

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020.

Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Samantha Herrera. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that “English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai‘i.” It’s been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai‘i, however, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawai‘i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai‘i County. In the State of Hawai‘i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai‘i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawai‘i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai‘i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Samantha Herrera

From: [Corin Kim](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 9:46:51 AM

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Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Corin Kim. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

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- In 2016 according to the Hawai'i State Data Center, [Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai'i County](#). In the State of Hawai'i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai'i residents, and this amount is

increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai'i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:

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- o UH offers bachelor's, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai'i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai'i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Corin Kim

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Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **Kau'i Racette**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

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- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Kau‘i Racette

From: [Thomas Smith](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Support SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:02:23 PM

As a resident of Hawaii and descendent of Native Hawaiian ancestry, I strongly urge and support the passage of SB 643. We can no longer discriminate against an already marginalized demographic, nor can the state neglect to offer language services for one official state language and not the other.

Mahalo,
Pi'ilani

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 5:50 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM

SB643

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Encourage passage of SB643 that would clarify that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020. Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable effort to make it available in Hawaii. Passage of this bill will touch the hearts of many to know that the Hawaiian language is alive and growing in use everyday. Perhaps, we will see what we lost years ago is again part of our daily lives.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Emily Campbell](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: [Kischa Cabatingan](#)
Subject: SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:52:32 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Olelo Hawai'i is not only a beautiful form of communication but also a rare and unique way the ancient kanaka of Hawai'i viewed the world around them and how they made sense of it. Language is more precious than diamonds and is the key to knowledge that has been long lost. There is not a single reason Olelo Hawai'i should not be on equal footing as English in Hawai'i. Let's not let colonialism snuff out anymore culture that is already in danger of being lost forever.

Mahalo Nui!

Emily Campbell

PAT Parent Educator

811 Kolu Street, #102

Wailuku, HI 96793

Phone: 808-868-4143

Mobile: 436-4669

Email: emily@koka.org

Website: www.koka.org



*"Educating Children, Strengthening Families,
Enriching Communities, Perpetuating Culture"
Serving Hawai'i's Families for 20 Years*

Keiki O Ka 'Aina Family Learning Centers

3097 Kalihi Street Honolulu, HI 96819

Phone: 808-843-2502

Fax: 808-843-2572



**Please consider the environment before printing this email*

From: [Earl Kawa'a](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Kawa'a Testimony
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 8:27:48 AM

Aloha mai e na Alaka'i o ka paeaina o Hawai'i nei.

Language is beautiful on so many levels, It tells who we are and where we come from. In language, We learn the protocols for life success,, learning. Through language we learn!, our behaviors and attitudes are taught, values and morals are passed on, love for aina and others are embedded,, destined to succeed in keeping Hawaii,,, Hawai'i Learning and teaching Hawaiian language is good for child, parents and the greater community as well. Hawaii's #1 industry thrives on a Waikiki version of Hawaiian language. When individuals study and speak the language and enter into the visitor industry, they bring and add another dimension,,,,, called,,, HA!! as in ,,Alo---Ha. I am Kawa'a and I support Hawaiian Language in public schools,,,,, in all schools,,, and in the homes. I am a parent, an educator, a clinician raised in the lo'i, hearing and learning in the home. My text book is Hawaiian Language,

Kawa'a

From: hoapili15@yahoo.com
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Support SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:51:19 PM

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Tory Grover, I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

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- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawai‘i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai‘i County. In the State of Hawai‘i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai‘i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Tory Grover

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Momi Akana](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Hawaiian Language Bill Support
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:19:14 PM

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Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **Momi Akana**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

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 - o UH offers bachelor's, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.
- The State of Hawai'i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai'i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.
 - Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,
Momi Akana

Aloha ke Akua,

Momi Akana
Executive Director

"E hiki no ia'u na mea a pau, ke kokua mai 'o Kristo ia'u." Pilipi 4:13
All things are possible through Christ who strengthens me.



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Phone: 808-843-2502 ext. 3001, Fax: 808-843-2572
Email: momi@koka.org Website: www.koka.org



*Ke ku nei au ma ka 'ipuka o ku'u hale a ma laila no e a'o aku ai.
I stand at the door of my home and from there I move forth in the world.*

**Please consider the environment before printing this email*

From: [Drina Martin](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:19:52 PM
Attachments: [TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643 021317.docx](#)

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Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **DRINA C MARTIN**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

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Submitted by,

Drina C. Martin

Drina

Drina C. Martin

HR Assistant / Payroll Specialist



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Fax: 808-843-2572

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Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Kischa Cabatingan. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

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 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawai‘i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai‘i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Kischa Cabatingan

From: [Keith Allen Afong](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: SUPPORT SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:21:39 PM

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM

Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020. Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Keith-Allen Afong. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that “English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai‘i.” It’s been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai‘i, however, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.

- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.

- In 2016 according to the Hawai‘i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai‘i County. In the State of Hawai‘i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai‘i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Punana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Punana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawai‘i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai‘i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.
- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Keith-Allen Afong

--

Keith-Allen Afong

From: [momi_puu](#)
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Subject: Support SB 643
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:32:20 AM

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020. Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **G. Momi Puu**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai'i." It's been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai'i, however, the State of Hawai'i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai'i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government

publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.

- In 2016 according to the Hawai'i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai'i County. In the State of Hawai'i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai'i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai'i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:

- o In 2014, 'Aha Punana Leo (educational organization in Hawai'i) was awarded the world's first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC).

- o 'Aha Punana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai'i.

- o The Hawai'i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.

- o The University of Hawai'i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai'i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.

- o UH offers bachelor's, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai'i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai'i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,
G. Momi Puu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 12:10 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM

SB643

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. We are a native Hawaiian Advocacy Corporation, that advocates on behalf of native Hawaiians, operating out of the Wai`anae Coast. It's been 39 years since the Hawaiian Language was recognized in the State of Hawaii Constitution. It is about time we get this done, please pass this bill. Mahalo.

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TO: HWNtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: SUPPORT SB 643

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM

Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020. Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **Momi Akana**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in

the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai'i." It's been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai'i, however, the State of Hawai'i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai'i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawai'i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai'i County. In the State of Hawai'i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai'i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.
- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai'i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - o In 2014, 'Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai'i) was awarded the world's first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). 'Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai'i.
 - o The Hawai'i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - o The University of Hawai'i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai'i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - o UH offers bachelor's, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.
- The State of Hawai'i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai'i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.
- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Momi Akana

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020.

Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Claire Townsend Ing. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawai‘i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai‘i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.
- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.
- Revitalization and promotion of Hawaiian cannot and shouldn't be the purview of schools and families. Rather, it must be supported and available in the broader community. The bill is a step toward making this happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Claire Townsend Ing, DrPH

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:46 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: hiivuta@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM

SB643

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

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. I am a proud graduate of Punana Leo and Ke Kula o Nawahiokalaniopuu. My children now attend these schools. Hawaiian is the language spoken in our home and in the community. This bill helps to raise the status of the Hawaiian language and address the needs of thousands of Hawaiian language speakers in Hawaii.

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020.

Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Dr. Kau'i Baumhofer. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai'i." It's been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai'i, however, the State of Hawai'i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai'i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawai'i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai'i County. In the State of Hawai'i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai'i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawai‘i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai‘i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.
- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.
- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Kau'i Baumhofer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

N. Kau'i Baumhofer, ScD, MPH, MA
Assistant Professor
Health Equity Research Fellow
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 11:40 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM*

SB643

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020.

Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Shelley Soong, and I am a student and staff member of the University of Hawai'i. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai'i." It's been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai'i, however, the State of Hawai'i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawaii does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language will give the public the opportunity to use the Hawaiian language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawaii State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawaii County. In the State of Hawaii as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawaii residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawaii have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawaii) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawaii.
 - The Hawaii State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawaii (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawaii adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawaii is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawaii; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

- Although I am not Native Hawaiian, I am a resident of Hawaii and in the process of learning the language. If English and Hawaiian are the official languages of Hawaii, I expect that any government record, paper or document be available in both Hawaiian and English languages.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,
Shelley Soong

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 6:20 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kamakana808@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM*

SB643

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 2:37 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: anela.iwane@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM*

SB643

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anela Iwane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 6:51 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM*

SB643

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 3:28 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: stephmanera@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB643 on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM

SB643

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for HWN/GVO on Feb 14, 2017 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Manera	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please, please, please follow through with this. It is so very important to many families here in Hawai'i.

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Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020.

Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee,

My name is Winona Lee and I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai'i." It's been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai'i, however, the State of Hawai'i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai'i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawai'i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai'i County. In the State of Hawai'i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai'i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawai‘i (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawai‘i adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,



Winona K. Lee

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:50 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 643

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020.

Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **KAWEHI KINA**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that “English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai‘i.” It’s been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai‘i, however, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
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- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
 - The Hawai‘i State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
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 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

KAWEHI KINA

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Shelley Soong, and I am a student and staff member of the University of Hawai'i. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i has stated that "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai'i." It's been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai'i, however, the State of Hawai'i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawaii does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language will give the public the opportunity to use the Hawaiian language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawaii State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawaii County. In the State of Hawaii as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawaii residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawaii have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawaii) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawaii.
 - The Hawaii State Department of Education continues to provide K-12 Hawaiian language education through the public school system.
 - The University of Hawaii (UH) offers successful Hawaiian language programs at all 10 campuses across 4 Hawaiian Islands. This has given State of Hawaii adult residents opportunities to successfully learn the Hawaiian language and become fluent speakers of the language.
 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.

