
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 Hawaiian is an
2 official language of the State of Hawaii. During the late 1960s
3 and early 1970s, Hawaii experienced a grassroots movement to
4 revitalize the native Hawaiian culture, which also led to
5 demands for Hawaii-oriented courses in Hawaii's public schools
6 and colleges.

7 The legislature further finds that one of the most
8 distinctive educational successes in the State of Hawaii was the
9 establishment of the Hawaiian language college at the University
10 of Hawaii at Hilo. The Hawaiian language college was
11 established with no additional funds but was able to establish
12 master, doctorate, and teacher education Hawaiian language
13 degree programs.

14 A new building has recently been constructed for the
15 Hawaiian language college. This provides an opportunity for the
16 college to expand its reach and establish itself as an
17 international leader and innovator in indigenous language medium
18 education while continuing to address the challenge of



1 revitalizing the Hawaiian language; however, to do so, the
2 college must be granted greater governing autonomy.

3 The purpose of this Act is to create the Hawaiian language
4 university and transfer the rights, duties, powers, and
5 functions of the Hawaiian language college at the University of
6 Hawaii at Hilo to the Hawaiian language university.

7 SECTION 2. Section 304A-1301, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "~~§304A-1301~~ **Hawaiian language ~~college~~ university;**
10 **establishment.** There shall be a Hawaiian language ~~college~~
11 university to be situated at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.
12 The ~~college~~ university shall provide a Hawaiian liberal arts
13 education program providing education primarily through the
14 Hawaiian language. The university shall be internally
15 administered in the Hawaiian language, operate year round, and
16 have the authority to offer a full range of qualifications and
17 programs. The programs of the college shall be offered
18 primarily through the Hawaiian language and, as appropriate, may
19 be offered at facilities located on and off the University of
20 Hawaii at Hilo campus."

21 SECTION 3. Section 304A-1302, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
22 amended to read as follows:



1 "~~§~~304A-1302~~§~~ **Functions.** In addition to providing a
2 quality liberal arts education primarily through the medium of
3 the Hawaiian language, the Hawaiian language [~~college~~]
4 university shall:

5 (1) Provide an indigenous language outreach program to
6 involve indigenous language scholars and to maintain
7 and develop the program's Polynesian language
8 database;

9 (2) Provide a Hawaiian medium teacher training program
10 incorporating Nawahiokalani'opu'u school and other
11 schools, as appropriate, as laboratory schools; [~~and~~]

12 (3) Maintain a Hawaiian language support center with
13 educational specialists in the areas of research,
14 curriculum development, language development, archival
15 work, and educational technology[-];

16 (4) Develop, pilot, and disseminate distinctive pathways,
17 procedures, and regulations that provide for the
18 support and use of the Hawaiian language and other
19 endangered indigenous languages;

20 (5) Allow free enrollment in appropriate courses to
21 students enrolled in any laboratory school; and



1 (6) Have the authority to develop agreements of
2 cooperation and reciprocity with other universities or
3 colleges in order to carry out its mission."

4 SECTION 4. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of
5 the Hawaiian language college at the University of Hawaii at
6 Hilo are transferred to the Hawaiian language university
7 established pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

8 All employees who occupy civil service positions and whose
9 functions are transferred to the Hawaiian language university by
10 this Act shall retain their civil service status, whether
11 permanent or temporary. Employees shall be transferred without
12 loss of salary, seniority (except as prescribed by applicable
13 collective bargaining agreements), retention points, prior
14 service credit, any vacation and sick leave credits previously
15 earned, and other rights, benefits, and privileges, in
16 accordance with state personnel laws and this Act; provided that
17 the employees possess the minimum qualifications and public
18 employment requirements for the class or position to which
19 transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided further that
20 subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to applicable
21 civil service and compensation laws.



1 Any employee who, prior to this Act, is exempt from civil
2 service and is transferred as a consequence of this Act may
3 retain the employee's exempt status, but shall not be appointed
4 to a civil service position as a consequence of this Act. An
5 exempt employee who is transferred by this Act shall not suffer
6 any loss of prior service credit, vacation or sick leave credits
7 previously earned, or other employee benefits or privileges as a
8 consequence of this Act; provided that the employees possess
9 legal and public employment requirements for the position to
10 which transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided further
11 that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to
12 applicable employment and compensation laws. The president of
13 the faculty senate of the Hawaiian language university may
14 prescribe the duties and qualifications of these employees and
15 fix their salaries without regard to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised
16 Statutes.

17 SECTION 5. The Hawaiian language university established
18 pursuant to section 2 of this Act shall be considered the same
19 entity as the Hawaiian language college of the University of
20 Hawaii at Hilo for the purposes of receiving any grants, awards,
21 or funding that had been awarded to the Hawaiian language



1 college of the University of Hawaii at Hilo prior to the
2 effective date of this Act.

3 SECTION 6. By the end of the 2014-2015 academic year, the
4 president of the faculty senate of the Hawaiian language
5 university established pursuant to section 2 of this Act and the
6 chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo shall enter into
7 a memorandum of agreement determining the details of the shared
8 operations and administration between the Hawaiian language
9 university and the University of Hawaii at Hilo. The memorandum
10 of agreement may be amended from time to time as agreed upon by
11 the president of the faculty senate of the Hawaiian language
12 university and the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

13 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Hawaiian Language College; University of Hawaii at Hilo

Description:

Establishes the Hawaiian language university to be located at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Transfers the powers, duties, and functions of the Hawaiian language college at the University of Hawaii at Hilo to the Hawaiian language university.

(Proposed SD1)

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