STAND. COM. REP. NO. <u>1244-20</u> Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2020

RE: H.R. No. 146

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirtieth State Legislature Regular Session of 2020 State of Hawaii Sir:

Your Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.R. No. 146 entitled: "HOUSE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE UNIQUE LANGUAGE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO HAWAIIAN CULTURE OF THE NIIHAU COMMUNITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to recognize the unique language and contributions to the Hawaiian culture of the Niihau community.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies and eight individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Niihau community, in addition to being the last intact community of Native Hawaiian speakers who maintain Hawaiian as the primary language of the home, has made invaluable cultural and linguistic contributions to Hawaiian culture and society. Your Committee further finds that recognition and support of the Niihau variety of Hawaiian language will help preserve and carry that unique variety into the future.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 146 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs,

RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair