



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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### WRITTEN TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

March 14, 2008

by

Jenny S. Samaan

Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for International Education

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### **HB 2045 - Relating to Establishing a Global Youth Center**

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee on Education, thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding the Global Youth Center in Hawai'i.

One of the University of Hawai'i's strategic goals is to "Become a Model Local, Regional, and Global University". In order to achieve this goal, it is critical that we provide opportunities for our students to engage in educational exchange by bringing to our campuses international students and scholars, infusing global perspectives into curriculum, and providing inter-cultural co-curricular activities. Additionally, UH establishes international university partnerships and education abroad programs for UH students so that they are able to experience other cultures, languages, and peoples firsthand. We firmly believe that developing global awareness and competencies to function effectively in a global environment must be a critical component of today's educational landscape.

The University therefore strongly supports the Hawai'i Global Youth Center's *broad* goal of generating an effective international framework in which youth from Hawai'i and from around the world can become actively engaged in discussing and influencing many of the global, trans-boundary challenges facing the world. It is critical to expand world views and grow global citizens who value diversity and are trained to effectively communicate across boundaries.

While the University endorses the overall concept of establishing a global youth center in Hawaii, it is unclear at this time exactly how the Center will be situated "within" or "under" the University of Hawai'i. We are concerned about the cost implications to the University that may be generated by this bill. We look forward however to exploring further, with the relevant parties, a workable administrative structure and obtaining appropriate funding, administrative, and support mechanisms that may be necessary to carry this concept forward.

If this bill passes in its present form, it is essential that it not replace or adversely impact UH's priorities as indicated in our BOR approved Supplementary Budget.

Mahalo.



EAST-WEST CENTER

**Testimony**

by

**NAMJI STEINEMANN** (Director, Asia Pacific Education Program, East-West Center)

to the **SENATE COMMITTEE on EDUCATION**

**Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair**

and

**Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice-Chair**

DATE: March 14, 2008

TIME: 2:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 225

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

in Consideration of

**HB2045**

**toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai'i**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008, STATE OF HAWAII**

I appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony in support of HB2045, which calls for the establishment of a Global Youth Center (GYC) in Hawai'i. The GYC would provide educational programs and other opportunities for Hawai'i's youth to become actively engaged with the world and many of the major global issues that directly affect them and the rest of our communities. This is a vital interest for the State of Hawai'i, and I congratulate the authors of this proposed bill for their vision.

Because of its location in the cradle of the Pacific and its cultural, economic, political, and military links to the Asia Pacific region and other parts of the world, Hawai'i is well positioned to provide leadership in training its youth – our future leaders – to work toward constructing a better future. However, we now live in a knowledge-based, interconnected global economy in which technology helps bridge geographic distance to facilitate communication not to mention market transactions. This fast-changing new world requires a citizenry that is better attuned to the world and more knowledgeable about as well as adaptable to its changes. Therefore, to fully take advantage of the opportunities inherent in its own global linkages, Hawai'i needs to provide more opportunities, especially for its youth, to develop a strong base of global knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in today's global world. As such, the HB2045 outlines a task of vital importance to the State of Hawai'i.

East-West Center is a national organization established by the U.S. Congress in 1960 to promote understanding and relations between the United States and the nations of Asia and the Pacific. As part of this mission, the Center seeks to prepare Americans for an era of much greater global involvement with the Asia Pacific region and the larger world. We do this through a wide array of cooperative study, research, and public programs we offer, including the Asia Pacific Education Program (AsiaPacificEd).

AsiaPacificEd, established in 1987 as CTAPS (Consortium for Teaching Asia and the Pacific in the Schools), works to improve education and training of students in our K-12 schools by providing professional development programs aimed at improving teachers' knowledge and pedagogical skills concerning the Asia Pacific region. The program also partners directly with high schools on Oahu and neighbor islands to provide our youth with a forum as well as skills training aimed at developing strategies to address issues that affect our communities, such as building disaster-resiliency and sustainability. As such, the goal of HB2045 to establish the Global Youth Center in Hawai'i is directly relevant to the work of AsiaPacificEd, and I am personally prepared to support the programs and activities of the Global Youth Center.



**THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION**  
**Of the United States of America**  
**— HAWAII DIVISION —**  
**“UNITING THE WORLD WITH ALOHA”**  
**“CELEBRATING 40 years in HAWAII”**

**TESTIMONY**

By *JOANNE TACHIBANA, President*  
**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION- (UNA)-USA HAWAII DIVISION**  
To the  
**COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**  
*Chair, Senator Norman Sakamoto*  
*Vice-Chair Jill N Tokuda*

*Date: March 14, 2008*

*Time: 2:00 P.M.*

*Place: Conference Room 225*

*In consideration of*

**HB#2045**

*Toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai'i*

*The UNA-USA Hawaii Division is writing in support of the Hawaii Global Youth Center. The UNA Hawaii is part of the founding participants for this most important initiative.*

*The creation of the Global Youth Center is a unique opportunity for youth around the world to actively engage in the construction of a better future and making a difference beginning here in Hawaii. The Global Youth Center will be an important catalyst for the youth leaders to meet and work together to create peaceful and sustainable communities worldwide.*

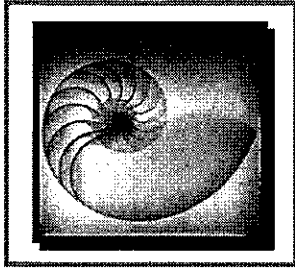
*We are proud to have our first Global Youth Ambassadors – who all gained first hand experience as participants in the East West Center sponsored program in Cambodia.*

*Your support for HB #2045 is most appreciated.*

***[info@unusahawaii.org](mailto:info@unusahawaii.org)*** (808) 387-7271

***MISSION STATEMENT: The United Nations Association is a force for change. Through the work of its 175 community-based chapter members, its 145 affiliated national organizations and national staff, UNA is working to create a powerful national constituency for a more effective United Nations. It works to bring the United Nations to the community through educational forums, seminars and celebrations of significant UN events and more.***

***VISIT [www.unusahawaii.org](http://www.unusahawaii.org) AND JOIN UNA TODAY!***



# West Hawai'i Explorations Academy

A Public Charter School

Located near the Natural Energy Laboratory-Hawaii, Keahole-Kona, Island of Hawaii

73-4460 Queen Ka'ahumanu Hwy #105, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Phone: (808)327-4751 Facsimile: (808)327-4750 Email: [explorations@whea.net](mailto:explorations@whea.net)

## **Support of HB2045 (Global Youth Center Initiative)**

March 11, 2008

Senate Committee on Education, 2008 Legislative Session  
EDU public hearing at 2:00pm, March 14, 2008  
Conference Room 225

Dear Chairman Sakamoto, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Esteemed Committee Members:

The Global Youth Center Initiative represents exactly the kind of real-world educational opportunity that can help elevate Hawaii's next generation of young leaders well beyond the traditional educational model of AP classes, bubble sheet tests, textbooks and four-walled classrooms.

Imagine the benefits of a cohort of globally thinking young leaders.

Imagine the role they may play in bridging Hawaii with the rest of the world.

Quite simply, imagine how great an opportunity this represents to our children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and beyond.

As you well know, our tourist- and military spending-based economy cannot continue without some essential change in direction. As the world continues to shrink, we look to your educational leadership to provide useful tools to the next generation of citizens. An initiative such as the Global Youth Center, brought forth and supported by the current generation of visionary thinkers like Don Peel and Stephanie McCandless Reford, is exactly the kind of partnership educators are seeking in order to prepare our youth to think beyond union scale and job security. In order to nurture the next generation of visionary thinkers, we need to provide transformational and inspirational experiences. Quite frankly, no such happenstance arises out of textbooks.

Efforts like the GYC are the clearest path to an enlightened future for our best and brightest.

Sincerely,

Curtis Muraoka, Co-Director  
WHEAPCS

## testimony

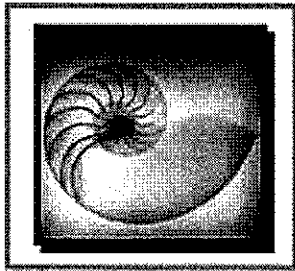
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**From:** Curtis Muraoka [CurtisM@whea.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 10:55 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** HB2045 Testimony

### **Please submit to EDU**

Public hearing at 2:00pm, March14, 2008  
Conference Room 225

### **Two *Letters in Support* follow:**



## West Hawai'i Explorations Academy

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### **Student Letters of Support for the Global Youth Center Initiative (HB2045)**

Letter of Support from **Stephanie Vancil (Grade 10)**  
March 12, 2008

Senate Committee on Education, 2008 Legislative Session  
Public hearing at 2:00pm, March14, 2008  
Conference Room 225

Dear Chairman Sakamoto, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Honorable Committee Members,

Dear Senate Committee on Education

My name is Stephanie Vancil. I am a 10<sup>th</sup> grade student at West Hawaii Explorations Academy. I am writing in support of the Global Youth Center. I think this is a great idea because it will allow youth like me to understand and learn about global issues through a real world experience. It will allow us to discuss and learn about world issues we have never seen first hand. Also, it will give kids from Hawaii the chance to see different cultures throughout the world. I think that this program will allow kids who want to make a difference in the world a chance to do so, which almost never happens the way schools are run now.

I also believe that other countries would benefit from this program, too. I think that their young people will benefit from learning about the United States, and how the United State really wants to help the world. Students from other countries would receive ideas from us on

how they can be involved in solving global issues and improving the situation in their own country.

As a whole I believe that everyone would benefit greatly from this program because both countries would learn about the cultures of other countries in a global setting. I think this program will help to unite nations under one goal: solving global issues. If nations don't work together the issues will never be solved.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Vancil, West Hawaii Explorations Academy

\* \* \* \* \*

Letter of Support from **Ben Perreira (Grade 10)**  
March 12, 2008

Senate Committee on Education, 2008 Legislative Session  
Public hearing at 2:00pm, March 14, 2008  
Conference Room 225

Dear Chairman Sakamoto, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Ben Perreira; I am currently a sophomore attending West Hawaii Explorations Academy. I am writing in support of the Global Youth Center. This program would be a wonderful learning experience for both Hawaii students and the students from other countries. This program will engage students on global issues, and those who want to be involved could potentially make a difference through this program.

With this program both countries will benefit. The countries which will be visited will gain perspectives from kids from Hawaii. In addition, youths in the hosting country will learn about our ideas and views. This program will allow kids to interact with each other, learning about common issues, differing cultures and lifestyles, with both gaining knowledge and different perspectives on current global issues.

Students from Hawaii will also learn about the host countries' cultural views, and also issues affecting that country. This program will not only teach the kids about global issues but also gives the opportunity to experience it. We could then work together to take on issues with both knowledge and experience. With this program the kids may be able to help situations and issues in different countries.

Sincerely,  
Ben Perreira, West Hawaii Explorations Academy

*NOTE: Both students have expressed a strong interest in participating in their senior year.*

--Curtis Muraoka, Co-Director, WHEAPCS

## Testimony

**Sue Berg**

**Ke Ea Hou**

1511 Nu`uanu Avenue

Honolulu, HI 96817

Phone: (808) 282-7011(c)

Email: [susanberg@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:susanberg@hawaii.rr.com)

## Education

### **SENATE COMMITTEE**

**DATE: March 11, 2008**

**TIME: 2:00**

**PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street**

**HB #2045**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008 STATE OF  
HAWAII**



Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2045 for the Hawaii Global Youth Center.

