

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that children under the  
2 age of five who speak only Hawaiian are more likely to abandon  
3 using the Hawaiian language to speak only English when placed in  
4 an environment that is dominated by English-only speakers. For  
5 example, young children who grow up speaking only Hawaiian at  
6 home and attend child care centers where only English is spoken  
7 tend to abandon using the Hawaiian language.

8           There are various Hawaiian language programs that protect  
9 the use of the Hawaiian language by children under the age of  
10 five by facilitating the use of the Hawaiian language in group  
11 child care centers and preschools and further encourage the use  
12 of the Hawaiian language at the homes and among the family  
13 members of these children. These language nest programs  
14 facilitate Hawaiian speaking children to continue to speak  
15 Hawaiian before entering a Hawaiian language immersion  
16 kindergarten under the public school or charter school systems.

17           The purpose of this Act is to support and encourage the use  
18 of the Hawaiian language by children under the age of five by



1 developing a means to fund the rejuvenation and protection of  
2 the Hawaiian language and promoting fluency in prekindergarten-  
3 aged children.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and  
7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
8 year 2014-2015 to support programs that encourage the use of the  
9 Hawaiian language by and promote fluency of the Hawaiian  
10 language in prekindergarten-aged children.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
12 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and  
16 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
17 year 2014-2015 to support programs that encourage the use of the  
18 Hawaiian language by and promote fluency of the Hawaiian  
19 language in prekindergarten-aged children.

20 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
21 of education for the purposes of this Act.

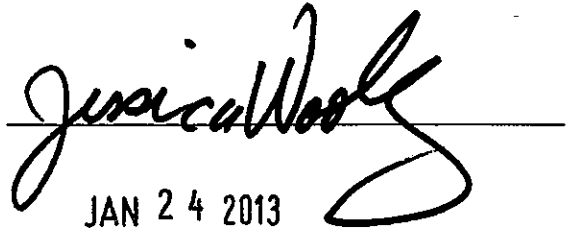
22



1 SECTION 4.. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

2

INTRODUCED BY:

  
JAN 24 2013



# H.B. NO. 1317

**Report Title:**

Hawaiian Language; Prekindergarten; Department of Human Services; Department of Education; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to support programs that encourage the use of the Hawaiian language by and promote fluency of the Hawaiian language in prekindergarten-aged children.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

