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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the ongoing eruption  
2 of Kilauea volcano that began on May 3, 2018, created numerous  
3 new and unnamed volcanic features, including fissures, steam  
4 vents, and craters. Fissure 8 opened on May 5, 2018, and  
5 erupted lava fountains up to two hundred thirty feet high.  
6 Fissure 8 has since become the location of a broad lava cone  
7 approximately one hundred eighty feet wide, a result of  
8 concentrated eruptive activity from the twenty-three other  
9 fissures created by the 2018 volcanic event. The United States  
10 Geological Survey defines a volcanic fissure as an "elongate  
11 fracture or crack at the surface from which lava erupts," making  
12 "fissure 8" an inaccurate name for the large tephra cone that is  
13 now located in the east rift zone of Kilauea volcano. The  
14 legislature also finds that the naming of volcanic features in  
15 the Hawaiian language may encode information about its physical  
16 characteristics, historical events associated with its




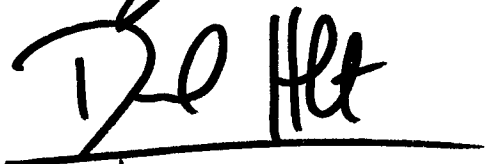
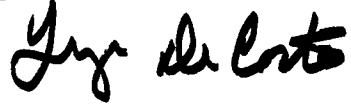
1 formation, ecological surroundings, geographical location, or  
2 related oral histories.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the  
4 state board on geographic names to consult community members  
5 with direct traditional, cultural, and familial ties to the  
6 district of Puna to establish appropriate names for the fissure  
7 8 vent and other features of the 2018 eruption of Kilauea  
8 volcano.

9 SECTION 2. The state board on geographic names shall  
10 establish appropriate names for the fissure 8 vent and other  
11 features of the 2018 eruption of Kilauea volcano in consultation  
12 with community members with direct traditional, cultural, and  
13 familial ties to the district of Puna in the county of Hawaii.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
15

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 17 2019



# H.B. NO. 209

**Report Title:**

State Board on Geographic Names; 2018 Eruption of Kilauea Volcano

**Description:**

Requires the state board on geographic names to consult community members with direct traditional, cultural, and familial ties to the district of Puna to establish appropriate names for the fissure 8 vent and other features of the 2018 eruption of Kilauea volcano.

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