



**HCR160**  
**URGING THE USAGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE WHEN REFERRING TO THE NAMES OF  
PLACES AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES IN HAWAI'I.**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 17, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee will recommend that the OHA Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** HCR160, which urges the usage of the Hawaiian language (‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i) when referring to the names of places and geographical features in Hawai‘i. These measures will enable the State and its people to further the constitutional provision recognizing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i as an official language of the State, and assist in the revitalization and normalization of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i.

‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is the native language of the Native Hawaiian people and was the predominant language in Hawai‘i up until the end of the 19th century, when it was used by Native Hawaiians and foreigners alike. However, by the late 20th century, ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i was pushed to the brink of extinction due to a number of factors, including an 1896 law that functioned to ban the speaking of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i in Hawai‘i schools. Fortunately, ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i was saved by several historic initiatives, such as the 1978 State constitutional amendment recognizing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i as an official language of the State;<sup>1</sup> the establishment and development of both the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo preschool program in 1983 and Ka Papahana Kaiapuni K-12 Hawaiian language medium program in 1987; and the increased offering of college level classes in Hawaiian Language and Hawaiian Studies, including at Ka Haka ‘Ula o Ke‘elikōlani and other venues. OHA has long supported such efforts to revitalize and normalize ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, and appreciates HCR160’s potential to further these efforts.

OHA also notes that its strategic priority of Mo‘omeheu seeks to increase the appreciation and value that Hawai‘i residents place on Native Hawaiian history and culture, and to increase the number of Native Hawaiian residents participating in cultural activities, including language. OHA believes that HCR160 will likewise support this strategic priority, through the further use and normalization of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i in our everyday environment. Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HCR160. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup>HAW. CONST. art. XV, § 4.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 04/17/2018

**Time:** 11:00 AM

**Location:** 225

**Committee:** Senate Hawaiian Affairs

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

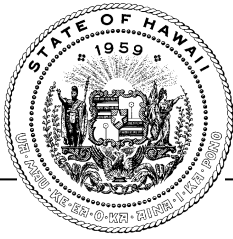
**Title of Resolution:** HCR 160 URGING THE USAGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE WHEN REFERRING TO THE NAMES OF PLACES AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES IN HAWAII.

**Purpose of  
Resolution:**

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education is in support of HCR 160. Through the public education system, the Department continues to support the use of 'ōlelo Hawai'i in schools through its work with Kaiapuni schools, the Hawaiian Studies Programs that serves all students and staff, and with its Native Hawaiian education partners.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at [www.hawaiipublicschools.org](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION  
DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
Tuesday, April 17, 2018  
11:00 A.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of  
**HCR 160**  
**URGING THE USAGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE WHEN REFERRING TO THE  
NAMES OF PLACES AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES IN HAWAI‘I.**

Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Senate Committee on  
Hawaiian Affairs.

The Office of Planning **supports** House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 160 which urges  
the usage of Hawaiian language when referring to the names of places and geographical features  
in Hawai‘i.

HCR 160 is consistent with Act 50 of the 1974 Hawai‘i State Legislature, Hawai‘i  
Revised Statutes (HRS) §4E, which established the Hawai‘i Board on Geographic Names  
("HBGN") in the Office of Planning. HBGN's purpose is to "designate the official names and  
spellings of geographic features in Hawai‘i."

Since the 1990's HBGN's efforts have largely focused on correcting the spelling of  
Hawaiian feature names (e.g., adding 'okina and kahakō, when appropriate) as they appear on  
USGS topological maps and in the US Geographic Names Information System database  
("GNIS"). In its reviews of feature names HBGN may consult numerous references: books, such  
as *Place Names of Hawai‘i* (Pukui et al); online references, such as *wehewehe.org*; map books,  
such as *Atlas of Hawai‘i* (University of Hawai‘i); historical government maps; mo‘olelo; mele;  
oli; historical nūpepa articles; and individual and community input. The HBGN also consults the  
'Ahahui 'Ōlelo Hawai‘i Spelling Committee guidelines (1978) and its own *Guidelines for  
Hawaiian Geographic Names* (2016) to determine the correct spelling for a geographical feature.

