

MAR 11 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE PERIOD BETWEEN 2022 AND 2032 AS THE UNITED
NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES.

1 WHEREAS, in 2016 the United Nations General Assembly
2 adopted Resolution A/RES/71/178, proclaiming 2019 as the
3 International Year of Indigenous Languages, in response to
4 concern that forty percent of the world's estimated 6,700
5 languages were in danger of disappearing; and

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7 WHEREAS, in December 2019 the United Nations General
8 Assembly passed Resolution A/RES/74/396, which proclaimed 2022-
9 2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages as part
10 of an effort to draw attention to the critical loss of
11 indigenous languages and the urgent need to take steps at the
12 national and international levels to preserve, revitalize, and
13 promote indigenous languages; and

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15 WHEREAS, the United Nations acknowledges that indigenous
16 languages represent complex systems of knowledge developed and
17 accumulated over thousands of years and serve as repositories of
18 diversity and key resources for understanding and utilizing the
19 environment to the best advantage of local populations; and

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21 WHEREAS, the United Nations has expressed deep concern
22 about the vast number of endangered languages, in particular
23 indigenous languages, and stresses that there is an urgent need
24 to preserve, promote, and revitalize endangered languages; and

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26 WHEREAS, 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is an indigenous language of Hawai'i
27 and recognized by the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i as one
28 of the State's official languages; and

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30 WHEREAS, in upholding the spirit of the International Year
31 of Indigenous Languages and in recognition of the numerous
32 achievements over the past thirty-five years in restoring and
33 revitalizing 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor



S.R. NO. III

1 of the State of Hawaii proclaimed 2019 the Year of Indigenous
2 Languages; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
6 that this body recognizes the period between 2022 and 2032 as
7 the United Nations International Decade of Indigenous Languages;
8 and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of
12 State; members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation; Governor;
13 Director of the Department of Education's Office of Hawaiian
14 Education; Director of Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, College of
15 Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Dean of
16 Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, University of
17 Hawai'i at Mānoa; Chief Executive Officer of Kamehameha Schools;
18 and Chief Executive Officer of 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

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21 OFFERED BY: 

