

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A
Honolulu HI 96822

In the Senate
November 20, 2025

Senate Resolution 04-26
For First Reading

A RESOLUTION TO FUND AND SUPPORT AN EDUCATIONAL FORUM ON THE
KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS PREFERENCE POLICY LAWSUIT

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 14,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,

WHEREAS, Kamehameha Schools serves as one of the largest private landowners and educational institutions in Hawai'i, established by the will of Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop under the Hawaiian Kingdom, to educate indigent and orphaned Native Hawaiian children; and,

WHEREAS, the admissions preference policy for Native Hawaiian students at Kamehameha Schools has been the subject of ongoing legal challenges that raise critical questions about indigenous rights, educational equity, and the unique legal status of Native Hawaiians; and,

WHEREAS, many University of Hawai'i at Mānoa students are Kamehameha Schools alumni, Native Hawaiian community members, or individuals interested in understanding the historical, legal, and cultural dimensions of this lawsuit; and,

WHEREAS, this legal challenge has significant implications for Native Hawaiian self-determination, the fulfillment of Princess Pauahi's testamentary intent, and broader questions of indigenous educational sovereignty; and,

WHEREAS, the one of the University of Hawai'i system's strategic goals is becoming a Native Hawaiian Place of learning with a focus on Cultivating a Native Hawaiian Environment and Native Hawaiian Community Engagement; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa has a responsibility to Native Hawaiians and the broader community as a publicly supported higher education institution sitting on stolen Hawaiian Kingdom lands to facilitate informed dialogue on issues affecting indigenous Hawaiians; and,

WHEREAS, creating space for educational discourse on complex legal and cultural matters serves the academic mission of the university and the representative function of ASUH; and,

WHEREAS, a properly organized forum with knowledgeable speakers would provide students with multiple perspectives and deeper understanding of the issues at stake;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate will organize and host an educational forum on the Kamehameha Schools legal challenges in regards to their preference policy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the forum shall include a diverse panel of speakers that may include legal experts, community organizers working on Native Hawaiian rights and education, Native Hawaiian youth leaders or Kamehameha Schools students/alumni, academic scholars specializing in indigenous rights or Hawaiian history, and/or other relevant voices as determined appropriate by the organizing committee;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the forum shall be open to all University of Hawai'i at Mānoa students and, space permitting, members of the broader community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the forum shall be conducted in a manner that respects multiple perspectives, encourages respectful dialogue, and centers the voices and experiences of Native Hawaiian community members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the ASUH President, ASUH Vice President, ASUH Treasurer, the Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and relevant campus organizations including the Hui 'Imi Student Collective and other Native Hawaiian student organizations.

Introduced by:

`Ulupuhi Pale, Senator of the College of Arts and Science