



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Senate Committee on Higher Education
February 9, 2017 at 1:15 p.m.

By
Donald O. Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 560 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chairs Shimabukuro and Kahele, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I support the intent of SB 560 to fund the University of Hawai'i to translate the Hawai'i state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

UH Hilo views the proposal as a positive step in the continued revitalization of the Hawaiian language. Our College of Hawaiian Language, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani has the expertise and capacity to provide translation of the state constitution should SB 560 be enacted.

UH Hilo supports this measure on the condition that any requested funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Biennium budget request.

Thank you for your consideration, and the opportunity to provide testimony.



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committees on Higher Education and Hawaiian Affairs

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Date: February 9, 2017

Where: Conference Room 414

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk

Kamehameha Schools

To: Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice Chairs Kidani and Galuteria, and Members of the Committees

RE: **SB 560 Relating to Hawaiian Language**

E nā Luna Ho'omalua Kahele a me Shimabukuro, nā Hope Luna Ho'omalua Kidani a me Galuteria, a me nā Lālā Kenekoa o kēia mau 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 SB 560**, relating to Hawaiian language.

This measure appropriates funds to the University of Hawai'i to translate the Hawai'i state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

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 SB 560.

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. 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'ohē hana nui ke alu 'ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.

KĀKO'O I KA PILA SB 560

KA 'AHA KENEOKA O KA HAKA 'ULA O KE'ELIKŌLANI
MA O KONA PELEKIKENA

Aloha e ke Kenekoa Kahele a me ke Kenekoa Shimabukuro a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike Ho'ona'auao Kulanui a me ke Kōmike Kuleana Hawai'i.

Ma ko'u kūlana Pelekikena o ka 'Aha Kenekoa o Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani, ke hō'ōia i ke kāko'o o ko mākou Lunaho'omalua Kawai'ae'a, ua kāko'o 'o Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani i ka Pila SB 560 e 'imi ana e unuhi i ke Kumukānāwai o ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i i loko o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i. He kāko'o kēia i hō'ōia 'ia e kēlā a me kēia lālā polopeka o ka 'Aha Kenekoa ma ka helu pāloka leka uila 'ana.

Ke kāko'o nei mākou i ka SB 560 no ko mākou kāko'o i ka ho'ohana kūhelu 'ana i ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i. He 'ōlelo kūhelu nō ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i no ka Moku'āina 'o Hawai'i. 'O ia pū ka 'ōlelo kūhelu e mālama 'ia nei nā hana a pau o loko o ko mākou 'aha kenekoa.

I loko o ke kūlana kūhelu o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i, he 'ōlelo 'anehalapohe, he 'ōlelo kāka'ikahi ia o ka po'e i hiki ke ho'ohana piha a he 'ōlelo i kāka'ikahi loa ka po'e i hiki ke unuhi ma'ema'e a me ka ho'opili pū aku i nā hana 'ē a'e e mālama 'ia ana ma loko o ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i. 'Oiai 'a'ole i lawa ka po'e e unuhi ai i nā kānāwai a pau ma ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i i kēia manawa, 'o ke Kumukānāwai kahī kūpono loa e ho'omaka ai. Mai laila aku e ho'onohonoho 'ia ai he papa makakoho e ho'omau mālie ai 'oiai pū kākou e 'imi ana e ho'oulu i ka huina po'e 'ōlelo Hawai'i e ho'ohana ana i ia mau kānāwai.

No laila, 'o mākou pū a pau loa kekahi e kāko'o ana i ka pila SB 560 me ko mākou luna ho'omalua 'o Keiki Kawai'ae'a.

na'u ma ko'u kūlana Pelekikena no ka 'Aha Kenekoa
na Kekoa Harman



Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
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e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
and SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
For hearing Thursday February 9, 2017

Re: SB560
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.
Appropriates funds to the University of Hawai'i to translate the Hawai'i state
constitution into the Hawaiian language.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

This bill SB560 proposes to appropriate \$25,000.00 for the current
fiscal year, and an additional \$25,000 for the following fiscal year, for
the University of Hawaii to translate the Hawaii state constitution into
the Hawaiian language.

It should not be necessary to appropriate any money to accomplish
that purpose.

How many millions of dollars have already been spent to establish programs at the University of Hawaii whose purpose is to produce students who are fluent in Hawaiian language at all levels of expertise from bachelors to doctoral degrees?

Surely the professors of Hawaiian language could find students in their classes who would be capable and willing to do the translation for free. Students might work as individuals in competition with each other to see whose translation is best. Or the translation job might be done as a class project with students working together cooperatively on a portion of the constitution each week until the entire document has been translated.

Similar projects have been done where students translate articles in the Hawaiian language newspapers from the 1800s into English; so why not have students translate the English language state constitution into Hawaiian?

Not every good thing requires an appropriation of taxpayer dollars. Furthermore, if money were actually necessary to do this project, then the first place to look for the money should be OHA or Kamehameha Schools.