My name is Sue Berg. I testify as Donor Advisor, Ke Ea Hou, a Donor Advised Fund, Hawaii Community Foundation.

The Hawaii Millennium Commission established Ke Ea Hou in 2000 during The State of Hawaii's Millennium Celebration. Ke Ea Hou is new beginning.

One of the primary intents of Ke Ea Hou is the establishment of an International – Intergenerational Center in Hawaii. For the past 2 years, I have served on the volunteer committee providing support for the design and development of the Global Youth Center.

One of our most recent accomplishments is finalization of the Global Youth Center's bylaws. The bylaws clearly state the intents of the organization:

“This corporation (The Hawaii Global Youth Center) has been formed for charitable purposes, to support collaboration between youth from Hawaii and around the world to shape a more peaceful and healthier Earth. The four goals of the corporation support collaboration between Hawaii youth and International youth in order to:

1. Identify and address major global issues
2. Develop and use their leadership potential
3. Interact directly with policy decision makers and public opinion makers
4. Develop and lead partnership projects that positively impact communities and people locally and worldwide.

Thank you for your consideration of this worthy measure and giving Hawaii's young people experiences as part of a global community and to shape global events.

Please contact me by phone: 282-7011 or email:[susanberg@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:susanberg@hawaii.rr.com) if I can be of assistance. A complete copy of GYC's bylaws is available for your review.

Testimony  
by  
**TERESITA G. BERNALES, ED.D.**  
to the

SENATE COMMITTEE on EDUCATION

Chair: Senator Norman Sakamoto

Vice-Chair: Senator Jill N. Tokuda

DATE: March 14, 2008

TIME: 2:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 225

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**In Consideration of**  
**HB2045**  
**toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai'i**  
**(HED/INT)**  
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008, STATE OF  
HAWAII

Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda and members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony in favor of HB # 2045 relating to establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawaii.

I am Teri Bernales, Coordinator for the Global Youth Center Hawaii. I have been involved in this project from the very beginning. My interest in international and global affairs goes a long way back. I came to the United States as an international student and I had experienced first hand the dynamics of living, studying and working in a global environment. My work with youth as a School Counselor for 31 years and my immediate past work with international visitors through the International Visitor Leadership Program of the US Department of State have given me a deep appreciation and understanding of peoples of the world while at the same time promoting mutual understanding and world peace. I truly believe that we can achieve peace and harmony by being engaged in public diplomacy.

Hawaii is definitely the right place for the establishment of the Global Youth Center Hawaii and now is also the right time for it. Hawaii has the potential to be a great instrument of peace being the crossroads of the east and the west. By engaging the youth to be active participants in a variety of ways, we will develop a global population that is ready to meet the challenges of the future in attaining world peace, sustainability and productivity. This Youth Center will develop a truly international framework where youth around the world will actively participate in planning their future. It will offer youth around the world an opportunity to identify what they see as the major global issues to be addressed and will train these future leaders to communicate their concerns more effectively with current policy makers so that they can help shape the debate over issues that will directly affect them. GYC will serve youth in Hawaii as well as a clearinghouse and focal point for Hawaii youth activities concerning global affairs and providing opportunities for Hawaii youth to be more fully engaged in international activities.

The Global Youth Center will work side by side with Hawaii educational, political, business leaders, and experts at the East-West Center, the International Student/Young Pugwash, and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs and will continue involve more local, national and international institutions/ organizations as we go along.

The we thank the House for passage of this bill and we look for the same in the Senate.

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to give my testimony in support of HB # 2045 and I urge you to pass this bill.

Respectfully submitted by:

Teresita G. Bernales, Ed.D.  
Coordinator  
Global Youth Center Hawaii

**Written Testimony  
By Roland Lagareta**

**to the**

**SENATE COMMITTEE on EDUCATION  
Chair Norman Sakamoto  
Vice-Chair Jill N. Tokuda  
and**

**DATE: March 14, 2008**

**TIME: 2:00pm**

**PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street**

**In Consideration of  
HB2045  
toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai'i (HED/INT)**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008, STATE OF HAWAII**

**Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda, members of the Senate Education Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to submit my testimony in favor of HB # 2045 relating to establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawaii.**

**During the course of the last several decades I have enjoyed participating in several programs and initiatives that have focused on encouraging the exchange of cultures between Hawaii and its neighbors in the Asia Pacific region. In the late 1960's and early 1970's I was on the staff of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council ("PAAC"), and today I serve as the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the East-West Center. My belief echoes that of our former Governor Burns, which is that Hawaii strive to be the "hub of the pacific."**

**I believe that HB 2045 is a bill that promotes this concept and furthers this objective.**

**In the past, there have been several programs that have allowed Hawaii's youth to meet and engage youth from other islands and other countries in this region. The East-West Center, sent hundreds of its participants from Asia and the Pacific into Hawaii schools. The concept was that these visitors would share their cultures and perspectives with our young people and communities and we would be able to share**

**Hawaii with them. Hawaii's Department of Education ("DOE") supported these programs wholeheartedly. An example of this support was DOE's encouragement of its teachers to facilitate the integration process between the children from Hawaii and the visitors from abroad. Additionally, the University of Hawaii had several programs that reached into the community such as the Pan-Pacific Education and Communication Experiments by Satellite ("PEACESAT") program, which still does fine work connecting Hawaii and its youth with other young people in the Pacific region. Another example of a program that encouraged the exchange of cultures was the University of Hawaii International Student Office which supported efforts by University of Hawaii students to share their cultures in schools and the community.**

**It is my position that the Global Youth Center will complement and build upon the past and continued success of these programs. Today, it is clear that Hawaii has the unique opportunity of playing an integral role in the continued development of the Asia Pacific region. The growth of the Asian economy and that economy's increased role in the world arena only emphasizes all that Hawaii has to gain from supporting initiatives that encourage the exchange of ideas with our neighbors in this region.**

