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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Friday, February 1, 2019
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 1328
RELATING TO GOVERNMENT WEBSITES.

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the House Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs.

The Office of Planning (OP) offers the following comments on HB 1328, which requires the Office of Planning to coordinate the translation of state and county websites into the Hawaiian language.

OP notes that the wording in the bill implies an automated translation tool:

"§27- State websites; translation to Hawaiian language.

(a) Beginning January 1, 2024, all state websites created or updated between December 31, 2019, and January 1, 2023, shall include an option for the English language portions of the website to be *immediately translated* into the Hawaiian language." *[emphasis added]*

According to its December 21, 2018 news release, the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) is piloting a translation tool that was "created through a collaboration between ETS and Google Cloud, using the Google Cloud Translation API" that will "provide translation services for State of Hawaii websites." However, ETS has acknowledged that there are complex and unresolved issues around certifying the correctness, cultural context, acceptability, and legality of translations initiated with this or any automated tool, especially with languages that are rooted in oral traditions, such as the Hawaiian language.

OP suggests that the bill be revised to provide clarity about expectations for the correctness, cultural context, acceptability, and legality, and perhaps alternatives, with respect to the translation. Furthermore, OP suggests that the coordination responsibility outlined in SECTION 1 of this bill might be more appropriately shared among one or more of the consulting bodies named in SECTION 3 of this bill -- the chief information officer, the University of Hawai'i, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, or the Access Hawai'i Committee.

Therefore, OP requests that SECTION 1 of the bill be revised and references to the Office of Planning and Chapter 225M, HRS removed, and that SECTION 3 and SECTION 4 of the bill be deleted.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

HB-1328

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 10:16:15 AM

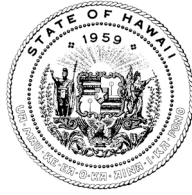
Testimony for WLH on 2/1/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

long overdue.

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DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
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LATE

Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Friday, February 1, 2019

HOUSE BILL NO. 1328
RELATING TO GOVERNMENT WEBSITES

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd and members of the committee:

The Office of the Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) supports the intent of House Bill No. 1328, relating to the Legislature, which requires that state and county websites be translated into the Hawaiian language as long as it doesn't affect the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request.

ETS has launched a translation application project in collaboration with Google. We still need time to develop and test the accuracy of certain languages, such as Hawaiian. The underlying technology used to support the translator application is updated constantly to include improvements from Google Cloud research teams, which results in better translations and new languages and language pairs. It is the hope that eventually, the tool will be able to efficiently and effectively translate complete web pages.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

LATE



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Date: Peleluai 1, 2019

Where: State Capitol Room 325

TESTIMONY

RE: **HB 1328, Relating to Government Websites**

E ka Luna Ho‘omalua Yamane, ka Hope Luna Ho‘omalua Todd, a me nā Lunamaka‘āinana ‘ē a‘e o kēia Kōmike, aloha!

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 **SUPPORTS** HB 1328.

‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is the language of our home. After generations of cultural oppression following the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom, the foresight, leadership, and diligent work of honorable organizations and individuals have brought ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i back from the brink of extinction. Today, ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is being used and celebrated in government, education, and commerce alike by approximately 18,000 speakers across the pae ‘āina.

This work is nowhere near complete, however. The normalization of Hawaiian Language in all aspects of life in Hawai‘i is necessary to enable Native Hawaiians and the larger community to gain a deeper understanding of Hawai‘i’s history and cultural practices, and unveil over a millennia of place-based, ancestral knowledge that continues to guide innovative solutions to modern problems.

Kamehameha Schools is striving to be a leader on this path to normalization by requiring all employees and students to take ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i courses. Kamehameha Schools is also pleased to provide support for Native Hawaiian charter and immersion schools, which provide critical Hawaiian language programs for our broader community.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an educational organization striving to restore our people through education and 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.

With this testimony, Kamehameha Schools **SUPPORTS** HB 1328. Mahalo nui.