
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE INSTRUMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State has
2 sixteen adopted, designated, and established official symbols.
3 From the state motto: "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono", to
4 kalo, the state plant, these symbols are representative of all
5 things unique to Hawaii.

6 Throughout Hawaii's history, music has played an integral
7 part in the lives of its people. Although the ukulele (a word
8 translated from Hawaiian in two parts: "uke", meaning to strike,
9 and "lele", meaning to jump) was originally from Portugal, it
10 was popularized by Hawaiian royalty, plantation workers, and
11 musicians. The first recorded sighting of an ukulele can be
12 traced back to 1886, when Honolulu newspaper editor Augustus
13 Marques discussed it in an article on music in Hawaii.

14 The State has recently faced financial crises necessitating
15 budget cuts to deserving programs. Among the losses were
16 reductions in funding to the department of education for music
17 and art education. Kindy Sproat, a renowned falsetto singer and



1 musician, may have said it best when he said, "One ukulele and
2 one soul can do a lot."

3 The popularity of the ukulele and the music it produces
4 continues to grow throughout our islands, the mainland, and
5 beyond. The beautiful sound of the ukulele has inspired
6 generations of musicians and fans and has often kindled
7 camaraderie during impromptu jam sessions. In recognition of
8 talented ukulele instructors and musicians, past, present, and
9 future, throughout these islands and the world, the legislature
10 honors this truly amazing musical instrument and its history in
11 Hawaii by establishing the ukulele as the official musical
12 string instrument of the State.

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

16 "§5- State musical string instrument. The ukulele is
17 established and designated as the official musical string
18 instrument of the State."

19 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

Official State Musical String Instrument; Ukulele

Description:

Establishes and designates the ukulele as the official state musical string instrument. (SB3107 HD1)

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