**At the East West Center, I have been privileged to work with East West Center President Morrison, other national and international members, and the staff of the East-West Center in developing the East-West Center's 2005-2010 Strategic Plan. Among other strategic goals the plan calls for developing "leadership capacity" by providing and encouraging quality education for current and future leaders. This particular strategic goal involved discussions on strengthening the center's involvement with the local community and supporting community efforts to project Hawaii into the Asia Pacific region.**

**The Global Youth Center is an idea that has been in development for several years. It represents the efforts of educators and business leaders from Hawaii and around the world. The establishment of a Global Youth Center in Hawaii is an idea "whose time has come" and I and many other members of the Hawaii and world community look forward to working together in the development and growth of this idea.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB # 2045.**

**testimony**

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**From:** R. Don Peel [harmonyolympics@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 9:16 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Senate Committee on Education HB2045 (revised-duplicate attached)  
**Attachments:** HB2045DonHE.doc

Testimony  
by  
**R. Don Peel, P.Geol. MSc.**  
to the

**SENATE COMMITTEE on EDUCATION**

**Chair: Senator Norman Sakamoto**

**Vice-Chair: Senator Jill N. Tokuda**

**DATE: March 14, 2008**

**TIME: 2:00pm**

**PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street**

**In Consideration of  
HB2045  
toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai'i**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008, STATE OF HAWAII**

Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda and members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony in favor of HB # 2045 relating to establishing a Global Youth Center, within and in collaboration with the University of Hawaii. We are grateful to the East-West Center for providing the location and environment for its development.

**As an earth scientist (geologist) I have been studying the field of "sustainable development" for over eight years, towards a Masters degree (University of Alberta) and now a doctoral degree (graduating 2010) through the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Hawai'i (UH), Mānoa, as an East-West Center Student Affiliate.**

The research has led me to the conclusion our youth are an important component to formulate the answers to the issues the World is now facing. Those answers will be expressed if we can induce the youths' participation by incorporating "transformative learning" into our educational institutions. The concept of the Hawaii's GYC, holds much promise to be a "change agent" for this much needed learning paradigm, and can tap into the progress the EWC's *Education Leadership Institute* has been generating through the *International Forum for Education 2020*. The GYC initiative also comes at a time of urgency as indicated by the Worldwatch Institute and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

In support of this initiative I am willing to tailor my doctoral studies towards the initiation of the GYC, so I can follow and assist the process wherever possible.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Don Peel, P.Geol., MSc.  
*Sustainable Development Researcher and Practitioner*

*(from the Global Youth Center by-laws: Intent and details relevant to legislation)*

SECTION 1. World peace is a major collaborative goal and youth are the key to attaining world peace, environmental sustainability and human health and well being for future generations. Hawaii's location at the center of the Pacific rim region between Asia and the Americas, its diverse culture, and its many shared languages provide an excellent strategic forum for meetings and exchanges, as demonstrated by the Millennium Youth People's Congress that was held in Hawaii in October, 1999.

This act is consistent with the vision to effectively address our global society threats from international conflict and violence, as well as social, economic, and environmental problems that put human security at increasing risk. New tools and methods need to be developed within an interdisciplinary framework in order to actively search for and realize sustainable and equitable solutions. To this end, the people of the world, particularly the youth, must learn to think and act collaboratively in new ways.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a Global Youth Center in Hawaii within and in collaboration with the University of Hawaii.

SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part IV, subpart M, to be appropriately designated to read as follows:

**"SS304A- Global Youth Center; establishment.** (a) There is established a Global Youth Center within and in collaboration with the University of Hawaii. This Global Youth Center is established for educational purposes, to support collaboration linking Hawaii youth with people around the world, working together to discover creative ways to develop our global future, and help shape a more peaceful and healthier Earth.

(b) The Global Youth Center shall support collaboration between Hawaii and International youth

in order to empower them to accomplish the following four goals:

(1) Identify and address major global issues

(2) Develop and use their leadership potential worldwide

(3) Interact directly with policy decision makers and public opinion makers

(4) Develop and lead partnership projects that positively impact communities and people locally and world-wide.

(c) For purposes of subsections (a) and (b), the Global Youth Center shall collaborate with Hawaii's leaders in education, politics, business and appropriate international organizations."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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**Important Background:**

Whereas, Hawai'i is noted for its strategic location from both the military and educational perspectives; the East West Center was placed here on that merit; the author James Michener wrote of Hawai'i as "*no place on earth that even began to compete with these islands in their capacity to encourage natural life to develop and radically up to its own potential best*";

Whereas, being a researcher of sustainable development, Hawai'i offers the best living laboratory of a paradise that appears to be reaching its visible carrying capacity; in other words an observable small scale Earth;

Whereas, I was also participated in the Global Youth Assembly (UNESCO) project in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in 2007 where over 600 international youth gathered to provide a "speak out" on global issues; the proceedings of which are being incorporated into Alberta's primary school curriculum;

Whereas, Hawaiian indigenous population are well on the road to empowerment through the expanding UH Hawaiian Studies program thus offering a collaborative approach by contributing towards the transformational educational shift; and Agenda 21 recognizes the need for the integration of "traditional knowledge" (sensitive to intellectual property rights) into sustainable development practices;

Whereas, the GYC initiative dovetails with international trends as the United Nations has concluded a change in our learning will improve the quality of our life and "Education is a motor for change" (UNESCO, 2005); therefore the United Nations launched the "UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development "C 2005-2014" and developed an International Implementation Scheme (IIS) for the decade; as with most United Nations initiatives the draft IIS was a result of extensive consultation, and the information can offer guidance to such an endeavour;

These factors are only a part of a much larger trend that the GYC can capitalize on and I hope my research of these developments will contribute to the success of the timely initiative.

--

R. Don Peel, P.Geol. Urban and Regional Planning PhD program, University of Hawai'i  
Sustainable Development Practitioner/Researcher  
Phone (808) 944-7339



Hale Manoa Representative,  
East-West Center Participants Association  
1711 East-West Road, #844  
University of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, HI 96848  
alternative email: [rpeel@hawaii.edu](mailto:rpeel@hawaii.edu)

vision: [www.harmonyolympics.com](http://www.harmonyolympics.com)

## **REFORD - McCANDLESS INTERNATIONAL**

RR 1, LaHave, Nova Scotia, Canada BOR 1C0  
Tel: (902) 688-1161; Fax: (902) 688-1149 Email: mcreford@ns.sympatico.ca

**In Hawaii until April 27, 2008:** 204 Kapahulu Ave. #101 Honolulu, HI 96815  
Tel: (808) 922-1423 Email: mcreford@yahoo.com

Testimony  
by  
**STEPHANIE MCCANDLESS REFORD**  
to the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE on EDUCATION**  
Chair: Senator Norman Sakamoto  
Vice-Chair: Senator Jill N. Tokuda  
DATE: March 14, 2008  
TIME: 2:00pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**In Consideration of**  
**HB2045**  
**toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai`i**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008, STATE OF HAWAII**

Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda and members of the Senate Committee on Education, my great thanks for this opportunity to testify before you to strongly endorse HB 2045 establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawaii, within and in collaboration with the University of Hawaii. We are grateful to the East-West Center for providing the location and environment for its development.

**As you know, swift passage of Bill HB 2045 into Hawaii law will not require any funds, but it offers three important benefits to leaders of today and tomorrow – and to the future of Hawaii.**

**First, Bill HB 2045 creates an opportunity for our Hawaii Global Youth Center to be the Pacific focal point for a new global youth initiative recently launched by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon himself — and to increase recognition for the ability of many of the best minds in Hawaii to help youth to tackle the most pressing global issues of the day, including poverty, illiteracy and the environment. Let me explain ...**

In just the past months, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched his own youth initiative: A Global Youth Center at the United Nations. The recently released UN World Youth Report, 2007, compiled by UN Youth Focal Point, Patience Stephens, gives vivid testimony to the progress and challenges facing youth today.

Patience Stephens and her UN Global Youth Initiative colleagues are the key. It is our hope to make our Hawaii Global Youth Center (GYC) their presence in the Pacific and the world. The goals and purposes they have stated (see link <http://www.un-gaid.org/en/node/589> ) are so consistent with our own that we — and they — can only benefit by working together to achieve them.

The UN Secretary-General's new Youth Initiative calls for our investment in the best thinking of the young people around the world. Already, the GYC in Hawaii has begun providing this in collaboration with the International Student/Young Pugwash (ISYP) leadership and other groups, such as Peace Child with its World Youth Congress. We have the incentive and the means within the GYC, here in Hawaii, for the world's finest young minds to deal with the world's greatest problems: poverty, health issues, illiteracy and the environment. This would fulfill the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a leadership that the UN supports.

This is why a strong message from our State Legislature supporting the Global Youth Center in Hawaii law is vital to achieving this end. We must speak with one voice to bring about the fulfillment of Hawaii's leadership role for young people in the world. This Hawaii Global Youth Center is an initiative of leaders in our Legislature. Its early enthusiastic passage deserves our strongest priority.

**The second important reason why this Bill should be swiftly passed is that it is the culmination of extensive work here in Hawaii to launch the GYC — and by others in countries around the globe who share our belief that Hawaii is the perfect place to host such an important new “global” organization that promotes ideas and leadership.**

My experience with the roots of the GYC goes back to the 1960s when, as a Punahou Academy history teacher and then as Executive Director of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), I was privileged to deal with an impressive legacy of experience in international education in Hawaii.

The vision initiating a Global Youth Center in Hawaii has grown to project an even greater potential for the State of Hawaii, and for the youth of Hawaii and the world. In the years that we have been preparing to establish this Global Youth Center, its potential and magnitude have grown to exceed even the original vision. The reasons are well-developed in the early legislation: HCR 153, HCR 151, and now HB 2045, as well as in supporting testimony. Hawaii is a perfect place to house such potential: Hawaii's ideal positioning in the Pacific; our multi-cultural diversity and history; the global

need for Hawaii's unique contribution — no need to elaborate further. What is clear today is that the readiness is now. It is time for launching, time for lift-off. The United Nations has seen this importance. Our vision must not be caught wanting.

The foundation and superstructure of this Center have been well-defined, developed, and thorough, over many years — almost totally by volunteer service. It is more than ready for the resources now available. This represents considerable work and endorsements from the United Nations, from thinkers and doers from all over the world — the United States, Canada, Mexico, (Pacific Rim countries too), the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Europe, from younger people and senior professionals, from individuals and well-respected organizations — all people of skill and vision (see *GYC Family Tree* attached). **All eyes are on Hawaii.** The time is right to move forward.

Governor Linda Lingle puts it powerfully. She speaks of the importance of transcending Hawaii's land and tourist-based economy to develop a new base of intellect and ideas. **The Hawaii Global Youth Center should become the single, most dynamic vehicle for coming of age in the 21st Century.** As Governor Lingle said in her 2006 Inaugural remarks: *"Our shared vision for the future is an assurance that there will always be a place here at home for our young people when they are ready to build their own lives, and that they will be a part of finding solutions to the challenges that lie ahead."*

**The third and final reason why we strongly endorse the passage of HB 2045 to establish a Global Youth Center is that it has the potential to influence the lives of every high school and university student here in Hawaii — and tens of thousands more around the globe — who want to train and prepare for leadership in dealing with truly global issues. This is perhaps the most important reason for urgency.**

