

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2017

RE: S.B. No. 643

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Government Operations, to which was referred S.B. No. 643 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require that, beginning on January 1, 2020, all public acts and transactions be in the Hawaiian language; and
- (2) Provide that upon any request by a member of the public for a Hawaiian language version of any government record, paper, or document, the public officer having care and custody of the record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make that government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that Article XV, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution establishes that English and Hawaiian are the official languages of Hawai'i. The Legislature has supported past efforts to incorporate the Hawaiian language into



official state writings, emblems, and signs, as the use of proper Hawaiian macrons and glottal stops shows not only the deserved respect for the native language of these islands, but also fully comports with the intent and purpose of the state constitution.

In addition, article X, section 4, of the Hawai'i state constitution provides in pertinent part, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite these constitutional provisions, the Hawaiian language is conspicuously absent in official government publications and documents.

Your Committees have amended this measure by deleting its contents and replacing them with provisions to require, beginning January 1, 2018, that all newly created, replaced, or reprinted state and county documents, letterheads, symbols, and emblems contain accurate, appropriate, and authentic Hawaiian names and language.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Government Operations that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 643, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 643, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Hawaiian Affairs
and Government Operations,



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair

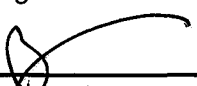


MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 643	HWN/GVD, WAM	2-14-17		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
GREEN, Josh				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Government Operations
GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 643	Committee Referral: HWMN/GVO, WAM	Date: 2-14-17		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)	X			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	X			
RHOADS, Karl				X
TOKUDA, Jill N.				X
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

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