
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE UNIQUE LANGUAGE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO HAWAIIAN
CULTURE OF THE NIIHAU COMMUNITY.

PART I

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2
3 A Recognition of the Unique Language of the Niihau Community
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5 WHEREAS, the Niihau community is the last intact community
6 of native speakers of traditional Hawaiian in the world from
7 newborns to the elderly who maintain Hawaiian as the primary
8 language of the home; and
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10 WHEREAS, it is recognized that the Niihau community
11 deserves recognition for having maintained the Hawaiian language
12 of their families from generation to generation until today
13 against great odds; and
14

15 WHEREAS, while the Niihau variety of Hawaiian has proven
16 resilient, it is nonetheless under threat of extinction and an
17 endangered variety of an endangered language; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes the invaluable
20 contribution of the Niihau community to Hawaiian culture and the
21 unique culture of Hawaii's society; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes that the Niihau
24 community represents a unique and authentic cultural and
25 linguistic worldview that contributes to the maintenance of the
26 Hawaiian language in many ways; now, therefore,
27

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
30 2020, the Senate concurring, that this body hereby recognizes
31 the Niihau community, a particular community of the Hawaiian



1 people, and their linguistic variety unique, centuries-old
2 treasures of Hawaii worthy of recognition and support so that
3 their variety of Hawaiian language may carry on into the future.
4

5 PART II
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7 Palapala Hooko a Hookumu no na Elele Kanaka o Niihau
8

9 OIAI, o na ohana Niihau ka poe hope loa e malama nei i ka
10 olelo kumu a ka poe Hawaii e koe nei ma ke ao holookoa, mai na
11 keiki ai waiu no a hiki i na kupuna oo e hoomau nei i ka olelo
12 Kanaka oia ka olelo kuakahi ma ka aina; a
13

14 OIAI, ke nana ia nei he kupono ke hoomaikai ia na ohana
15 Niihau no ko lakou malama ana i ka olelo Kanaka mawaena o ko
16 lakou mau ohana mai ia hanauna aku a ia hanauna aku a hiki loa
17 mai i keia la me na popilikia he nui no nae; a
18

19 OIAI, ua ikaika ka hoomau ia ana o ka olelo Kanaka a hiki i
20 keia la, ua oia mau no nae ke kulanalana o kona hoomau ia ana e
21 like no me ke kulana o ka olelo Hawaii, he olelo i kanalua ia ai
22 kona hoomau ana; a
23

24 OIAI, ke nana aku nei ka Mokuaina o Hawaii i ka waiwai
25 palena ole o ke kokua ana o na ohana Niihau i ka noho ana o ka
26 lahui Hawaii ma ke ano he noho ana i ku hookahi mai o a o o ka
27 Paeaina o Hawaii; a
28

29 OIAI, ke nana aku nei ka Mokuaina o Hawaii he hoailona na
30 ohana Niihau no kekahi ano manao ana a me kekahi olelo ku
31 hookahi e kokua aku nei i ka hoomau ia ana o ka olelo Hawaii ma
32 na ano he nui hewahewa; ano, nolaila,
33

34 E HOOHOLO IA e ka Hale o na Luna Makaanana o ka Ahaolelo
35 Umikumamakolu o ka Mokuaina o Hawaii, Kau Noho Maamau o ka
36 makahiki 2020, me ka aelike pu mai o ka Aha Kenekoa, ke kuahaua
37 aku nei o na ohana Niihau, he mahele hoi o ka lahui Hawaii, a me
38 ka lakou olelo makuahine ku hookahi he mau haneli makahiki ka
39 loihi o kona hoomau ia ana, he waiwai maoli io no ia mau mea e
40 kupono ai ka hoomaikai a me ke kakoo ana i mea e hoomau ia ai
41 mai keia hanauna aku no a ia hanauna aku no.



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