Our traditional treatment of young people has been to care for them, nurture, educate and train them, and then to trivialize their role in our society. However, in 1970, United Nations Under-Secretary-General Simeon O. Adebó brought to his United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) a means to apply Hawaii's successful approach to creating youth leaders (the programs of PAAC) to developing nations. I joined his UNITAR staff in New York with this direct assignment. He found, instead of receptivity at the United Nations, roadblocks of traditional disdain for the role of youth: *"What have we to do with children? This is a serious and respectable Institute"*, so I was relegated to developing training programs for baby diplomats, new delegates coming to the United Nations for the first time. I couldn't help recalling the wisdom of Elizabeth Barrett Browning,

*"Earth's crammed with heaven,  
And every common bush afire with God;  
But only he who sees takes off his shoes;*

*The rest sit 'round it and pluck blackberries."*

The tsunami of December 2005 made the reality of global citizenship apparent to every child, man and woman on this planet with the knowledge, for the first time in history, that they are global citizens. There was an outpouring of compassion, an agony of shared response, and an eagerness to help, from all over the world. It unleashed unprecedented wealth from unimaginable sources from everywhere, from all generations, and these resources remain. There are still serious lessons in management and distribution to be learned, but we cannot afford to miss this potential for our Hawaii Global Youth Center.

The Hawaii GYC will develop for youth, both in Hawaii and globally, a Center that will give our young people the means and incentive to take their place in the world, not only later when they are educated to do so, but now when many generations can benefit from their insights from new ways of thinking — from the different ways they see the world from the ways in which we do. Never in history has it been more important to develop new ways of thinking, of doing everything to save humanity and the planet from the imminent threats of nuclear suicide, the entrapment terrorism and environmental degradation. We need the new thinking of our young people now. The call of this century is expressed in the mandate of the Russell-Einstein Manifesto of 1955: "*We have to learn to think in a new way.*" and "*Remember your humanity, and forget the rest.*"

How do we do that? How do we escape the perceptions that lock us into the fear of terrorism and the realities of nuclear proliferation, and provide for real environmental sustainability? We need all the help we can get. How can we create the opportunities for our youth to unlock their potential and encourage their contributions to our mutual future now? The Hawaii Global Youth Center presents the groundwork for this new hope, not only for youth in Hawaii, but, by invitation, from members of their generations all over the world. There are tremendous efforts taking place today that would provide great partnerships within our Global Youth Center. They would give us the mandate and imperative for seeking funding that is equal to the challenge. Thousands of small efforts, related but unconnected, can be gathered in the embrace of our Global Youth Center, providing a basis for funding that is worthy of the effort required. There are mega-foundations and funds seeking projects of the magnitude we propose. We are faced with global challenges. In the Global Youth Center lies the vision that is seeking responses of global magnitude.

It is time to launch. This Bill **HB 2045** presently before the 24th State Legislature is presented for action now. All the ingredients are ready, and so are we! We support this Bill and ask for its immediate passage without reservations.

What an honor it has been for me to work with this vision since the 1960s and now to be welcomed home to Hawaii to see this fulfillment take place.

Greatest thanks to Hawaii for the privilege of gathering support for Hawaii's Global Youth Center from around the world: from the United Nations, the United States, Canada, Mexico, (Pacific Rim countries too), the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Europe. We look forward to working with youth at all economic levels, both locally and globally, in realizing the benefits of Hawaii's Global Youth Center. Bravo for this incentive, Hawaii — and IMUA.

Respectfully submitted,

*Stephanie McCandless Reford*  
*Co-founder, Global Youth Center*

*(from the Global Youth Center by-laws: Intent and details relevant to legislation)*

SECTION 1. World peace is a major collaborative goal and youth are the key to attaining world peace, environmental sustainability and human health and well being for future generations. Hawaii's location at the center of the Pacific rim region between Asia and the Americas, its diverse culture, and its many shared languages provide an excellent strategic forum for meetings and exchanges, as demonstrated by the Millennium Youth People's Congress that was held in Hawaii in October, 1999.

This act is consistent with the vision to effectively address our global society threats from international conflict and violence, as well as social, economic, and environmental problems that put human security at increasing risk. New tools and methods need to be developed within an interdisciplinary framework in order to actively search for and realize sustainable and equitable solutions. To this end, the people of the world, particularly the youth, must learn to think and act collaboratively in new ways.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a Global Youth Center in Hawaii within and in collaboration with the University of Hawaii.

SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part IV, subpart M, to be appropriately designated to read as follows:

**“SS304A- Global Youth Center; establishment. (a) There is established a Global Youth Center within and in collaboration with the University of Hawaii. This Global Youth Center is established for educational purposes, to support collaboration linking Hawaii youth with people around the world, working together to discover creative ways to develop our global future, and help shape a more peaceful and healthier Earth.**

**(b) The Global Youth Center shall support collaboration between Hawaii and International youth in order to empower them to accomplish the following four goals:**

**(1) Identify and address major global issues**

**(2) Develop and use their leadership potential worldwide**

**(3) Interact directly with policy decision makers and public opinion makers**

**(4) Develop and lead partnership projects that positively impact communities and people locally and world-wide.**

**(c) For purposes of subsections (a) and (b), the Global Youth Center shall collaborate with Hawaii's leaders in education, politics, business and appropriate international organizations.”**

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

## **Important Background:**

This Global Youth Center for Hawaii is the outcome of years of local effort and tradition. In 1887, King David Kalakaua knew that a modern Hawaii would need leaders to take its place among the nations of the world. He initiated a youth leadership education program to provide opportunities for future leaders to study abroad.

In the 1930s, the forerunner of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) began international education activities in Hawaii's high schools. I was privileged to continue these in the 1960s as PAAC's Executive Director. In 1970, my work at the United Nations' Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) only sharpened the clear perception of the need to build on Hawaii's experience to benefit the world's young people. The outgrowth of Hawaii's PAAC experience in Canada, called "INTRODUCING: THE WORLD", provides an excellent prototype and model for the Hawaii GYC, as well as potential software for worldwide projects like Nicholas Negroponte's One Laptop per Child (OLPC) — a proposed Space Camp for Hawaii, ongoing dialogue, and exploration across continents and cultures among young people and mentors all over the world. Today, the alumni of both PAAC and the Canadian experience that grew out of it advise us on the development of the GYC and want to be part of it. These alumni of all ages are people whose lives have been changed by their experience and these opportunities. Dr. Jeffrey Boutwell, Executive Director, International Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs (Nobel Peace Prize 1995) came to Hawaii in 2007 to help launch the proposals that will put this Global Youth Center into being.

When you read the work contributed by Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra, Chairman International Student/Young Pugwash (ISYP), Dr. Jeffrey Boutwell, my own records and those of local leaders, you will see how this experience developed. You'll also find inspiring achievement. See its history in the Summary and Talking Points presented to Hawaii's Legislature last year. This project was launched by the Hawaii Legislature after experience with the Millennium Youth Congress in 1999 and because of the vision of its leaders: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Representatives Dennis Arakaki and Helene Hale and now Representatives John Mizuno and Rida Cabanilla. I was invited to join them as they launched HCR 153 and 151 bringing this into being. The Volunteer Committee that grew out of those early hearings in 2003 has already contributed valuable thought, dedication and hours of effort. Just since the last session of the Legislature, they have formed themselves into a Board with Roland Lagareta, President, Sister Joan Chatfield, Treasurer, and Teresita Bernales, Co-ordinator. During these past months, this Board, along with volunteer specialists, created and approved the mission statement, by-laws, registrations and procedures for moving forward. In 2007, the Bill presenting the Global Youth Center successfully passed every committee of the House and Senate that heard it.

However, that Bill now remains in the final Conference Committee without having been cleared by that Committee. It remains there today, waiting for passage, with the powerful testimony that caused it to clear all the committees that heard it. The present Bill, HB 2045 asks the support of the Legislature in Hawaii law without reservation and without asking for funds to make clear Hawaii's support of this vision and to enable it to move forward internationally.



Testimony  
by  
**John H. Southworth**  
to the

SENATE COMMITTEE on EDUCATION  
Chair: Senator Norman Sakamoto  
Vice-Chair: Senator Jill N. Tokuda  
DATE: March 14, 2008  
TIME: 2:00pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**In Consideration of  
HB2045  
toward establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawai'i**

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008, STATE OF  
HAWAII

Chair Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda and members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony in favor of HB # 2045 relating to establishing a Global Youth Center in Hawaii.

It is my pleasure to add words of support to HB 2045 relating to the establishment of the Hawaii Global Youth Center. My interest goes back to the 1960's when Stephanie MacCandless Reford, was a Punahou Academy history teacher and Executive Director of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC). At that time I had recently returned from service in the U.S. Peace Corps in Malaysia and was beginning my graduate study in Oceanography at the University of Hawaii.

My association with global awareness had been not only my time in the Peace Corps but also having worked as a volunteer with the American Field Service International, Intercultural Programs. AFS, starting as a volunteer ambulance service in the First World War, has successfully provided international study and work experiences for thousands of young people and teachers. AFS, like other organizations, could

provide in collaboration with the Global Youth Center real-life, international experiences for young people.

It is with that in mind, I share information about AFS and other groups that could provide substantive programming opportunities for GYC.

GYC Hawaii is a non-profit organization that supports youth to help shape a better world through collaboration between young people from Hawaii and youth from around the world to take responsibility in addressing issues for a more peaceful world and a healthier Earth.

Collaboration between Hawaii youth and international youth will:

- 1) Help youth play a more active role in dealing with the issues they identify as major global issues.
- 2) Create opportunities for young people to learn about their leadership potential.
- 3) Give them chances to interact with current policy and decision makers.
- 4) Build youth-led projects that make deep, positive impacts on communities across the world.

Theme: Introduction to Distance Learning - Enrichment: DL-E

The Curriculum Research & Development Group (CRDG) in the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i is unique among educational research and development centers. With nearly 40 years of commitment to quality education. CRDG brings together teams of classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, educational designers, content scholars, editors, evaluators, media specialists, publishers, and staff developers to research and create innovative and effective solutions to today's educational problems. Expert teams draw upon their own experience as well as the relevant research and expertise of others to create effective, award winning programs for grades K-12. Distance Learning – Enrichment (DL-E). Electronic Field Trips provide global classroom experiences and were perfected at the University Laboratory School in the 1980s. Electronic Field Trips programming can provide international communication experiences for GYC activities.

Theme: Phi Delta Kappa International - Professional Association for Educators

Phi Delta Kappa's membership of 60,000 educators, many participating in local chapters, are dedicated to research, service, and leadership as we advocate for public education, a high quality teacher for the future, and ultimately a global educated citizenry. As PDK embarks on its second 100 years serving educators around the world, a priority goal set by the Board was to focus our efforts on the next generation of educators. In addition to the many services and benefits of PDK membership, PDK is deeply interested in establishing Future Educator Association (FEA) programs in urban and rural middle - high schools and higher education institutions leading into programs in colleges of education and teacher training. PDK is seeking to develop partnerships with schools and districts, colleges of education, education associations and all like minded educators, to achieve our goals. PDK - the experts in cultivating great teachers for tomorrow and ensuring high quality educators for today. Partnering with PDK FEA chapters would

provide future teachers with greater awareness of and sensitivity to global studies that could be complemented by collaboration with GYC..

