

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hawaii State Legislature
February 14, 2017

Senate Concurrent Resolution 49
Relating to Hawaiian Language in Private Schools

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee,

The Ka Lāhui Hawaii Political Action Committee (KPAC) supports SCR 49 urging private schools in Hawai‘i to consider offering or continue offering Hawaiian language instruction as an option or an elective in their academic curriculum.

Hawaiian Language is the first language of the Hawaiian archipelago and has been an official language of the State of Hawai‘i for nearly 40 years. Therefore, it is a travesty that of the 107 private schools in Hawai‘i the majority of them fail to offer Hawaiian language instruction or curriculum despite many free resources and learning aids readily available .

There are now approximately 3,000 students enrolled in Hawaiian Immersion schools from pre-k to grade 12 and hundreds more students enrolled in post-secondary Hawaiian Language courses. According to the Kamehameha Schools study "Culture Based Education and Its Relation to Student Outcomes" (2010), culture based education (including Hawaiian Language) have positive outcomes that translate into higher math and reading scores for all students, especially Kanaka Maoli students.

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Kawaihuelani school currently offer Bachelor and Master degrees in Hawaiian Language while the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Ka Haka ‘Ula o Ke‘elikōlani college currently offer Master and PhD degrees in Hawaiian Language creating a viable workforce for the growing need for Hawaiian instruction.

SCR 49 is a first step in raising the status of the native language of the Hawaiian Archipelago, in providing job opportunities for a growing number graduates with college degrees in Hawaiian, and most importantly will raise the overall wellbeing of the Kanaka Maoli people.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Healani Sonoda-Pale
Chair, KPAC



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www.ahapunanaleo.org

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Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Room 016

*Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Non-Profit Educational Organization
Dedicated to the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language*

SCR 49 / SR 13 URGING PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN HAWAI'I TO CONSIDER OFFERING OR CONTINUE OFFERING HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION AS AN OPTION OR AN ELECTIVE IN THEIR ACADEMIC CURRICULUM. STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

'O 'Ekekela Aiona ko'u inoa. 'O wau ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo. **Kāko'o Piha** ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo i ka 'ōlelo ho'oholo SCR 49 / SR 13. My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, submitting testimony in **strong support** of SCR 49 / SR 13.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, with 13 preschools and 2 infant-toddler programs statewide, appreciates that this resolution will promote and support the teaching of Hawaiian language in Hawai'i's private schools. Offering Hawaiian language instruction in all of Hawai'i's schools will allow access to learning an official language available to all of Hawai'i's students. Many of our Pūnana Leo keiki have siblings attending private schools who are either learning or would love the opportunity to learn the language being spoken in their homes. This resolution will make multigenerational use of Hawaiian truly inclusive.

There is an ever-growing increase in the desire to learn Hawaiian, an official language of this state, and the 'Aha Pūnana Leo appreciates that SCR 49 / SR 13 will ensure accessibility of Hawaiian language instruction for all of Hawai'i's students.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo strongly supports SCR 49 / SR 13 and urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to approve this important resolution.

Mahalo nui,
'Ekekela Aiona
Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 11:12 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: wilsonwi@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. William H. Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Hawaiian Affairs Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee, My name is William H. Wilson. I am a faculty member of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and also a member of the Board of the non-profit 'Aha Pūnana Leo. I strongly support the teaching of Hawaiian in the private schools of Hawai'i. Many of the larger private schools of Hawai'i were founded through the agency of ali'i or were greatly aided by bequests from ali'i. What better way to honor those ali'i than to contribute to the maintenance of Hawaiian as a living language and to follow the example of many of those ali'i who spoke, read, and wrote both Hawaiian and English fluently. While not all private schools in Hawai'i were founded by ali'i, all private schools in Hawai'i enroll students who have inherited the legacy of an interethnic society build from a base in the indigenous culture that is most fully expressed through the Hawaiian language. Many non-Native Hawaiian ancestors of the students in our private schools of diverse ethnic backgrounds spoke Hawaiian. Today we all share unique vocabulary terms from Hawaiian that connect us to the land, flora and fauna of these islands as well as to customs such as lei giving that are tied to the Hawaiian language, an official language of our state. While I am not officially representing Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language or the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, I note that both entities have already established means to support the learning of Hawaiian including the resources of Ulukau and various publications and videos. Those are available to the private schools as well as to the public schools as will be future resources. There is much available today to support the study of Hawaiian. I strongly support the teaching of Hawaiian in all schools of Hawai'i, both public and private and sincerely appreciate this important resolution.

