

MAR 8 - 2019

---

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PLAN,  
INCLUDING GOALS, BENCHMARKS, STRATEGIES, AND OUTCOMES, TO  
BUILD UPON ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TO ACCELERATE THE  
NORMALIZATION OF 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly has declared  
2 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages as part of  
3 an effort to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous  
4 languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize, and  
5 promote indigenous languages and to take further urgent steps at  
6 the national and international levels; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, the United Nations acknowledges that indigenous  
9 languages represent complex systems of knowledge developed and  
10 accumulated over thousands of years and are repositories of  
11 diversity and key resources for understanding and utilizing the  
12 environment to the best advantage of local populations; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the United Nations has expressed deep concern  
15 about the vast number of endangered languages, in particular  
16 indigenous languages, and stresses that, despite the continuing  
17 efforts, there is an urgent need to preserve, promote, and  
18 revitalize endangered languages; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, 'ōlelo Hawai'i is an indigenous language of Hawai'i  
21 and recognized by the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i as one  
22 of the State's official languages; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i, in upholding the spirit of  
25 the International Year of Indigenous Languages, and in  
26 recognition of the numerous achievements over the past 35 years  
27 in preserving and revitalizing 'ōlelo Hawai'i, has proclaimed  
28 2019 the Year of the Indigenous Language; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, for the past 35 years, 'Aha Pūnana Leo along with  
31 other Hawaiian language movement leaders, including Ka Haka 'Ula



1 O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, Hawai'inuiākea  
2 School of Hawaiian Knowledge, and all Hawaiian language programs  
3 throughout the University of Hawai'i System, the Department of  
4 Education Office of Hawaiian Education, the Hawaiian medium and  
5 Hawaiian immersion schools and all other Hawaiian language  
6 programs at all public schools including charter schools, and  
7 Kamehameha Schools have collectively worked to reverse the  
8 language loss that occurred at the turn of the 20th century and  
9 to preserve, revitalize, and promote this indigenous language  
10 through cooperative efforts to raise speakers of 'ōlelo Hawai'i,  
11 to educate learners in immersive settings, to normalize 'ōlelo  
12 Hawai'i in its homeland, and to drive and inspire change to  
13 ensure a living language in Hawai'i and beyond; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, the specific outcomes and results of these  
16 collective efforts include:  
17

- 18 (1) Reestablishment of the Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for  
19 Education Hawaiian medium pathway of education from  
20 the Pūnana Leo preschools to the State's Hawaiian  
21 medium and Hawaiian immersion programs up through the  
22 graduate degrees offered at Ka Haka 'Ula o  
23 Ke'elikōlani, which serves over 4,000 students annually  
24 at over 40 different sites throughout the State;  
25
- 26 (2) Hawaiian language being offered as a world language at  
27 over two-thirds of Hawai'i Department of Education high  
28 schools;  
29
- 30 (3) Hawaiian language broadcast media initiative in  
31 partnership with 'Aha Pūnana Leo and 'Ōiwi TV; and  
32
- 33 (4) A generation of graduates from Hawaiian medium and  
34 Hawaiian immersion programs that grew up speaking  
35 Hawaiian and are raising their own keiki to speak and  
36 live 'ōlelo Hawai'i; and  
37

38 WHEREAS, to build upon these successes and to further  
39 accelerate the normalization of 'ōlelo Hawai'i, the development  
40 of a Hawaiian Language Plan is necessary to advance the use of  
41 'ōlelo Hawai'i in government services and transactions, private



1 sector activity, and tourism, in addition to education; now,  
2 therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
5 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
6 Representatives concurring, that this body supports the  
7 development of a Hawaiian Language Plan to build upon  
8 accomplishments and to accelerate the normalization of 'ōlelo  
9 Hawai'i; and

10  
11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the next two years, the  
12 'Aha Pūnana Leo is urged to coordinate a coalition to develop the  
13 Hawaiian Language Plan, including aspirational goals,  
14 benchmarks, strategies, and outcomes for the next 35 years; and  
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the coalition to develop the  
17 Hawaiian Language Plan may include representatives of the 'Aha  
18 Pūnana Leo, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani Hawaiian Language  
19 College, Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, Department  
20 of Education Office Of Hawaiian Education, Kamehameha Schools,  
21 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, 'Ōiwi TV, the Association of Hawaiian  
22 Civic Clubs, 'Aha Kauleo, Kanaeokana, Keomālamalama, and other  
23 organizations as appropriate to ensure collective representation  
24 in the development of the Plan; and  
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaiian Language Plan,  
27 including any proposed legislation, be submitted to the  
28 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
29 the Regular Session of 2021; and  
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, members of  
33 Hawai'i's congressional delegation, Chief Executive Officer of  
34 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Director of Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani Hawaiian  
35 Language College, Dean of the Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian  
36



1 Knowledge, Director of the Department of Education Office of  
2 Hawaiian Education, Chief Executive Officer of Kamehameha  
3 Schools, and 'Ōiwi Television Network.  
4  
5  
6

OFFERED BY:

