# HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

*KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU*

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE 24-25

BILL 26 (2024), FD1

## A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO HONOR OUR KŪPUNA MONTH.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to designate the month of May as "Honor Our Kūpuna Month" to recognize and honor the great wisdom, generational knowledge, and substantial contributions of the beloved kūpuna of O'ahu.

In *No nā Hulu Kūpuna: A Native Hawaiian View of Elderhood*, the authors note that the word "kupuna" (plural "kūpuna") is translated plainly to mean "grandparent" and, contemporarily, is colloquially understood to mean "elder."

The authors further describe how great esteem and recognition of kūpuna wisdom and generational knowledge are abundant in Hawaiian pule (prayers), oli (chants), and 'ōlelo (speech), as well as in 'ōlelo no'eau (Hawaiian proverbs), emphasizing the deep regard and honor Native Hawaiians have for kūpuna.

This veneration of kūpuna has translated into the modern culture of Hawai'i and has expanded to encompass a deep sense of respect for all elders in our community, regardless of kinship, ethnicity, or nationality.

The State of Hawai'i has designated the fourth Saturday of July as Kupuna Recognition Day, as set forth in Section 8-15 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, to honor the significant role that kūpuna play in Hawai'i's culture, history, and traditions.

The United States government pays tribute to the nation's kūpuna by annually recognizing, by presidential proclamation, the month of May as Older Americans Month. President Biden issued such a proclamation on April 28, 2023, on the 60th anniversary of the first such proclamation recognizing and honoring the contributions of older Americans, issued by President John F. Kennedy in 1963.

To honor the cherished kūpuna of O'ahu and acknowledge the magnitude of their contributions, the City Council wishes to officially designate the month of May as "Honor Our Kūpuna Month" by codification in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021.

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SECTION 2. The title of Chapter 1, Article 25, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"**ARTICLE 25:** [~~MAHINA ʻŌLELO HAWAIʻI~~] COMMEMORATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS"

SECTION 3. Chapter 1, Article 25, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Mahina ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi"), is amended by adding a new Section 1-25.2 to read as follows:

"**§ 1-25.2 Honor Our Kūpuna Month.**

The month of May is hereby known and designated as "Honor Our Kūpuna Month" to honor the great wisdom, generational knowledge, and immense contributions of the beloved kūpuna of Oʻahu. This month is not to be construed as a city holiday."

# A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

SECTION 4. This ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2025.

INTRODUCED BY:

Val A. Okimoto

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

April 24, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel
DUANE W.H. PANG

APPROVED this 28th day of August, 2024.

RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

# CERTIFICATE

**BILL 26 (2024), FD1**

Introduced: 04/24/24 By: VAL OKIMOTO Committee: HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH)

Title: RELATING TO HONOR OUR KŪPUNA MONTH.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

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| 04/24/24 | INTRO | Introduced. |
| 05/15/24 | CCL | Passed first reading.<br><br>9 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER |
| 05/22/24 | HSH | Reported out for passage on second reading and scheduling of a public hearing.<br><br>CR-179<br><br>5 AYES: DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, TULBA, WEYER |
| 05/24/24 | PUBLISH | Public hearing notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. |
| 06/28/24 | PUBLISH | Public hearing notice published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. |
| 07/10/24 | CCL/PH | Amended to FD1.<br><br>OCS2024-0568/5/28/2024 3:54 PM<br><br>8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, WATERS, WEYER<br><br>1 ABSENT: TUPOLA |
| 07/10/24 | CCL/PH | Committee report adopted. Bill passed second reading, public hearing closed and referred to committee.<br><br>8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, WATERS, WEYER<br><br>1 ABSENT: TUPOLA |
| 07/24/24 | HSH | Reported out for passage on third reading.<br><br>CR-244<br><br>4 AYES: DOS SANTOS-TAM, OKIMOTO, TULBA, WEYER<br><br>1 ABSENT: KIA'ĀINA |
| 08/07/24 | CCL | Committee report adopted and Bill passed third reading.<br><br>9 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER |

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this BILL.

GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER

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