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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12 Pepeleuli 2017

E nā mea Hanohano, Kenekoa Shimabukuro, Dela Cruz, Espero, Kahele, a Kidani,

In Regards:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 49

URGING PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN HAWAI‘I TO CONSIDER OFFERING OR CONTINUE OFFERING HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION AS AN OPTION OR AN ELECTIVE IN THEIR ACADEMIC CURRICULUM.

I would like to offer my strong support for SCR49, encouraging the inclusion of Hawaiian Language as an offering in the curriculum of all schools.

Me ke aloha nō,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Puakea Nogelmeier', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

M. Puakea Nogelmeier, PhD

Professor, Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

puakea@hawaii.edu/808-956-3562



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee Hawaiian Affairs

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Date: February 14, 2017

Where: Conference Room 016

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee

RE: **SCR 49** URGING PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN HAWAI'I TO CONSIDER OFFERING OR CONTINUE OFFERING HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION AS AN OPTION OR AN ELECTIVE IN THEIR ACADEMIC CURRICULUM.

E ka Luna Ho'omalū Shimabukuro, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalū Galuteria, a me nā Lālā Kenekoa o kēia Kōmike, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Group of Kamehameha Schools.

We are writing to **support SCR 49**, urging private schools in Hawai'i to consider offering or continue offering Hawaiian language instruction as an option or an elective in their academic curriculum.

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 support of SCR 49.

Native Hawaiians have a rich, oral culture that also embraced the written and printed word. 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 an organization striving to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 10:32 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Encourage passage of SCR49 and SR13 that would urge private schools in Hawaii to consider offering or continuing to offer Hawaiian language instruction as an option or an election in their academic curriculum. Learning Hawaiian language goes beyond just learning a language. Words express the culture and values of a people, for example, using the words " I love you" vs the words "Aloha wau ia oe". In the first instance, the emphasis is on the word "I", whereas the emphasis in the second is on the action...thus, what is most important is not so much that "I" did something, but rather that the something was done. Too, the Hawaiian language is poetic and some of its meanings are found in nature itself. Respectfully, Leimomi

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:52 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: hiivuta@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hiilei Vuta	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaiian is an official language of the State of Hawaii and has been for over 30 years. There are now thousands of people who speak Hawaiian and many consider Hawaiian to be their chosen language to speak daily at home, at work, and in the community. Each year, there are more and more individuals and families who begin learning and speaking Hawaiian. Students in private schools across Hawaii should be offered Hawaiian language instruction in their schools.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:52 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kluuwai2@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulu Lu?uwai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable committee members, I want to humbly encourage the passage of SCR49 and SR13 that would urge private schools in Hawai'i to consider offering or continuing to offer Hawaiian language instruction as an option or an election in their academic curriculum. I have had the privilege of learning Olelo Hawai'i from a young age, which has truly influenced my character (to do things humbly, to the best of my ability, and with respect), my values (believing in doing what is pono in every situation and doing it with aloha), and the pathway I have chosen for my future (completing college and dedicating my life to serving others). I also firmly believe that learning the Hawaiian language increases one's appreciation for Hawai'i. What makes Hawai'i so unique from other places around the world is its geography and culture. Being that language is a pillar to culture, Olelo Hawai'i is inherently connected to the strength of the Hawaiian culture and perpetuating traditions that people come from all around the world to witness. It is in the best interest of the State to promote Olelo Hawaii through such measures as SCR 49 and SR 13 to ensure that the values and culture that differentiate Hawai'i from other states and countries remains vibrant in a world where our lives have become more and more homogenized. Respectfully, Kaulu Luuwai

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 3:59 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: nakoolaniw@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM*

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nāko'olani Warrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 10:21 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: jflowers7733@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM*

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Wayne Flowers Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 10:15 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM*

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 5:51 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR49 on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM

SCR49

Submitted on: 2/14/2017

Testimony for HWN on Feb 14, 2017 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Dear Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, - Chair Shimabukuro	yes
Dear Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, - Vice-Chair Galuteria	yes
Dear Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, - Senator Kim	yes
Dear Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, - Senator English	yes
Dear Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, - Senator Green	yes
My name is	Waipiolani Aipia
My email is	gnsr.gess@gmail.com
I reside at	Honolulu
I am-Kanaka Maoli aka Native Hawaiian	yes
I am-Registered to vote in Hawaii.	yes
I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons: -Hawaiian Language is the first language of the Hawaiian archipelago and has been an official language of the State of Hawai'i for over 30 years. Therefore, it is a travesty that many public documents and transactions are only in English and other foreign languages and many private schools fail to offer Hawaiian language instruction.	yes

