

MAR 13 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT THE "NA HONUA MAULI
OLA: HAWAI`I GUIDELINES FOR CULTURALLY HEALTHY AND
RESPONSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS" TO ENABLE SCHOOLS AND
COMMUNITIES TO EXAMINE AND ATTEND TO THE EDUCATIONAL AND
CULTURAL WELL-BEING OF THEIR LEARNERS.

1 WHEREAS, article x, section 4 of the state constitution
2 provides that the State shall promote the study of Hawaiian
3 culture, history and language; and
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5 WHEREAS, article x, section 4 requires the State to
6 provide for a Hawaiian education program consisting of
7 language, culture, and history in the public schools and to
8 encourage the use of community expertise as a suitable and
9 essential means in furtherance of the Hawaiian education
10 program; and
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12 WHEREAS, the document "Nā Honua Maui Ola: Hawai`i
13 Guidelines for Culturally Healthy and Responsive Learning
14 Environments" is a product of genuine community expertise,
15 developed by the Native Hawaiian Education Council in
16 partnership with Ka Haka `Ula o Ke`elikōlani College of Hawaiian
17 Language, and endorsed by Alu Like Inc., the Association of
18 Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Queen Lili`uokalani Children's Center, the
19 Hawaiian Homes Commission, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands,
20 The Kamehameha Schools, Papa Ola Lōkahi, Polynesian Voyaging
21 Society, the University of Hawai`i at Hilo, and others; and
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23 WHEREAS, "Nā Honua Maui Ola" evolved over several years of
24 shared discussion and reflection among educators, service
25 providers, families, and community members across the State,
26 occurring at events like the Education Summits of 1993 and 1997;
27 and
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29 WHEREAS, "Nā Honua Maui Ola" is grounded in Hawaiian
30 beliefs, best practices, and traditions based on the belief that
31 continued learning and practice of the Hawaiian language and
32 culture is a fundamental prerequisite for nurturing culturally



1 healthy and responsive citizens and contributes to the growth
2 and harmony of the community; and

3
4 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" is guided by the philosophy
5 "Ke Kumu Honua Mauli Ola" (Foundations of Cultural Identity), a
6 framework written entirely in Hawaiian by a volunteer group
7 formed through the consortium of the `Aha Pūnana Leo and Ka Haka
8 `Ula o Ke`elikōlani and which expresses the traditional Hawaiian
9 metaphors and teachings passed down to us by our kūpuna; and

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11 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" follows other successful
12 indigenous templates such as the Alaska Native Knowledge
13 Network; and

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15 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" enhances the Hawai`i State
16 Content and Performance Standards and defines what students
17 should know, be able to do, and value and care about; and

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19 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" supports the recognition of
20 Hawaiian as an official language of public education and the
21 State's mandate for Hawaiian language and culture education with
22 constructive solutions for implementation; and

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24 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" can be used in all learning
25 environments such as homes, schools, institutions, hālau,
26 churches, clubs, museums, cultural centers, educational
27 programs, and other community groups and organizational
28 activities; and

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30 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" contains the philosophy,
31 goals, outcomes, strategies, roles, and accountability measures
32 necessary to embrace, share, and support the learning community
33 in totality; and

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35 WHEREAS, "Nä Honua Mauli Ola" aims to facilitate the growth
36 of Hawaiian education by improving the quality of education and
37 advancing educational opportunities for Hawaiians throughout the
38 world, without being exclusive; now, therefore,

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40 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
41 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
42 that the Department of Education is urged to adopt the "Nä Honua
43 Mauli Ola: Hawai`i Guidelines for Culturally Healthy and
44 Responsive Learning Environments" as a document that enables



1 schools and communities to examine and attend to the educational
2 and cultural well-being of their learners; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
5 requested to work in partnership with the Native Hawaiian
6 Education Council, Ka Haka `Ula o Ke`elikōlani, and the Office
7 of Hawaiian Affairs to make this document available to all
8 Department staff; and

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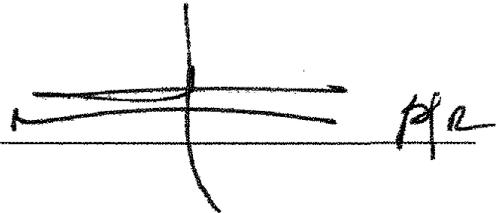
10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
12 the Chairperson of the Board of Education, and the Chairperson
13 of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping horizontal and vertical strokes, positioned over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the initials "PR" are written in a cursive style.