The work of HBGN facilitates the implementation of HCR 160 by providing an  
authoritative list of geographic feature names in Hawai‘i to which state offices, including  
educational entities and recreational facilities can refer. Furthermore, HCR 160 echoes HRS  
§4E(3)(c) which states that "departments of the State shall use or cause to be used on all maps

and documents prepared by or for them the names and spellings approved by the board on geographic names.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support on this matter.



Hawai'i Convention Center  
1801 Kalākāua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815  
**kelepona** tel 808 973 2255  
**kelepa'i** fax 808 973 2253  
**kahua pa'a** web [hawaii-tourism-authority.org](http://hawaii-tourism-authority.org)

**David Y. Ige**  
Governor

**George D. Szigeti**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of  
**George D. Szigeti**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
on  
**HCR160**  
**Urging the Usage of Hawaiian Language when Referring to the Names of Places and Geographical Features in Hawai'i**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Tuesday, April 17, 2018  
11:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 225

Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following **testimony in support of HCR160**, which seeks a resolution by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, among other things, that State offices are encouraged to use Hawaiian names as the sole common names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features; signage, maps and promotional materials issued by the State or other agencies include Hawaiian place names; when using an English name, State offices include the Hawaiian name as well; when translating names into languages other than English and Hawaiian, the translating agency attempt to retain the original meaning of the Hawaiian name in its translation; the full spelling including the 'okina and kahakō be used in the written use of names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features; government employees pronounce the names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features properly and learn to do so if they are unfamiliar with the rules of pronouncing the Hawaiian language.

HTA agrees that accurate use of Hawaiian place names enhances the unique identity of our State and appreciates the Legislature's efforts to educate residents and visitors on the historical and cultural significance of Hawaiian places and geographical features.

HTA currently has a policy to use Hawaiian names, including their full spelling in written materials, for Hawai'i's places and geographical features. This policy extends to HTA's marketing efforts on behalf of the State as well as administrative communications. HTA also conducts training with its staff, Global Marketing Teams and any organizations that request training through the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association (NaHHA) on accurate spelling and pronunciation of the Hawaiian language and use of Hawaiian place names.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.



## Native Hawaiian Education Council

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April 16, 2018

Kenekoa Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, , Luna Ho'omalu  
Kenekoa Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Hope Luna Ho'omalu  
Ka 'Aha Kenekoa  
Ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i

RE: HCR160-URGING THE USAGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE WHEN  
REFERRING TO THE NAMES OF PLACES AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES IN  
HAWAII.

Aloha 'oluā mai,

The Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC or the Council) **SUPPORTS HCR 160** based on our Native Hawaiian Education Platform and 2017-2018 Education Priorities (attached) and in support of the Native Hawaiian Education Mission, Vision and two Goals (attached).

The Native Hawaiian Education Council was established in 1994 under the federal Native Hawaiian Education Act. The Council is charged with coordinating, assessing and reporting and making recommendations on the effectiveness of existing education programs for Native Hawaiians, the state of present Native Hawaiian education efforts, and improvements that may be made to existing programs, policies, and procedures to improve the educational attainment of Native Hawaiians.

Please feel free to contact the Council's Executive Director, Dr. Sylvia Hussey, directly via e-mail ([sylvia@nhec.org](mailto:sylvia@nhec.org)), office (808.523.6432) telephone with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa M. Watkins-Victorino, Chair

cc: Policy & Advocacy and Executive Committees and staff







KEAOMĀLAMALAMA

[www.keaomalalama.org](http://www.keaomalalama.org)

## *Nu'ukia (Vision)*

**'O Hawai'i ke kahua o ka ho'ona'auao.**

*Hawai'i is the foundation of our learning.*

## *Ala Nu'ukia (Mission)*

**I nā makahiki he 10 e hiki mai ana e 'ike 'ia ai nā hanauna i mana i ka 'ōlelo a me ka nohona Hawai'i no ka ho'omau 'ana i ke ola pono o ka maui Hawai'i.**

*In 10 years, kānaka will thrive through the foundation of Hawaiian language, values, practices and wisdom of our kūpuna and new 'ike to sustain abundant communities.*

## *Pahuhopu (Goals)*

In the next 10 years, our learning systems will . . .

### **Goal #1 — 'Ōlelo Hawai'i:**

- **Advance 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Expectations**

*Develop and implement a clear set of expectations for 'ōlelo Hawai'i that permeates all levels of education.*

- **Actualize a Hawaiian Speaking Workforce**

*Increase a prepared 'ōlelo Hawai'i workforce to ensure community and 'ohana access and support.*

- **Amplify Access and Support**

*Increase 'ōlelo Hawai'i context and programming to support the kaiāulu.*

- **Achieve Normalization**

*Pursue normalization of 'ōlelo Hawai'i.*

### **Goal #2 — 'Ike Hawai'i:**

- **Actualize 'Ike Hawai'i**

*Increase use of knowledge from traditional and diverse sources.*

- **Amplify Leo Hawai'i**

*Increase 'ohana and kaiāulu learning and participation.*

- **Advance Hana Hawai'i**

*Increase resources to support practice and leadership.*



# Native Hawaiian Education Platform\*

**‘O Hawai‘i ke kahua o ka ho‘ona‘auao.**  
*Hawai‘i is the foundation of our learning.*

## Perpetuate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i

Actions on advancing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i expectations; actualizing a Hawaiian speaking workforce; amplifying access and support; and achieve normalization of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i

## Amplify Family and Community Voices

Recognizes parents and families as first educators; Actions that inform, illuminate, elevate and strengthen parent, family and community engagement in education

## Advance Hawaiian Culture Based Education

Actions that promote further understanding, connecting, supporting and advancing ‘ike and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i: policy and pathways; teachers, leaders and communities; pedagogy and programs; curriculum, instruction, assessment and research practices; and evaluation and accreditation mechanisms.

## Intensify Systems Engagement

Actions that intensify systems level action---federal, state, primary, secondary, tertiary, national and international, health, housing—to strengthen families and communities.

\* Formal set of principal goals



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# 2017-2018 Native Hawaiian Education Priorities

## Native Hawaiian Education Council

### Perpetuate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i

- Support the Working Group recommendations re: the Expansion of Hawaiian Language Instruction Throughout the University of Hawai‘I Systems.
- Support continuing work on Hawaiian language standards and assessments.

### Amplify Family and Community Voices

- Advocate for the effective implementation of ESSA for the benefit of families and communities.
- Aggregate field data on family and community voices by island community.

### Advance Hawaiian Culture Based Education

- Illuminate Models and Practices of Innovation.
- Elevate Accreditation Frameworks, Designations and Schools.
  - Create a Native Hawaiian research agenda.
  - Continue Native Hawaiian education meta-evaluation.
- Include CBE in Teacher Education and Preparation Programs and Professional Development

### Intensify Systems Engagement

- Continue national advocacy work re: ESSA implementation and Native Control of Native Education.
- Engage in early learning planning and implementation work.
- Advance the implementation of Board of Education Policy E-3 Na Hopena A‘o.
- Support the continuing 2-Pathways of Education Design and Development



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**HCR-160**

Submitted on: 4/16/2018 12:04:19 AM

Testimony for HWN on 4/17/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair; the Honorable Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs:

Good morning. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HHCR160** relating to the use of Hawaiian names as the sole common names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **HCR160** and supports its adoption.

**HCR160** is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it urges that state offices, including state educational entities and recreational facilities, use Hawaiian names as the sole common names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features; and that signage, maps and promotional materials issued by the State or other agencies include Hawaiian place names.

The DPH Platform states that, "We support the continued engagement and empowerment of the Native Hawaiian community in decisions related to county and state affairs.

We support the growth of Native Hawaiian farming, agricultural and healing practices. We value and wish to foster the preservation of our host culture.

We support Hawaiian language immersion schools that contribute to the revitalization and continuation of the Hawaiian language and appropriate assessments that accurately reflect Hawaiian language immersion students' progress and support the Hawaiian language immersion program. We support Hawaiian-focused schools and courses that provide culturally-based education in order to maximize choices in life and work. We support educational programming and efforts that embody Hawaiian values,

language, culture and history as a foundation to prepare students for success in college, career and communities." (Platform of the DPH, P. 4, Lines 210-222 (2016)).

