

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2019

RE: S.B. No. 701
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred
S.B. No. 701 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Designate February as "Ōlelo Hawai'i Month" to celebrate and encourage the use of Hawaiian language;
- (2) Require any Hawaiian words or names included in public acts and transactions to be accurate, appropriate, and authentic; and
- (3) Require all newly created, replaced, or reprinted state and county documents, letterheads, symbols, and emblems to contain accurate, appropriate, and authentic Hawaiian names and words beginning on January 1, 2020.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies, five individuals, and a petition signed by eighty-six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from K&R Enterprises.



Your Committee finds that the State of Hawaii has long aspired to preserve the rich cultural heritage of Native Hawaiians. Article XV, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution establishes English and Hawaiian as the official languages of the State of Hawaii. By requiring the accurate, appropriate, and authentic use of Hawaiian names and words that utilize proper Hawaiian spelling and punctuation, this measure serves as an important step toward ensuring the renormalization and proliferation of the Hawaiian language as an official language of the State.

Your Committee notes concerns that diacritical marks, like 'okina and kahakō, were not traditionally used by Hawaiian speakers and that there are still communities today that eschew their use. However, like all living languages, Hawaiian is continuing to evolve and the majority of current Hawaiian speakers use 'okina and kahakō.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding additional Hawaiian language works that may be referenced to determine the appropriateness, authenticity, and accuracy of Hawaiian names and words;
- (2) Removing part I as unnecessary, since the substance of that language has already been codified as section 8-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Making other technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 701, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 701, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,




MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 701</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HWN, JDC</i>	Date: <i>2/13/19</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	/			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i (VC)				/
IHARA, Jr., Les	/			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt				/
TOTAL	<i>3</i>			<i>2</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes