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MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1870

**February 3, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Room 325 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY'S 'OLELO HAWAII INITIATIVES

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 1870 makes a \$300,000 general fund appropriation in FY 23 to the Judiciary to support its 'Olelo Hawai'i projects to promote and explore ways to provide Hawaiian language interpreter and translation services to the public. Of the \$300,000, \$100,000 is for a program coordinator and \$200,000 is for implementation.

B&F notes that the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



*The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i*

**Testimony to the Thirty-First Legislature, 2022 Regular Session**

**House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs**

Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 3, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

Via Videoconference

by

Debi S. Tulang-De Silva

Program Director

Office on Equality & Access to the Courts

Hawai‘i State Judiciary

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

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**Bill No. and Title:** House Bill No. 1870, Relating to the Judiciary’s ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i Initiatives

**Purpose:** Appropriates funds for staff positions and various services to support the ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i Initiatives

**Judiciary’s Position:**

The Judiciary strongly supports House Bill No. 1870 and the appropriation of \$200,000 for implementation of the Judiciary’s ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i projects, including interpretation and translation services, website translation and upgrades, educational outreach, and coordination of collaboration efforts; and \$100,000 for a program coordinator to manage such implementation. The Judiciary is committed to enlist specialists, agencies, and sources of knowledge to implement the recommendations enumerated in the *Report of the Hawaiian Language Web Feasibility Task Force* in accordance with 2015 House Concurrent Resolution No. 217, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 (HCR 217).

The Judiciary especially appreciates the appropriation for a program coordinator position to oversee the important responsibilities in this measure and requests a permanent position count to support it. The Judiciary looks forward to continuing to support the revitalization of the Hawaiian language and sees House Bill No. 1870 as a helpful means to support our efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1870.



**HB1870**  
**RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY'S ‘ŌLELO HAWAI‘I INITIATIVES.**  
Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Ho‘okolokolo a me ke Kuleana Hawai‘i

Pepeluali 3, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Lumi 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTs** HB1870, which supports the Judiciary in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i initiatives. OHA supports the State’s efforts in providing opportunities to incorporate Hawaiian language as the co-official language of Hawai‘i.

Over the decades, the resurgence of the Hawaiian language has accelerated. In 1978, the Hawai‘i State Constitution was amended to recognize the Hawaiian language as an official language of the State, making Hawai‘i the first state in the union to recognize its native language as an official language. In 2013, the first law to be published in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i since 1943 was passed, recognizing February as Mahina ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i or Hawaiian Language Month.

Furthermore, programs such as the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo’s Hawaiian language immersion pre-schools, Hawaiian language immersion charter schools, the Department of Education’s Ka Papahana Kaiapuni Hawaiian language immersion program, and the Hawaiian language programs of the University of Hawai‘i system have helped to revitalize and perpetuate the Hawaiian language.

Although there is much momentum in the revitalization of the Hawaiian language, for ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i to thrive, its usage must be strengthened. Recommendations of the Native Hawaiian Language task force to examine and thereby facilitate the establishment of Hawaiian language resources for the Judiciary has paved way in perpetuating ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i. In way of this bill, the State of Hawai‘i will extend their support of the Hawaiian language programs and the betterment of conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Therefore, OHA urges this Committee to **PASS** HB1870. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**HB-1870**

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 6:19:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/3/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Fully support and appreciate the Judiciary's support of 'Olelo Hawai'i, the first language of Hawai'i. Timely action as February is "Olelo Hawai'i" month.

Aloha mai House Committees on:

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and Members  
Finance Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and feedback to a very important bill, HB1870 that seeks to provide support for olelo Hawaii initiatives in the judiciary branch. I am writing in **support** of HB1870 that addresses Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the 1978 Hawaii State Constitution, with one **recommendation**.

In an effort to honor the intent of Articles X and XV, I **recommend** utilizing the technical terminology found in government documents, and political discourse found in the newspapers during the 1800s to provide the Hawaiian language basis for the continuity of this work.

**The following are for your consideration of HB1870, Page 2, Section 1, Line 4** after

“...Hawaii.” perhaps,

*The breadth of legal terminology found in government documents from the 1800s shall provide the basis for the continuity of this work in Hawaiian.*

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony, and for your consideration of my recommendation.

Kahea Kaohelaulii Faria

**HB-1870**

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 5:15:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/3/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB 1870**

RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY'S 'OLELO HAWAI'I INITIATIVES

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in **SUPPORT**.

Johnnie-Mae L. Perry