- The State of Hawaii is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawaii; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

- Although I am not Native Hawaiian, I am a resident of Hawaii and in the process of learning the language. If English and Hawaiian are the official languages of Hawaii, I expect that any government record, paper or document be available in both Hawaiian and English languages.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,
Shelley Soong

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is Fualupe Tuihalafatai. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that “English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai‘i.” It’s been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai‘i, however, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
- In 2016 according to the Hawai‘i State Data Center, Hawaiian is the #1 language other than English spoken at home in Hawai‘i County. In the State of Hawai‘i as a whole, Hawaiian is among the top 5 languages other than English spoken at home. Hawaiian is spoken by thousands of State of Hawai‘i residents, and this amount is increasing. More opportunities need to be made to ensure that the language is promoted in the state.

- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
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- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.

- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Fualupe Tuihalafatai

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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Honorable Chairs Shimabukuro and Kim, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Ruderman and members of the committee, my name is **Jensen L. K. Kalua**. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 643. This bill would require public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language. In addition, this bill would require that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version of a government record, paper, or document, the public officer is required to make all reasonable efforts to make the government record, paper, or document available in the Hawaiian language.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Since 1978, Article 15, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that “English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawai‘i.” It’s been almost 40 years since Hawaiian has been an official language of Hawai‘i, however, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available government records, papers or documents in the Hawaiian language.
- Since 1978, Article 10, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i has stated that, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language." Despite this, the State of Hawai‘i does not make available opportunities for Hawaiian language speakers to use the language. Requiring official government publications and documents to be available in the Hawaiian language would further promote the language, and give the public the opportunity to use the language.
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- Over the past 40 years, various educational institutions in the State of Hawai‘i have not only expanded, but some have reached exceptional international recognition for promoting the Hawaiian language:
 - In 2014, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (educational organization in Hawai‘i) was awarded the world’s first accreditation of an early education program conducted through an endangered and indigenous language by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues its success in increasing the number of fluent speakers of the Hawaiian language in the State of Hawai‘i.
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 - UH offers bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degrees in Hawaiian language. These degree programs have allowed for an increase in the number of individuals with advanced degrees focused on the Hawaiian language.
- The State of Hawai‘i is investing a vast amount of resources to increase the number of Hawaiian language students and fluent speakers in Hawai‘i; more needs to be done to ensure that those who acquire and speak the language are not acquiring an impractical skill.
- Requiring public acts and transactions to be in the Hawaiian language, in addition to having Hawaiian language versions of a government record, paper, or document, will not only continue to promote the language, but will increase job opportunities for those that have acquired the Hawaiian language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by,

Jensen L. K. Kalua

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205
Kane'ohe, HI 96744
Tel/Fax (808) 247-7942
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
and SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

For hearing Tuesday February 14, 2017

Re: SB643
RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

Clarifies that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions beginning on January 1, 2020. Requires that upon request by a member of the public for the Hawaiian language version, the public officer having the care and custody of a government record, paper, or document shall make all reasonable efforts to make it available in Hawaiian.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

1. There is no practical need for anyone to read government documents in Hawaiian language, because everyone who speaks Hawaiian also speaks English with greater fluency. By contrast there are large numbers of people in Hawaii who speak Asian languages but whose fluency in English or Hawaiian is poor. So if government departments have extra money for translating documents, the languages selected for translating should be Ilocano, Tagalog, Korean, Chinese, Japanese.
2. This bill openly confesses it is proposing a makework project for cultural pride. Its purpose is to keep the Hawaiian language empire afloat by keeping students motivated to fill the seats in Hawaiian language classrooms and thereby protecting jobs for the instructors and department heads. See below for further explanations.
3. This is an appropriations bill which dishonestly hides its costs. It's an extremely expensive boondoggle which hides its costs in the form of a mandate which will force every state and county department to steal money from its own budget to comply with demands from Hawaiian-language activists for translations of thousands of documents merely for the pride and joy of seeing them in the native language. The costs for some departments would rapidly soar into the millions of dollars, as shown by dollar values for document translation projects that are contained in other bills in the legislature. See below for further explanations.
4. If the legislature likes the concept of this bill, then the legislature should make OHA pay for the costs each department will incur for implementing it, forever. See below for further explanation.