I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons:
-There are now approximately 3,000 students enrolled in Hawaiian Immersion schools from pre-k to grade 12 and hundreds more students enrolled in post secondary Hawaiian Language courses. Having public transactions and acts available only in English and other foreign languages does not address the needs of the growing number of Hawaiian Language speakers.

yes

I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons:
-According to the Kamehameha Schools study "Culture Based Education and Its Relation to Student Outcomes" (2010) culture based education (including Hawaiian Language) have positive outcomes that translate into higher math and reading scores for all students, especially Kanaka Maoli students.

yes

**I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons:
-The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Kuwaihuelani school currently offer Bachelor and Master degrees in Hawaiian Language while the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani college currently offer Master and PhD degrees in Hawaiian Language creating a viable workforce for the growing need for Hawaiian instruction and public documents and acts in Hawaiian.**

yes

**I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons:
-I support SB 643 SD 1 and SCR 49 because it will help to raise the status of the native language of the Hawaiian Archipelago, address the needs of thousands of Hawaiian language speakers in Hawai'i, will provide job opportunities for a growing number graduates with college degrees in Hawaiian, and most importantly will raise the overall wellbeing of the Kanaka Maoli people.**

yes

**I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons:
-The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Kuwaihuelani school currently offer Bachelor and Master degrees in Hawaiian Language while the University of Hawai'i at Hilo Ka Haka 'Uia o Ke'elikōlani college currently offer Master and PhD degrees in Hawaiian Language creating a viable workforce for the growing need for Hawaiian instruction and public documents and acts in Hawaiian.**

yes

**I am in support of SCR49 and SB643 HD1 for the following reasons:
-I support SB 643 SD 1 and SCR 49 because it will help to raise the status of the native language of the Hawaiian Archipelago, address the needs of thousands of Hawaiian language speakers in Hawai'i, will provide job opportunities for a growing number graduates with college degrees in Hawaiian, and most importantly will raise the overall wellbeing of the Kanaka Maoli people.**

yes

Additional Comments:

He Hawaii Au.

Total 146

SB643/SCR49 Testifier List

Tues 1-15

PW

- Healani (Melinda) Sonoda-Pale
- Shane Pale
- Kaiulani Lambert
- Nohea Pai
- Lorraine Sonoda-Fogel
- Joanna Howard
- Leighton R. Tseu
- Phillip Pale
- Uahikeaikalei'ohu Maile
- Michael Gomes
- N.O. Kapaole
- HRH PRINCESS TIFFANY REED
- Roxane Stewart
- Laulani Teale
- Kukana Kama-Toth
- Malia Medeiros
- Lynette Cruz
- Ku Kahakalau
- Ann Kupau-Villanueva
- Rubin Villanueva
- Guy Bishaw
- Rene Kulialani
- Leola Garvida
- Pamela Williams
- Pamela Averill
- Gale Perez
- Melissa Moniz
- Emma Ulali'a Oto-Pale
- Noe Lopes
- Dana Keawe
- JRoselani Baricuatro Kaninau
- Lorrae M. Ioane
- Sharade Carba
- Ku'uMomilani White
- Justin Stoleson
- Iwalani Kaauwai-Herrod
- Henrietta Lorenzo
- MaryAnn Omerod
- Mary Milham
- Stephanie Manera
- Barbara Bettis
- Jason Gill
- Kayla Manera
- Alika McNicoll
- C. Keoahunui Uale Warrington
- Sharon Moraes

Imani Altemus-Williams
Olinda Kula Raquedan
David Lopes
Nanea Lopes
Anelalani Mauai
Ty Tengan
Josh Kealoha
John Kealoha
Jeremy Felts
Marcia Suzuki
Pua Cash
Katie Hartzog
Brian Ash
Marty Martins
Emma McGuire
Michelle Archuleta
Frances Robinson
Ivana Hall
Isaiah Toi
Lela Kalama
Elvin Kamoku
Kalani Pruet
Kahikilaniwahinemaika'l'opuna Niles
Danielle Goris
EvaLani Siquig
Melanie Niez
Henrie Rose Kau
Rebekah Luke
Kahaka Patolo
Kamealoha Hanohano-Smith
Peter Lonoae'a
Jeff Figueroa
Judi-Ann Smith-Kauhane
Ronni Pratt
Doreen Baisa
Rose Miranda
Sanoë Marfil
Nalani Chun
Pualani Balles
Terrykay Sandobal
Bernard Keegan
Jolie Moniz
Christian Jusinski
Raul Goodness
Kalamaoka'aina Niheu
Waipiolani Aipia
Narrissa Spies
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Corine Chang
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