



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the House Committee on Finance

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 25, 2016 3:00 PM – Agenda #3
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

By

Judge Richard Bissen

Second Circuit Court

Chair, Hawaiian Language Web Feasibility Task Force

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 2180, House Draft 1 Relating to Hawaiian Language; Hawaiian Language Web; Appropriation.

Purpose: Appropriates funds to establish long-term Hawaiian language resources and capacity building to train experts in the Hawaiian language field.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary strongly supports House Bill 2180, House Draft 1.

The Judiciary's Hawaiian Language Web Feasibility Task Force, convened by Chief Justice Recktenwald in response to House Concurrent Resolution 217, HD1, SD1 (hereinafter HCR217), submitted its report to the Legislature on December 21, 2015. Link to the report: http://www.courts.state.hi.us/docs/news_and_reports_docs/Final-HawaiianLangTF_report_12-17-15.pdf.

To give life and validation to Hawai‘i's co-official language, the Task Force urged in its report that the use of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i in State and local government must be broader than token phrases, more accessible in everyday life, and equally valid as the use of English. Of primary importance, the Task Force emphasized that the implementation plan at the Ideal level is structured to serve the needs of *all* government operations throughout Hawai‘i, not just the Judiciary's website. The attached Ideal implementation plan explains activities and projected costs for the first year of long-term development of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i educational and professional resources through the University of Hawai‘i System.



House Bill No. 2180, House Draft 1 Relating to Hawaiian Language;
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On January 13, 2016, the Hawaiian Language Web Feasibility Task Force held an informational briefing before a joint meeting of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs, and the House Committee on Judiciary. Task Force members discussed findings and recommendations for three possible plans:

- Core: translation of 21 most-visited pages on Judiciary website;
- Sustainable: educational programs at UH-Mānoa and UH-Hilo and one resource staff position in the Judiciary; or
- Ideal: additional academic personnel for educational programs in above and one resource staff position in the Judiciary.

Following an extensive discussion, Legislative Committee members in attendance expressed support for implementation of the Task Force recommendations at the Ideal level.

As a smaller, independent branch of State government, the Judiciary is positioned to serve as a “test lab” for a lexicon of governmental terms to be used throughout State and county entities. The Task Force Report notes that while a few noteworthy advances have occurred at the State level, including publication and enactment of one law in both Hawaiian and English language, up to now, there has not been sufficient funding available to provide a program that would create an adequate number of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i professionals. The Task Force points to this critical shortage of language experts as the greatest barrier to the use of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i in conducting business throughout all of government. Therefore, while House Bill 2180, HD1 directs funding to be expended by the Judiciary, we note that the Task Force recommended the largest share of funding would establish a partnership with the University of Hawai‘i System’s existing language programs to provide the expertise needed, see summary on next page (also Task Force Report, page 21).

The Judiciary respectfully requests that if the Legislature approves funding for this project, any appropriation should be in addition to the Judiciary’s current supplemental budget request contained in House Bill No. 1649 and Senate Bill No. 2102.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2180, House Draft 1.



House Bill No. 2180, House Draft 1 Relating to Hawaiian Language;
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Hawaiian Language Committee Proposed Budget — Ideal Total \$480,200

Item	Originating Committee	Total Cost	Description
Hawaiian Language Center, University of Hawai'i System: Ho'okawowo Māhele 'Ōlelo (Develop Hawaiian Translators)	Hawaiian Language Committee	See total budget below. It is the intent of HLC that funding for Ideal implementation be renewed annually for 3 years.	Establish a program to train Hawaiian translators for the State Department of the Judiciary with the intent to extend the language content to other State agencies.
Two FTE positions dedicated to Hawaiian Lexicon & Translation development (1 at UH Mānoa, 1 at UH Hilo for systemwide collaboration)	Hawaiian Language Committee	2 FTE @ \$70,000 + benefits per year = \$140,000 + benefits \$58,800 Total \$198,800	Administer Hawaiian translation training program consistent with Article 2 of the charter for the Hale Kuamo'o Hawaiian Language Center. Oversee research and development of Judiciary language conventions.
2 Graduate Research Assistants, UH Hilo	Hawaiian Language Committee	2 GRAs @ \$25,000 per year = \$50,000 + benefits \$21,000 Total = \$71,000	Research, translation, and application of Hawaiian with a focus on the Judiciary website.
2 Graduate Research Assistants, UH Mānoa	Hawaiian Language Committee	2 GRAs @ \$25,000 per year = \$50,000 + benefits \$21,000 Total = \$71,000	Research, translation, and application of Hawaiian with a focus on the Judiciary website.
Kōmike Lekikona (Hawaiian Lexicon Committee), Hale Kuamo'o, UH Hilo operational budget	Hawaiian Language Committee	\$40,000	Develop and organize Lexicon Committee and Subcommittees, support Travel, meeting costs, material development, collaboration, etc.
Total UH Budget		\$380,800*	
Item	Originating Committee	Total Cost	Description
Judiciary: Laekahi Ma'i'o Kahuapa'a (Web Content Specialist)	Hawaiian Language Committee and Fiscal and Logistics Committee	\$70,000 + benefits \$29,400 Total: \$99,400	Oversee implementation of translated material into Judiciary websites and collaborate with language development efforts to expand Hawaiian language content on the Judiciary portals.
Total Judiciary Budget		\$ 99,400*	
TOTAL – ALL		\$480,200	