Theme: Knowledge Sharing

The International Holistic Tourism Education Centre - IHTEC and its flagship program International School Peace Gardens teach Peace Education. IHTEC has developed inter-cultural teaching modules for global understanding. The peace garden supports ecological integrity by planting local bio-diversity; societal integrity; and the use of Friendship Benches for conflict resolution. It also furthers individual and community duties and values on issues and concerns to ensure sustainability of the global commons, such as water, oceans, and species loss. IHTEC has ECOSOC special status at the United Nations and is involved with Teacher Training globally using web conferencing. This includes attending meetings, speaking engagements at video conferences; dedicating peace gardens; holding Educational Round Tables with scientists and Governments using web conferencing. IHTEC has a YouTube site and is continuing to develop ideas for solving Climate Change issues. These resources could enrich GYC programming.

Theme: AsiaPacific Ed Program for Schools: Opportunities for International Experiences for Teachers and Students

East-West Center's AsiaPacificEd Program helps elementary and secondary school teachers prepare young people—our future leaders—to become global citizens, and prepares Americans to engage with the Asia Pacific region as it becomes increasingly important to the world's economy and strategic interests. The program, which ultimately aims to give students the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in today's global society:

**Provides** primary and secondary school educators in the United States with firsthand experience in and exposure to Asia and the Pacific region and challenges them to expand their own learning and teaching styles.

**Involves** an international community of educators through workshops and school visits to share “best practices” in education that will enrich and enhance all students' learning.

**Prepares** students and teachers to work collaboratively with their peers nationally and internationally, developing connections that give them a global perspective in their teaching and learning.

**Engages** the entire school community during international teacher and student visits, providing a common experience that fosters cross-cultural understanding and a greater awareness of and appreciation for our similarities and interdependence.

**Supports** teachers and schools with hands-on experiential programs, high-quality resources, and unsurpassed networks, which help schools to globalize their curriculum.

Theme: Charter Schools and International Collaboration

In Hawaii charter schools are established through the approval of a “chartering” document: the Detailed Implementation Plan. Connections Public Charter School, in Hilo, Hawaii, was founded with the following vision and mission:

Vision - To establish and sustain a community, business, and learning ‘ohana (family). Within this framework, inquiry and project-based curricula will stress independent

thinking, development of the individual's mind and talents, cooperative learning, sense of self within the neighborhood and the world-wide community with particular attention to the precious and unique environment of Hawaii, both as an island ecology and a place where ethnic diversity is the norm.

Mission - Our mission is to create an 'ohana which is conducive to the recognition and development of individual talents. Thematic and experiential learning experiences are provided which focus on how students construct knowledge using creative and critical thinking. A forum for the development of the ability to recognize and differentiate a quality result or product is offered. Classroom experiences are connected to real life experiences so that students can grow in the understanding of themselves in relation to their community and the world.

Theme: - English as a Foreign Language and Vietnamese English Teaching

Mr. Bao M. Le, a teacher of English from Vietnam. At the University of Hawaii at Manoa he earned the Education Master degree in Curriculum Studies (EDCS) in May 2007. One of his strong professional interests is integrating educational technology into teaching English as a Foreign Language (EFL) for high schools in Vietnam. He created a professional development website that helps his colleagues including EFL teachers and EFL leaders use computers and the Internet into teaching English in an effective way. Bao represents the best in youth from countries we sorely need to develop closer times and understanding. Support for such grassroots efforts could be a meaningful project for GYCH.

Theme: AFS Vision for the Year 2010

AFS Intercultural Programs AFS Statement of Purpose AFS is an international, voluntary, non-governmental, non-profit organization that provides intercultural learning opportunities to help people develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to create a more just and peaceful world. The Core Values and Attributes of AFS AFS enables people to act as responsible global citizens working for peace and understanding in a diverse world. It acknowledges that peace is a dynamic concept threatened by injustice, inequity and intolerance. AFS seeks to affirm faith in the dignity and worth of every human being and of all nations and cultures. It encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language, religion or social status. AFS activities are based on our core values of dignity, respect for differences, harmony, sensitivity and tolerance. Programs like AFS make possible international student and living experiences for GYCH participants.

These are just a small number of organizations and programs which could provide collaborative programming with the GYCH. My hope is they will, indeed with GYCH becoming officially recognized and supported, have that chance to benefit from and contribute to the important task of preparing our youth for study, life and work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Southworth, Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Malaysia

## testimony

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**From:** Helene Hale [helenehale@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 12:44 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Cc:** Teresita Bernales  
**Subject:** HB2045 testimony

Dear Chair Senator Norman Sakamoto and Vice Chair Senator Jill N. Tokuda  
Thank you for allowing me to send you my testimony on H.B. 2045. I am in favor of this bill and request that you pass it.

Aloha,  
Helene Hale

I wish I could get to your public hearing on HB2045 on 3/14/08, but I am not able to get back to the legislature. As a former legislator and the Chair of the International Affairs Committee I am still involved with the HCR151 HD1 to promote the Global Yourth Center. Your Committee supported it then. As a retired volunteer my main focus has been to continue to work for peace.

Back in 1999 it was through the efforts of former Representative Dennis Arakaki and Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland the first World Youth Conference was held in Honolulu. Their theme was "BE THE CHANGE" and it attracted almost 1000 young people from all over the world, determined to prepare themselves to lead a safer, secure and peaceful world. It started a program that was carried on through the 2nd World Youth Conference in the Kingdom of Morocco and in 2005, the 3rd World Youth Conference in Scotland, both at which I was fortunate to be an observer. I was so proud to represent Hawaii because I have always believed that Hawaii should lead the world to a more peaceful world.

As we approach the election of 2008, hopefully we can finally get rid of the Bush disastrous government. This is an oportune time for Hawaii to lead the nation to finally train our youth to be the leaders in a more peaceful world.

I urge you to continue the work of former Dennis Arakiki and Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland that started a youth world movement that is still trying to carry on their work.

Because of the interest in this idea, the East West Center has been a temporary office, manned by volunteer workers, but this bill would help put the State of Hawaii on record to lead the nation for a more peaceful world.

Aloha,  
Helene H. Hale