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, February 9, 2017
Conference Room 224

by
Brandon Marc Higa (as current law student)

SB 560 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chair Kahele, Chair Shimabukuro and members of the committee:

My name is Brandon Marc Higa, a second year law student at the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law. I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen and not in my capacity as a member of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I am writing in support of SB 560 Relating to Hawaiian Language to translate the Hawaii state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

The Hawaii state constitution was framed by a Constitutional Convention and subsequently adopted by election nearly half a century ago and has not been officially translated in the decades that followed. The Hawaiian state constitution, as the supreme law of the land, should be available in both of the official languages of the State of Hawaii.

SB 560 will provide a long overdue commitment to translating the Hawaii state constitution into the Hawaiian language, which will increase access to this important legal framework to the indigenous peoples of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 560.

Respectfully submitted: February 1, 2017

s/Brandon Marc Higa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2017 9:08 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: pulermq@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/1/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
RuthMarie Quirk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2017 9:02 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/1/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:38 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 6:36 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 5:18 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 3:46 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 2:44 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 1:35 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: fu_dog_5@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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KULANUI O
HAWAI'I MA HILO

Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani
College of Hawaiian Language

<http://www.oileo.hawaii.edu/khuok/>

MOKUNA
PAPAHAHA KĀLA'IKE
Academic Studies Division

Muapuka
Undergraduate Programs

Muipuka
Graduate Programs

Kula Ma'ali Oia
Laboratory Schools

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Hawaiian Medium Teacher Development

Ho'omohala Ha'awina,
Lawlawe Pipaho & Kuleka'rika
Curriculum Development,
Media and Telecommunication Services

KE'ENA HO'OKELE KOLEKE
Administrative Office

200 W. KĀWILI STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-4091
KELEPONA (Phone):(808) 932-7360
KELEPA'I (Fax):(808) 932-7651

KE KULA 'O
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Hawaiian Medium Laboratory School

16-120 'ŌPŪKAHA'IA ST, SUITE 1
KEA'AU, HAWAII 96749
KELEPONA (Phone): (808) 962-4260
KELEPA'I (Fax): (808) 966-7821

He Mea Ihi Ma Ka Papaha
Kaulike Me Ke Pui Laemikua

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Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair, Committee on Higher Education
Senator Maile S.L Shimabukuro, Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Date of Hearing: 2/9/2017 Time: 1:15pm Location: Conference Room 224

Testimony of Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a

Director of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language

REGARDING: **SB560 Relating to Hawaiian Language**
UH; Appropriation; Hawaiian Language Interpretation of State Constitution (\$)

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha e nā Kenekoa Kahele a me Shimabukuro a me nā Lālā Kōmike,

'O wau 'o Keiki Kawai'ae'a, ka Luna Ho'okele o Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani ma ke Kulanui O Hawai'i Ma Hilo.

I am pleased to learn of SB 560 and add my voice to its support. I see SB 560 as part of a movement to fully institutionalize the use of Hawaiian in government functions. A Hawaiian language version of the State is an appropriate next step in Hawaiian language revitalization. Among other uses, it can be used for the growing enrollments in schools taught through Hawaiian. Recent US Census figures show Hawaiian to now be the largest non-English language spoken in state homes among children aged 5 to 17.

Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language has been strengthening its existing capacity to provide translation support for government entities. We would be willing to carry out the translation of the state constitution called for in SB 560 if called upon to do so.

Ka Haka 'Ula has for decades offered KHAW 452 Translation Into Hawaiian, a translation course focused on translation from English to Hawaiian, rather than the more common focus of translation courses on translation from Hawaiian to English. In addition to translation experts among our faculty, M.A. students, and Ph.D. students, we have staff members in our Hale Kuamo'o Hawaiian Language Center with English to Hawaiian translation expertise.

In our early years we channeled our Hawaiian language expertise solely on translation and adaptation of English medium textbooks for use in Hawaiian language medium/immersion schools. Our support for those schools has matured and moved more toward curriculum materials composed directly in Hawaiian rather than translation. In the more recent past we have used the English to Hawaiian translation expertise of the College to provided translation support for government purposes, especially with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

SB560 is a timely bill and I urge its strong support.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 1:24 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: shane.nelsen@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Nelsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 10:34 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: erinrutherford815@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Rutherford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 560

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawai'i to translate the Hawai'i state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, my name is Shelley Soong, and am a student and staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 560. This bill would provide adequate resources to translate the Hawai'i state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- As noted in the Constitution of the State of Hawaii "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawaii." If this is the case, the Hawai'i state constitution should be both the English and Hawaiian languages, and the constitution in both languages should be open to the public.
- Although I am not Native Hawaiian, I am a resident of Hawaii, and if the English and Hawaiian are the official languages of Hawaii, I would like to read the Constitution of the State of Hawaii in the English and Hawaiian language.
- Both English and Hawaiian have been official languages of Hawaii since 1978. It's been almost 40 years, I do not understand why the State of Hawaii has not provided the financial resources to translate and make public the Constitution of the State of Hawaii in the Hawaiian language.
- As noted in SB 560, only 50K is being asked for this endeavor over the course of 2 years (2017-2018 and 2018-2019). This amount is very minimal in comparison to other endeavors that has not been part of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii for almost 40 years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Shelley Soong

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:07 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kamakana808@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamakana Aquino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: HWNTestimony
Cc: rkailianu57@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB560 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB560

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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