*Benefits based on Budget & Finance Dept. figure of 42% of salary



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 25, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

By
Robert Bley-Vroman
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
and
Don Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 2180 HD1 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2180 HD1. The Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Ka Haka Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at UH Hilo support the appropriation of funds to establish long-term Hawaiian language resources and capacity building to train experts in the Hawaiian language field proposed in HB 2180 HD1. We urge our State legislators to support this measure as it promotes the use of the Native Hawaiian language ('Ōlelo Hawai'i) in the business of governance, economy, business and communications in ways that perpetuate Hawai'i's cultural legacy of language and knowledge into the present and future. Additionally, the bill supports the carrying out of Hawai'i State Constitution Article XV, Section IV:

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Section 4. English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawaii, except that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions only as provided by law. [Add Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978]

Under the auspices of this constitutional article, the State of Hawai'i has committed to ensure the vitality of the Hawaiian Language. Currently the Hawai'i State Senate presents some of its materials with English and Hawaiian headings, such as the Senate Order of the Day. Some senators also have letterhead, business cards, and other materials in both languages. The forward-looking HB 2180 HD1 has the promise to:

- ✦ Support schools that utilize 'Ōlelo Hawai'i as the primary means of instruction or as an integral part of a Hawaiian culture-based curriculum to improve the academic achievement of Native Hawaiian children and youth by, for example, strengthening the training of teachers in post-secondary education programs.
- ✦ Strengthen and sustain the teaching and use of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i in educational programs by supporting, for example, the curriculum development and best

practices work provided by UH Hilo's Hale Kuamo'o and the new system-wide Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation.

- ✦ Increase the use and the study of the Hawaiian language by preparing students for careers in which 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is used, professionalizing and recognizing the economic value of the language, and urging and enabling more local and state agencies to use/include 'Ōlelo Hawai'i in their documents, materials, and daily practices. Integrating the efforts of the Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation, the Hale Kuamo'o and the Lexicon Committee would support this effort.
- ✦ Strengthen the vitality of Hawaiian language use throughout the state as evidenced in the growing number of Hawaiian speaking homes and intergenerational use of the language.
- ✦ Embody many of the goals of the Hawai'i Language Roadmap Initiative, which was established to produce and foster sufficient bilingual resources for language needs of the near future in government, medicine, law, judiciary and community.

Given these reasons, we hope you will agree that HB 2180 HD1 is necessary and a positive move forward in support of revitalizing the Native Hawaiian language.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 10:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2180 on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM

HB2180

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments: The Kalihi Palama HCC continues to support this measure.

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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Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Place: Conference Room 308

*Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Non-Profit Educational
Organization*

Dedicated to the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language

HB 2180, HD1

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE: **SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is in **support of HB 2180, HD1.**

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo supports the task force recommendations for appropriations to establish long-term Hawaiian language resources and capacity building to train experts in the Hawaiian language in collaboration with the University of Hawai'i System and Hawaiian language resources for the State of Hawai'i judiciary.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo respectfully asks the House Committee on Finance to support and pass HB 2180, HD1.

Mahalo nui,

M. 'Ekekela Aiona
Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo
96 Pu'uhonu Place
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 935-4304

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
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Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Re: HB 2180, HD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

Appropriates funds to establish long-term Hawaiian language resources and capacity building to train experts in the Hawaiian language field.

For hearing on Thursday, February 25, 2016

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Over the years I have devoted considerable time and effort to learn Hawaiian language. I am able to read, listen, speak, and write the language with moderate (but certainly not expert) fluency. As a result, my appreciation and enjoyment of Hawaiian music and hula have been enhanced, along with my ability to do research in historic and legal documents from the 1800s and my ability to understand the thought

process of people whose culture and spirituality were so intimately expressed in the kaona and nuances of their language.

Hawaiian language is a treasure not only for ethnic Hawaiians but for all the people of Hawaii and, indeed, the world. Great strides have been made during the past 30 years in reviving the language to the point where tens of thousands of people now have varying levels of fluency; and perhaps a thousand have expert fluency, capable of thinking in the language without first going through English, and capable of using Hawaiian to engage publicly and spontaneously in oral or written debate.

The question raised by SB2162 is whether it is wise to provide \$500,000 in seed money to begin a program to train people to become expert in both Hawaiian language and the specialized concepts of the legal profession to the point where they can translate the Hawaii Revised Statutes into Hawaiian, along with case law that might be cited to support or oppose legal briefs or memos in current courtroom proceedings.

Nobody believes \$500,000 is sufficient to complete such a project -- on the contrary, many millions of dollars will be needed every year not only to create an initial set of law books but also to maintain them as new laws are created and as judges make rulings. Wouldn't such funds be better spent providing translation services for needy defendants or plaintiffs whose knowledge of English is so poor they cannot effectively participate in court proceedings? Or -- I know this idea is highly controversial -- how about refraining from spending the money so that taxpayers can be relieved of a burden?

My dear members of the legislature: do you sincerely believe that it would be helpful to you or to the legislative process if citizens and legislators routinely write bills in Hawaiian, present testimony in Hawaiian, give floor speeches in Hawaiian, etc.? You see how many

thousands of pages of documents pass through the legislature in every session. Do you individually have the funding to hire staff to handle a large volume of documents in Hawaiian and to respond to constituents or lobbyists who insist on communicating in Hawaiian? Surely you can realize that the long-term result of implementing the project envisioned in SB2162 would be to impose upon every lawyer, client, judge, and clerk the same sort of burden to respond to Hawaiian language documents that you legislators yourselves would find heavily burdensome. Do not impose an unnecessary burden on the people of Hawaii that you legislators would not want imposed upon you during your legislative session.

I believe that every person who speaks Hawaiian also speaks English; and in nearly all cases their English is far more fluent than their Hawaiian. There is no NEED for anyone to demand that legal proceedings take place in Hawaiian in order for him to be able to understand what is spoken or written. There is no NEED for anyone to insist on speaking or writing only in Hawaiian because he is incapable of expressing himself in English. What we're talking about here is a circus stunt to make a political point -- a stunt which is very expensive to entertain, and highly disrespectful to judges, witnesses, jurors, court stenographers, etc. who are forced to participate the stunt. The Mauna Kea protester who recently demanded that court proceedings must take place in Hawaiian is a good example of this. He admitted he had no problem using English, but merely said he felt more "comfortable" with his "preferred" language of Hawaiian. He was a jerk for doing that, and the court officials who granted his wish were guilty of a shameful waste of resources.

Someone who would choose to use Hawaiian as the only language in his court filings would be essentially engaged in contempt of court -- performing a stunt for personal gratification, or using the court as a stage for political theatre to assert ethnic privilege at everyone else's considerable expense and annoyance. I'm reminded of Princess Ruth

Ke'elikolani, who could understand and speak English perfectly well but who insisted on using Hawaiian language exclusively, as a sort of political weapon, forcing the haoles to knuckle under to her demand to use translators. See my large, detailed webpage on "Hawaiian Language as a Political Weapon" (and especially section 2) at <http://tinyurl.com/668vqyz>

I have read the 50-page report by Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald to the House Judiciary Committee dated Decembr 16, 2015: "Report of the Hawaiian Language Web Feasibility Task Force" appointed pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 217, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 adopted by the Legislature in 2015. It proposes a pay rate of \$500 per hour for the expert translators proposed in SB2162. How absurd is that! Most lawyers or expert witnesses cannot command such lavish pay. I notice that Mr. Recktenwald did NOT hire anyone to translate his report into Hawaiian language. Why not? I notice that SB2162 itself is not written in Hawaiian. Why not?

What the heck has the Hawaiian language program at UH Manoa and especially UH Hilo been doing with the millions of dollars appropriated to them if they have not by now trained sufficient Hawaiian language experts to implement the program envisioned in this bill?

OHA has \$630 Million in assets, including \$350 Million in its investment portfolio. OHA should provide the funding for the project envisioned in SB2162. And if OHA refuses to do what is pono, then the legislature should use its power to force OHA to pay for it, in the same way the legislature passed bills forcing OHA to pay for assembling and maintaining the racial registry in Act 195 (2011), and forced OHA to pay for the training program on "Hawaiian rights" mandated in 2015 for government workers in various departments.

If the judiciary and/or the legislature has extra money to allocate to translation services, that money should be used to assist people whose understanding of English is so poor that they cannot comprehend what

is happening and cannot adequately make their case. Do not waste my tax dollars on a stunt.

Instead of asking the taxpayers, or individuals or institutions to spend their own funds, to generate legal documents in Hawaiian, let's propose the following startup project for the Hawaiian language departments at UH Manoa and UH Hilo:

Professors of Hawaiian language teaching advanced-level courses should be asked to assign their students to translate sections of the U.S. Constitution, State of Hawaii Constitution, and Hawaii Revised Statutes into Hawaiian, until those documents have all been translated and made available on the internet and perhaps in print.

A friend of mine with a Ph.D. in linguistics, whose dissertation focused on Hawaiian language, translated into Hawaiian a few years ago the Bill of Rights (the first 10 Amendments to the U.S. Constitution). If the professors of Hawaiian language agree to the project I proposed, I will ask my friend to contribute his translation of the Bill of Rights to that project -- unless, of course, you'd like to pay him the several thousand dollars it would take to reimburse him at \$500 per hour for the time he spent on his labor of love to translate the Bill of Rights into a style of Hawaiian that might have been in use around 1791 (when the Bill of Rights was ratified).



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Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance

Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 3:00pm, Conference Room 308

By Professor Puakea Nogelmeier, Director

UH Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation



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WEST O‘AHU

HB 2180 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Aloha to the Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair, Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Committee on Finance:



Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2180, HD1. As a working member of the Judiciary Task Force established by HCR 217, where I served on the Hawaiian Language Sub-committee as a representative from U.H. Mānoa's Hawai‘inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, and also as the Director of the newly-established Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation, I support the appropriation of funds to develop Hawaiian language resources and to train new experts in the Hawaiian language field proposed in HB 2180.



The 1978 Constitution designated Hawaiian as an official state language with the caveat “except that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions **only as provided by law.**” After almost 40 years of successful revitalization efforts, the Hawaiian language is alive and growing, with thousands of speakers, a growing community of language users and a growing public interest. But that caveat excluding “public acts and transactions” has left huge gaps in modern Hawaiian language and few experts exist in the field. Government operations is one important domain that has become disconnected in modern Hawaiian. Aside from individuals within the government who are motivated to include Hawaiian language in stationary, cards and announcements, there has been no official use or demand for the formal language of government, so the teaching or study of such field-specific language is nearly nonexistent.



Few today are fluent in the specialized language fields of governance, judiciary, business or health care because for generations those fields have not used Hawaiian language actively or professionally. The lack of experts makes implementation of professional language use in these fields difficult and costly, for no current resources, models or conventions exist for translators or interpreters. In the past, the government, the courts, business and the public sector operated almost exclusively in Hawaiian, but that fluency has not been perpetuated. This bill offers the opportunity to make that language of the past useful again today through research and collaborative implementation.

HB 2180 promotes the opportunity to restore Hawaiian language into the professional domains of governance, economy, business and communications, and is a great first step in truly revitalizing Hawaiian as a living cultural legacy that makes these islands unique in the world.

Mahalo for the opportunity to speak on this measure, and if I can facilitate this effort in any way, please feel free to contact me.

Me ke aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Puakea Nogelmeier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Puakea Nogelmeier, Director,
UH Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation



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He Mea Hai Ma Ka Papaha
Kaulike Me Ke Pai Laemāuna

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23 February 2016

Aloha House Committee on Finance,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my support for HB 2180, HD1.

I was a member of the Hawaiian Language Committee of the Judiciary Task Force for HCR 217 serving as the representative of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

HB 2180, HD1 demonstrates a critical beginning to address the official status of the Hawaiian language as one of Hawai'i's official languages by appropriating some funds to establish capacity building to prepare professionals in the Hawaiian language field.

As the Chair person of the Hawaiian Lexicon Committee since 1987 under the auspices of the Hawaiian Language Center Hale Kuamo'o at the College of Hawaiian Language in Hilo, we delve into bridging a tremendous gap since the overthrow of a government that operated in the Hawaiian language. The work of the Committee is not only to create new Hawaiian words for current concepts and new knowledge but to also deliberate and decide on policies for spelling and grammatical usage. The current publication of the new Hawaiian words book Māmaka Kaiāo has more than 6,200 entries with an additional 800 new words posted through the Hawaiian College's Ulukau website. The impetus so far for the coining of these new words comes from the curriculum content of the State Hawaiian Immersion Schools. Although the content of a school's curriculum covers a broad range of subject matter the Hawaiian Lexicon Committee understands that there are so many more domains of language use such as in the myriad of content areas of our Hawai'i State offices.

I thank you again for this opportunity to submit my testimony in favor of HB 2180, HD1.

Mahalo a nui loa,

Dr. Larry Kimura
Associate Professor
Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 9:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: burgharc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2180 on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM

HB2180

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As Hawaiian is the language of Hawai'i, it certainly seems that there should be funds to have people who can read, write and speak. The question is why has it taken this long?

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He Mea Hai Ma Ka Papaha
Kaulike Me Ke Pai Laemāuna

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HB 2180, HD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE
February 25, 2016
3:00pm, State Capitol, Conference Room 308

To: Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

From: Kaulana Dameg, Educational Specialist, Hawaiian Language Task Force
Member
Hale Kuamo'o-Hawaiian Language Center, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani
College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai'i at Hilo
200 W. Kāwili St., Hilo, HI 96720

Re: SUPPORT for HB 2180, HD1

Aloha Chairs & Committee Members:

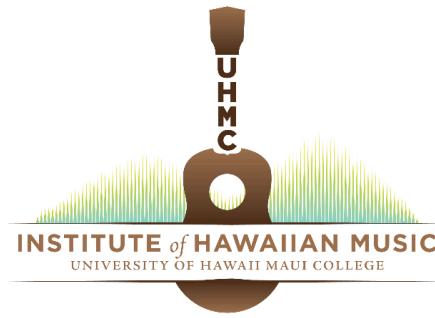
As a member of the Hawaiian Language Task Force and on behalf of the Hale Kuamo'o Hawaiian Language Center, I strongly support HB 2180, HD1 and the implementation of the recommendations of the task force to establish, in collaboration with the University of Hawai'i System, Hawaiian language resources for the State of Hawai'i judiciary.

Established in 1989 by the Hawai'i State Legislature, the Hale Kuamo'o Hawaiian Language Center encourages, develops, and supports instructional materials, teachers, and examinations for Hawaiian medium education for the State of Hawai'i. The Center also encourages and supports the survival and expansion of Hawaiian in the private and public sectors. HB 2180, HD1 aligns with the purpose of the Hale Kuamo'o and will provide the much-needed resources to increase the use of Hawaiian, an official State language, within our government agencies. This work will begin with the Judiciary, however it is my hope that with the continued support of the Legislature, more public agencies will follow, and the Hawaiian language will flourish throughout the State.

I have great admiration for the Legislature's foresight in the establishment of the Hale Kuamo'o and I applaud the Legislature's continued support of the increased use of the Hawaiian Language within our public and government agencies. I urge the committee members to support HB 2180, HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Kaulana Dameg
Educational Specialist
Hale Kuamo'o Hawaiian Language Center
Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language
University of Hawai'i at Hilo



7 February 2016

To the members of the State of Hawai‘i House Committee on Finance, aloha pumehana kākou.

I would like to express my unconditional support for HB2180, HD1. I was a member of the Hawaiian Language Committee of the Judiciary Task Force, representing myself as an individual resident of Maui, and the University of Hawai‘i Maui College.

The approval of HB2180, HD1 would clearly demonstrate the state’s long overdue support of the Hawaiian language, elevating its status of being an official language in name to one that is actually implemented in a way that demonstrates its practical use in Hawai‘i today. The funds requested are essential to beginning the process of capacity building that will further strengthen the use of the language today, and empower its continued growth into vital areas of our society.

In my former capacity as Media and Telecommunications Coordinator at Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, I was involved in many technology and telecommunications initiatives. In this role, I had the opportunity to work with Apple Computer, Inc., Microsoft, Google, and other technology giants who were willing to expend the necessary time and money to empower Hawaiian and other indigenous languages. Through this work we were able to implement several telecommunications systems that provided both monolingual Hawaiian interfaces as well as dual language Hawaiian/English ones. The college’s Kualono website has been bilingual since 1995 – the first such implementation in an indigenous language that I am aware of. The Ulukau website, co-administered by Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani and Alu Like, Inc., serves over one million pages per month, and also features a bilingual Hawaiian/English interface. Simply put, there are no technological barriers to implementing the system that is proposed in HB2180, HD1. What is needed is the political will and funding that only the approval of this bill will provide.

Mahalo again for this opportunity to express my support of HB2180, HD1 and your consideration. If I may be of further assistance in regards to this proposed legislation please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mahalo a nui loa,

Dr. Keola Donaghy
Faculty Coordinator, Music Studies and the Institute of Hawaiian Music
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LATE



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

House Committee on Finance

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Date: February 25, 2016

Where: State Capitol Room 308

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee

RE: **HB 2180 HD1 Relating to Hawaiian Language**

E ka Luna Ho'omaluku, ka Hope Luna Ho'omaluku Nishimoto a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike Waiwai o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka'āinana, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Community Education Division of Kamehameha Schools.

House Bill 2180 HD1 relating to Hawaiian language appropriates funds to establish long-term Hawaiian language resources and capacity building to train experts in the Hawaiian language field.

Driven by the third goal of our strategic plan for 2015-2020, which guides our educational institution to cultivate a strong Native Hawaiian identity to instill confidence and resiliency in learners, Kamehameha Schools stands in strong **support** of HB 2180 HD1.

Native Hawaiians have a rich, oral culture that also embraced the written and printed word. With the arrival of the missionaries in 1820 with the printing press, the ali'i of the time quickly saw the great value of this modern technology and promoted it. Furthermore, current academic research points to the literate Native Hawaiians of the early 1820s as the chief architects of the Hawaiian orthography. From this time forward the thoughts, traditions, and language of Native Hawaiians has been disseminated and preserved.

We recognize however, as noted in this bill, that the 'ōlelo makuahine o Hawai'i, or Hawaiian language remains highly endangered even after decades of dedicated revitalization efforts and an ever-growing population of Hawaiian language speakers. Through its work with scholars, students and Hawaiian language speakers, as well as community partners and collaborations with governmental agencies and Native Hawaiian organizations, Kamehameha Schools strongly supports measures that promote Hawaiian language.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian learners. We believe that by continuing to engage in dialog around Hawaiian language policies and proposals, we can contribute in a positive and meaningful way. **Please advance this measure.** Mahalo nui.

LATE

To: Members of the House Finance Committee
From: Ruth Horie
Re: HB2180, HD 1, Relating to Hawaiian Language

Aloha,

I am writing as an individual in support of HB2180, HD 1, scheduled for a hearing on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at 3pm.

I served as a member of the HCR217 Hawaiian Language Web Feasibility Task Force.

Approval of HB2180, HD 1 would enable the Judiciary to re-establish its practice of producing official communications in Hawaiian and English, and to develop resources for continuing this bilingual service to the people of Hawai`i.

During 1979-1980 I worked for a grant project called "The Social Role of the Courts in the Hawaiian Kingdom." The major part of my assignment was to translate Hawaiian language letters written by William L. Lee in his capacity as the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

I have been continuing that translation work as a volunteer for the King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center's "Hawaiian Kingdom Court Documents Translation Project." I have translated all of the Hawaiian language letters of Lee's successor Chief Justice Elisha Allen and Associate Justice George M. Robertson, as well as office correspondence in Hawaiian by several clerks of the Supreme Court. In addition, I have identified printed forms for statistical reports from the Circuit Courts, licenses to practice law, and appointments to serve as administrators of estates.

I believe that these documents, produced between 1839 and 1906, show the bilingual services that the Judiciary once provided and may serve as models for their re-establishment and continuation.

Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony for HB2180, HD 1.