

LATE
HB 2180



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and
Higher Education and the Arts
March 16, 2016 at 1:45 p.m.

By
Robert Bley-Vroman
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
and
Don Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 2180 HD1 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chairs Shimabukuro and Taniguchi, Vice Chair English, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2180 HD1. The Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Ka Haka Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at UH Hilo support the appropriation of funds to establish long-term Hawaiian language resources and capacity building to train experts in the Hawaiian language field proposed in HB 2180 HD1. We urge our State legislators to support this measure as it promotes the use of the Native Hawaiian language (‘Ōlelo Hawai'i) in the business of governance, economy, business and communications in ways that perpetuate Hawai'i's cultural legacy of language and knowledge into the present and future. Additionally, the bill supports the carrying out of Hawai'i State Constitution Article XV, Section IV:

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Section 4. English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawaii, except that Hawaiian shall be required for public acts and transactions only as provided by law. [Add Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978]

Under the auspices of this constitutional article, the State of Hawai'i has committed to ensure the vitality of the Hawaiian Language. Currently the Hawai'i State Senate presents some of its materials with English and Hawaiian headings, such as the Senate Order of the Day. Some senators also have letterhead, business cards, and other materials in both languages. The forward-looking HB 2180 HD1 has the promise to:

- ◆ Support schools that utilize ‘Ōlelo Hawai'i as the primary means of instruction or as an integral part of a Hawaiian culture-based curriculum to improve the academic achievement of Native Hawaiian children and youth by, for example, strengthening the training of teachers in post-secondary education programs.

- ✦ Strengthen and sustain the teaching and use of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i in educational programs by supporting, for example, the curriculum development and best practices work provided by UH Hilo's Hale Kuamo'o and the new system-wide Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation.
- ✦ Increase the use and the study of the Hawaiian language by preparing students for careers in which 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is used, professionalizing and recognizing the economic value of the language, and urging and enabling more local and state agencies to use/include 'Ōlelo Hawai'i in their documents, materials, and daily practices. Integrating the efforts of the Institute of Hawaiian Language Research and Translation, the Hale Kuamo'o and the Lexicon Committee would support this effort.
- ✦ Strengthen the vitality of Hawaiian language use throughout the state as evidenced in the growing number of Hawaiian speaking homes and intergenerational use of the language.
- ✦ Embody many of the goals of the Hawai'i Language Roadmap Initiative, which was established to produce and foster sufficient bilingual resources for language needs of the near future in government, medicine, law, judiciary and community.

Given these reasons, we hope you will agree that HB 2180 HD1 is necessary and a positive move forward in support of revitalizing the Native Hawaiian language.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2180 on Mar 22, 2016 13:30PM*
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2016 11:15:42 AM

HB2180

Submitted on: 3/17/2016

Testimony for HWN/HEA on Mar 22, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: dkapua@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2180 on Mar 16, 2016 13:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:25:59 AM

HB2180

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for HWN/HEA on Mar 16, 2016 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: victor.amos@mpd.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2180 on Mar 16, 2016 13:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 12:56:24 PM

HB2180

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for HWN/HEA on Mar 16, 2016 13:45PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov