WHEREAS, Hawaiian is an official language of the State, and
the legislature has a unique responsibility to promote the use
of the Hawaiian language and enhance its role in maintaining the
unique identity of our state; and

WHEREAS, the State is committed to the preservation of
Hawaiian language and culture, and encourages the development of
increased Hawaiian language learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the State is dedicated to educating residents and
visitors to the islands on the historical and cultural
significance of Hawaiian places and geographical features, such
as ahupua'a, valleys, mountains, rivers, streams, beaches, bays,
islands, etc.; and

WHEREAS, utilizing Hawaiian place names allows the Hawaiian
people and residents of Hawai'i to have a greater cultural
understanding and sense of place in the islands, as the
histories of these places are important to communities and their
residents; and

WHEREAS, each Hawaiian place name is associated with a
mo'olelo, or story, illustrating the importance of retaining
original Hawaiian place names, as English names for these
locations may not correspond with these mo'olelo, have equivalent
meanings, or convey the historical or cultural importance of
that location to the Hawaiian people; and

WHEREAS, many individuals of Hawaiian ancestry trace
genealogy or genealogical connections to specific Hawaiian
places, illustrating the cultural importance of retaining these
Hawaiian place names; and
WHEREAS, official signage, maps, tourism guidebooks, and advertisements rarely display Hawaiian place names, leaving tourists or newcomers to the islands potentially unaware of Hawaiian place names, and the cultural and historical significance of certain locations to the people of Hawai‘i; and

WHEREAS, the usage of Hawaiian names to refer to Hawaiian places and geographical features are increasingly referred to using non-Hawaiian names, for example the reference to "Lē'ahi" as the "Diamond Head" or reference to "Mokoli‘i" island as "Chinaman's Hat"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2018, that state offices, including state educational entities and recreational facilities, are urged to use Hawaiian names as the sole common names of Hawai‘i's places and geographical features; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that signage, maps and promotional materials issued by the State or other agencies include Hawaiian place names; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when a particular office, for a particular reason, sees a need to use an English name, that the Hawaiian name be used when applicable and accurate, e.g., "Tantalus Lookout" can be used to clarify a meeting location, but should also be accompanied by the Hawaiian name, "Pu‘u ‘Ualaka‘a"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when translating names into languages other than English or Hawaiian, the translating agency will attempt to retain the original meaning of the Hawaiian name in its translation, for example in a travel brochure on "Yokohama Bay", the Hawaiian name "Keawa‘ula" be utilized as the basis for the direct translation, as opposed to "Yokohama bay"; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the written use of names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features, that the full spelling including the 'okina and kahakō be used in order to further inform the public of the proper pronunciation of such terms and promote such proper pronunciation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government employees are encouraged to pronounce the names of Hawai'i's places and geographical features properly, as pronounced in the Hawaiian language, and that those who are unfamiliar with the rules of pronouncing the Hawaiian language from the full spelling system be encouraged to learn to do so; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local media, private schools, the tourism industry and other businesses, and the general public are urged to also follow the above described practices to preserve what Hawaiian terms are still in use, increase the use of Hawaiian names that have already been largely replaced by English names, and to encourage research into terms that have been lost; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Chairperson of the Charter School Commission, the Chairperson of the Board of Regents and the President of the University of Hawai'i, the Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools, the Hawai'i Association of Broadcasters, the two largest newspapers in each of the counties, and the President of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

OFFERED BY: