
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 Mahele 1. O ka Olelo Hawaii ka Olelo oiwi o ka lahui
2 Hawaii.

3 Oiai ua Olelo mau ia ka Olelo Hawaii o ka aina e na kupa o
4 ke aupuni Hawaii, ua hele a ane halapohe ka Olelo ana i ua Olelo
5 la ma ka hiki ana aku i ka makahiki 1980 a ua koe wale mai ma
6 kahi o ke kanalima mau manaleo o ka Olelo e ola nei ma lalo o ka
7 piha makahiki he umi kumawalu. O kekahi kumu o ka emi nui o ka
8 Olelo Hawaii o ia no ke kanawai o ka makahiki 1896 i hoonoho i
9 ka Olelo pelekania o ia wale no ka Olelo o ke kula. Eia nae ka
10 hopena, ua hoopapa ia ka Olelo ana, ke heluhelu ana, ke kakau
11 ana a me ke ao ana i ka Olelo Hawaii ma na kula aupuni.

12 I mea e hoola ae ai i ka Olelo Hawaii, ua hoolana ia aku la
13 kekahi mau hapai kanawai hoola Olelo Hawaii a me na hana
14 huliamahi e hooulu ae i ka Olelo Hawaii e like me ka aukahi
15 Punana Leo, ka papahana Kula Kaiapuni o ke Keena Hoonaaauao, a me
16 na papahana Olelo Hawaii ma ke Kula Nui o Hawaii.

17 Eia kekahi, ma ka makahiki 1978, ua pakui hoololi ia iho ka
18 Palapala Kumukanawai o ka Moku'aina o Hawaii me ka hoololi Olelo



1 pakui e hooiaio aku i ke kulana o ka Olelo Hawaii he Olelo
2 kuhelu i like kona kulana me ka Olelo pelekania--o laua na Olelo
3 kuhelu o ka mokuaina.

4 Eia hou kekahi, ua hoolaha a hooahanahanao ia ae la ka Olelo
5 Hawaii ma loko o elua mau palapala kukala koikoi e ke kiaaina ma
6 na makahiki o na 1990. Ma ka makahiki 1995, ua hoopuka ia aku
7 la kekahi palapala kukala mai ke keena kiaaina mai a ua kakau ia
8 mai ma na Olelo kuhelu elua o ka aina, Hawaii me ka Pelekania, o
9 ka mahina o Pepeluai 1995 ka "Mahina Olelo Hawaii ma Hawaii
10 Nei." Ua koi aku keia palapala kukala i ka lehulehu e komo aku,
11 komo mai i na hanana Olelo Hawaii like ole i malama ia ma ka
12 mahina o Pepeluai. O na hanana Hawaii i malama ia ma Pepeluai
13 ka La Ohana, ka La Kukahekahe, a me ka Ahamele o Hoomau ma Oahu.

14 Ma ka makahiki 1996, ua kukala ia kekahi palapala kuahaua e
15 ke kiaaina e nana i ka makahiki 1996 o ia ka "Makahiki o ka
16 Olelo Hawaii" i mea e hoomana'o ai i ka hala ana o haneli mau
17 makahiki ma hope o ke kanawai 1896 o ia kanawai hoopapa Olelo
18 kupuna ma na kula o Hawaii nei.

19 Oiai ua holomua no keia aukahi hoola Olelo Hawaii ma loko o
20 keia mau makahiki he kanakolu i hala iho nei, he pono no hoi ka
21 hoonui ana i na kanaka Olelo Hawaii i mea e hoolaupai ia ai a
22 ola no ka Olelo Hawaii.



1 O ke kumuhana o keia kanawai ka hoonoho pono ana mai i ka
2 mahina o Pepeluali o ia ka "Mahina Olelo Hawaii" a lilo ia i mea
3 e hoomaikai a e paipai ae mau ai i ka Olelo ana i ka Olelo
4 Hawaii.

5 Mahele 2. Mokuna 2, Na Olelo Kupaa O Hawaii, ua
6 hooponopono ia me ka hoopakui ana i mahele hou e hoonoho kupono
7 a e heluhelu ia ana penei:

8 "§8- Mahina Olelo Hawaii. E ike mau a e kapa ia ana ae
9 ka mahina o Pepeluali o ia ka "Mahina Olelo Hawaii" i mea e
10 hoomaikai a e paipai aku ai i ka Olelo ana o ua Olelo makuahine
11 nei la. Aole e ku ana keia mahina i kapa ia ka "Mahina Olelo
12 Hawaii" i lanui o ka mokuaina o Hawaii.

13 Olelo Hawaii Month. The month of February shall be known
14 and designated as "Olelo Hawaii Month" to celebrate and
15 encourage the use of Hawaiian language. This month is not and
16 shall not be construed as a state holiday."

17 Mahele 3. Ua kahalina ia na mahele pili kanawai hou.

18 Mahele 4. E kaa ana keia Kanawai ma kona apono ia ana.

19 (English translation)

20 SECTION 1. Olelo Hawaii, or the Hawaiian language, is the
21 native language of the Native Hawaiian people.



1 While once spoken throughout Hawaii by Native Hawaiians and
2 foreigners alike, Olelo Hawaii was considered to be nearly
3 extinct by the 1980s, when fewer than fifty fluent speakers
4 under the age of eighteen were left. A major reason for the
5 deterioration of the Hawaiian language was an 1896 law that
6 required English instruction in Hawaii schools. In practice,
7 this law functioned to "ban" students from speaking Olelo Hawaii
8 at their schools.

9 To save the Hawaiian language, a number of historic
10 initiatives were launched, including Aha Punana Leo's Hawaiian
11 language immersion preschools, the department of education's
12 Hawaiian language immersion program and the Hawaiian language
13 programs of the University of Hawaii system.

14 In addition, in 1978, the Hawaii constitution was amended
15 to recognize the Hawaiian language as one of the two official
16 languages of the State.

17 Furthermore, several important gubernatorial proclamations
18 on Olelo Hawaii were issued in the 1990s. In 1994 and 1995,
19 gubernatorial proclamations, written in both Hawaiian and
20 English, were issued recognizing February 1994 and February 1995
21 as "Hawaiian Language Month in Hawaii." The proclamations urged
22 people to participate in the Hawaiian language activities held



1 in February. Hawaiian language events held in February at that
2 time included La Ohana, La Kukahekahe and Oahu's Hoomau concert.

3 The following year, another gubernatorial proclamation was
4 issued that recognized 1996 as "Year of the Hawaiian Language"
5 in observance of a century passing since the enactment of the
6 1896 law that prohibited speaking Hawaiian language in Hawaii
7 schools.

8 While the Hawaiian language revitalization movement has
9 made major strides in the last thirty years, for Olelo Hawaii to
10 not just survive, but to also thrive, more people need to speak
11 Hawaiian.

12 The purpose of this Act is to designate the month of
13 February as "Olelo Hawaii Month" to celebrate and encourage the
14 use of Hawaiian language.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
16 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
17 read as follows:

18 "§8- Mahina Olelo Hawaii. E ike mau a e kapa ia ana ae
19 ka mahina o Pepeluali o ia ka "Mahina Olelo Hawaii" i mea e
20 hoomaikai a e paipai aku ai i ka Olelo ana o ua Olelo makuahine
21 nei la. Aole e ku ana keia mahina i kapa ia ka "Mahina Olelo
22 Hawaii" i lanui o ka mokuaina o Hawaii.



1 Olelo Hawaii Month. The month of February shall be known
2 and designated as "Olelo Hawaii Month" to celebrate and
3 encourage the use of Hawaiian language. This month is not and
4 shall not be construed as a state holiday."

5 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

7

INTRODUCED BY:

Calvin H. Soy
BY REQUEST

JAN 17 2012



H.B. NO. 1984

Report Title:

Hawaiian Language; Olelo Hawaii; Month; February; Office of
Hawaiian Affairs Package

Description:

Designates the month of February as "Olelo Hawaii Month" to
celebrate and encourage the use of Hawaiian language.

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