Given that **HCR160** urges that state offices, including state educational entities and recreational facilities, use Hawaiian names as the sole common names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features; and that signage, maps and promotional materials issued by the State or other agencies include Hawaiian place names, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to support its adoption.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.  
Sincerely yours, '

/s/ Melodie Aduja  
Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities  
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889

**HCR-160**

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 11:32:23 PM

Testimony for HWN on 4/17/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keiki Kawaiaea	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

The passing of HCR 160 will support the continued perpetuation and unique identity of the many place names and geographical features found across our communities. Place names contain the stories, practices, history, perspective and identity of a place. The geographical features in Hawaiian communicate a specific knowledge about that feature that is lost when it is no longer used. I urge you to support the passing of HCR 160.

**HCR-160**

Submitted on: 4/14/2018 11:29:40 AM

Testimony for HWN on 4/17/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HCR-160**

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 3:40:55 PM

Testimony for HWN on 4/17/2018 11:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

16, April 2018

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
415 South Beretania Street  
Room 225  
Honolulu, HI 96850

**HCR160: URGING THE USAGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE WHEN  
REFERRING TO THE NAMES OF PLACES AND GEOGRAPHICAL  
FEATURES IN HAWAII.**

Dear Chair Case and The Committee on Hawaiian Affairs:

My name is Weston Souza and I am currently attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa to receive my bachelor's degree in Natural Resource and Environmental Management. I am in support of HCR160 because implementing this bill will help share and preserve the mo'olelo of our communities.

HCR160 will help enhance the revival of the Hawaiian Language. Children, community members, and visitors will all be able to learn about the historical and cultural significance of Hawaiian places and geographical features, such as ahupua'a, valleys, mountains, rivers, streams, beaches, bays, islands, and so forth. Our Kupuna's stories will be able to live on thanks to HCR160. My children will have the opportunity to get a greater meaning out of the cultural and historical significance of certain locations in the Hawaiian Islands.

Another reason why I support HCR160 is because it is in support of the full spelling of Hawaiian places and geographical features. This is an important part to me because it will inform the public of the proper pronunciation of such terms and promote such proper pronunciation. By sharing our cultural and historical significance with visitors, it may result in visitors having a greater cultural understanding and sense of place in the islands. With HCR160, the Hawaiian language has the potential to increase in popularity in time.

I am in support of HCR160. If there is need to get to contact with me, my email is [wsouza4@hawaii.edu](mailto:wsouza4@hawaii.edu).

Mahalo

Weston A. Souza

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Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

For hearing Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Re: HCR 160

URGING THE USAGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE WHEN REFERRING TO THE NAMES OF PLACES AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES IN HAWAI'I.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Hawaiian language is a great treasure for Hawaii's people and for all the world. So I wish the writers of this resolution had exercised a little restraint in their zeal for reviving a nearly dead language and especially their rampant attempt to root out and exterminate well-known English language names for places and geographical features.

I described this resolution as urging the EXTERMINATION of English names. That was not an exaggeration. Note the presence of the word "sole" in SR18 which urges "that state offices, including state educational entities and recreational facilities, are urged to use Hawaiian names as the sole common names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features ..." Such ruthlessness — proposing ethnic cleansing of names — displays an unacceptable ethnic hatred which should not be tolerated in our multi-ethnic society striving for manifestation of the Aloha Spirit.

It is certainly a worthy goal to urge the inclusion of Hawaiian names for places and geographical features in local signage and publications, and also in tourist brochures. However, names in English and other languages should not be disparaged or deleted, and might be necessary to communicate effectively with locals and visitors who are accustomed to those names.

Demands for Hawaiianization of all names reached an absurd level of viciousness a few years ago when the writer of the weekly Hawaiian language column in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser insisted on changing the English-language name of a famous PERSON into a Hawaiian-language name which translated the MEANING of the name into Hawaiian — an actual conceptual translation, not merely a transliteration of the way it sounds. The absurdity of doing this, and the confusion it would cause, can be illustrated by changing the name listed on the street sign for "King Street" to "Ala Mo'i Kane" or changing the name of "Kamehameha" to "Lonely One." Did you know that Lonely One School in Honolulu is located on Father Street?

See webpage "Forcing the name of a person or place to be Hawaiianized through transliteration of its sound following Hawaiian grammatical rules or conceptual translation of its meaning into Hawaiian vocabulary" at <https://tinyurl.com/6on8k9s>