STAND. COM. REP. NO. 103

Honolulu, Hawaii MAR 0 4 2021

RE: S.B. No. 211 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2021 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 211, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require that the Hawaiian language version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kūpuna for the Moʻopuna, and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that Article XV, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides that English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawaii except that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions as provided by law. Although Hawaiian was established as an official language of the State of Hawaii and codified in section 1-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, English continues to be dominate and Hawaiian language access to government functions remains limited. This measure,



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therefore, reinforces the parity of Hawaiian language with the English language by codifying that laws drafted in Hawaiian shall be binding.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 211, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary,

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KARL RHOADS, Chair



## The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:		D	Date:	
5B 211 501	HWN, JOC			02/24/2021	
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)		V			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)		V			
ACASIO, Laura		V			
GABBARD, Mike		<u> </u>			
KIM, Donna Mercado		<b>v</b>			
LEE, Chris		>			
FEVELLA, Kurt	<u></u>	J			
		+			
	<u>-</u>				
TOTAL		¥	0	0	0
Recommendation:					
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Kal Mhosh					
Distribution: Original File with Committee Re		ellow 's Office D	Pink Goldenrod Prafting Agency Committee File Copy		

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes