fairness and justice and will further the perpetuation of the host culture of Hawai'i.

Therefore, OHA's BAE Committee urges the Committee to **PASS** HCR221. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

**HR175**

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for JUD on Apr 5, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clyde Eli Sr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**HCR221**

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for JUD on Apr 5, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leialoha Eli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HR175**

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for JUD on Apr 5, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacelynn Eli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HCR221**

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for JUD on Apr 5, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eva Eli	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As an official language of the state of Hawai'i, Hawaiian language deserves the same treatment and respect with regards to vital records & documentation. In seeking financial aid, the current process in retrieving vital records can extremely complicate and jeopardize our qualification. Please support HCR221 & Hawaiian language. E OLA KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'!!!

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**HCR221**

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for JUD on Apr 5, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaulana Eli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HCR221**

Submitted on: 4/3/2013

Testimony for JUD on Apr 5, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melanie Pugay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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