FURTHER EXPLANATIONS OF POINTS 2,3,4

2. This bill openly confesses it is a makework project.

The best thing about this bill is that it very openly confesses its purpose on pages 1-2: "to ensure that those who learn and speak Hawaiian fluently are not acquiring an impractical skill. As such, government documents and other publically [sic] funded publications should be made available in the Hawaiian language."

In other words, the purpose of this bill is to provide lots of material in Hawaiian language so that students learning that language will actually have something to read! We fear that students will stop studying Hawaiian language, and the whole Hawaiian language empire will collapse, when students discover that the skill of fluency in Hawaiian is in fact of no practical use. Therefore we need to crank out lots of documents in Hawaiian language so we can show the documents to students in order to keep recruiting language students by reassuring them that they are not wasting their time.

But there are already thousands of pages publicly available in Hawaiian language both in print and on the internet. Historical documents include scanned and digitized copies of tens of thousands of pages of the Hawaiian language newspapers published from 1834 to 1948. A textbook on human anatomy for the training of native physicians was written in Hawaiian by Rev. Dr. Gerrit Judd and was recently republished by University of Hawaii Press. New items are also available. Every Saturday the Honolulu Star-Advertiser publishes a column in Hawaiian language on some topic of current interest. Books in Hawaiian are available from Kamehameha Publishing, Island Heritage, and others.

Another purpose of this bill is to provide paid employment for the people who become fluent in Hawaiian language. There are simply not enough teaching positions to give jobs to all those people, so we need to create make-work projects for them. Jobs will be provided for them because each department in the state and county government will be forced to hire many of them in order to meet the demands of Hawaiian

sovereignty and Hawaiian language activists, who will make such demands merely for the joy of cultural pride and with the conscious intention of providing employment for their friends. I'm reminded how the labor unions lobbied aggressively for the Honolulu rail project, because they wanted jobs; but now the people of Hawaii are stuck paying perhaps \$10 Billion for a makework project that most people don't want and will never use.

3. This bill is a huge appropriations bill in disguise, forcing each state and local department to steal money for this project at the expense of legitimate projects.

This bill is dishonest because it is not identified as an appropriations bill -- it gives the impression that no money needs to be appropriated by the legislature to implement its requirements.

But in fact this bill imposes upon every department and agency of the state and county governments the obligation to respond to every request to provide Hawaiian language translations of any document in its current workload or archives.

Let's see how much money each department would need to spend on translation services, diverted away from its legitimate projects.

Bill SB560 in this year's legislature of 2017 provides evidence of the costs each department would incur for translation services. For translating just one document from English to Hawaiian -- the state Constitution -- SB560 proposes an appropriation of \$25,000.00 for year 2017 and an additional \$25,000.00 for year 2018, to be given to the University of Hawaii. That was an honest appropriations bill. This dishonest appropriations bill SB643, instead of having the state legislature directly and upfront appropriate the money, would foist upon the judiciary that cost of \$50,000.00 to translate just a single document. Perhaps a judge would need to take a salary reduction to pay for it; or perhaps a court clerk or stenographer could be fired.

In the regular session of 2016 this legislature entertained companion bills SB2162 and HB2180 whose purpose was to appropriate \$500,000.00 in seed money for the judiciary 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.

And that was only seed money. And that was only for one department! 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?

There are numerous Hawaiian sovereignty activists and Hawaiian language activists who certainly would use this law to make such demands for thousands of documents -- not because there is any real need to have those documents in Hawaiian language, but merely for the pleasure and ethnic pride of seeing them and with the conscious intention of providing employment for their friends.

I have read the 50-page report by Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald to the House Judiciary Committee dated December 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 regular session of 2016. How

many tens of millions of dollars would be needed for all the departments to comply with the demands they will undoubtedly get for Hawaiian translations of documents.

I notice that Mr. Recktenwald did NOT hire anyone to translate his own report into Hawaiian language. Why not? He should be willing to take a pay cut to get the job done! I notice that his document was 50 pages long. If each page required one hour to translate, the cost for just that one document alone would be \$25,000.00

The proposal in this bill is nothing more than a stunt -- a very unnecessary, expensive, and dishonest stunt.

4. If the legislature likes the concept of this bill, then the legislature should make OHA pay for the costs each department will incur for implementing it, forever.

OHA's most recent annual report (2016) shows that OHA has total assets of \$640,333,000. And it continues getting more payments of state government money (ceded land revenues plus legislative appropriations) every year.

OHA should provide the funding for each department, for each year, for translations and administrative costs to comply with the requirements mandated in this bill. 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 -- a program which will be expanded under terms of HB862 pending in this year's legislature.

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
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Hawaiian.**

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-I support SB 643
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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
Baron Ching

Corine Chang
Miki Lene
Jennifer Mutchell