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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING ALL HAWAII HIGH SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE  
CLASSES.

1 WHEREAS, Article XV, section 4, of the Hawaii State  
2 Constitution establishes the Hawaiian language ('olelo Hawai'i)  
3 as one of the two official languages of the State; and  
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5 WHEREAS, 'olelo Hawai'i is the only language in the United  
6 States that is officially recognized at the state level; and  
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8 WHEREAS, the designation of Hawaiian as an official  
9 language of the State paved the way for the creation of Hawaiian  
10 language revitalization programs, such as 'Aha Punana Leo and Ke  
11 Kula Kaiapuni Hawai'i; and  
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13 WHEREAS, the success of the 'Aha Punana Leo and Ke Kula  
14 Kaiapuni Hawai'i programs have created a new generation of  
15 speakers of 'olelo Hawai'i and increased the use and visibility  
16 of 'olelo Hawai'i throughout the State; and  
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18 WHEREAS, 'olelo Hawai'i is a defining feature of the  
19 Hawaiian culture and a major part of what makes Hawai'i unique;  
20 and  
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22 WHEREAS, knowledge of 'olelo Hawai'i fosters a sense of  
23 community and helps one to identify more closely with traditions  
24 and values of Hawai'i; and  
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26 WHEREAS, access to 'olelo Hawai'i classes through the public  
27 school system would allow this knowledge to reach a broader  
28 section of the population in a cost-effective manner; now,  
29 therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-  
2 sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
3 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education is  
4 urged to support any:

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6 (1) Public high school in offering 'olelo Hawai'i classes;  
7 and

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9 (2) Public elementary and middle or intermediate schools  
10 that teach 'olelo Hawai'i through Hawaiian culture,  
11 arts, and dance as part of the social-studies  
12 curriculum;

13  
14 and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Department of Education is  
17 urged to allow kupuna to teach 'olelo Hawai'i and Hawaiian  
18 culture, arts, and dance in public schools; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all private high schools are  
21 highly encouraged to offer 'olelo Hawai'i classes at their  
22 respective institutions; and

23  
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,  
26 Superintendent of Education, Chairperson of the Board of  
27 Education, and Executive Director of the Hawaii Association of  
28 Independent Schools.

