



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 22, 2008

Honorable Members of the Senate & House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators and Representatives:

Among the many issues before you this session is legislation that settles longstanding issues for Native Hawaiians. SB 2733 and HB 2701 would resolve outstanding claims to past due revenue for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) from ceded lands.

As one of the five enumerated uses of the ceded land trust, all agree that the state has a legal obligation to Native Hawaiians as described in the Hawai'i Constitution, the Admissions Act, and various laws adopted by the State Legislature. How this obligation should be carried out has remained a complex and unresolved issue.

The State of Hawaii has been struggling with ceded land issues since I was first elected to the State Legislature more than three decades ago. Back then, the Legislature approved what would eventually become Act 273 quantifying OHA's pro rata share of revenue from the Public Land Trust at 20 percent. This act passed almost 30 years ago. Now, the State of Hawaii is moving toward paying the debt it has incurred since then.

This settlement on back payment took more than four years of intense negotiation and mediation between the state Attorney General and OHA. It is a real opportunity to close an unsettled chapter and enable all those involved to make progress on other fronts.

I wholeheartedly support a thorough and judicious consideration of SB 2733 and HB 2701. Giving this issue the serious time and attention it deserves is a large step toward reconciling Hawaii's past. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha -

  
Neil Abercrombie  
Member of Congress

ORIGINATED FROM:

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# HPACH

919 4th Street  
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

012

February 23, 2008

Representative Ken Ito, Chair  
Representative Jon R. Karamatsu, Vice Chair  
And Committee Members On Water, Land And Ocean  
Resources And Hawaiian Affairs  
Representative Tommy Waters, Chair  
Representative Blake K. Oshiro, Vice Chair  
And Committee Members on Judiciary  
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair  
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair  
And Committee Members On Finance  
House of Representatives, The Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2008, State of Hawaii

Subject: HB 266 HD 1, Relating To Hawaiian Affairs,  
"SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS"

ALOHA Kakou,

My name is Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney. As Sovereign of the Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii, I "SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS" the passage of HB 266 HD 1.

Mahalo nui to the writers of this Bill for the removal of the use of terms such as "settlement and "claims" based on the recent Hawaii Supreme Court ruling based on the findings of the Apology Resolution, Public Law 103-150. This is a move in the right direction for "Justice For Hawaiians."

I recommend the following amendments to HB 266 HD 1,

Section 4 of article XII of the Hawaii Constitution definition of the Public Land Trust is incomplete. HB 266 HD 1 should define and include all lands that were ceded to the United States by the Republic Of Hawaii under the Joint Resolution of Annexation of July 7, 1898. Reflecting also the recent Hawaii Supreme Court ruling based on the Apology Resolution, Public Law 103-150. Section 5 of article XII of the Hawaii Constitution does not reflect the present change to the elections of the OHA Trustees. No longer are the

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OHA Board of Trustees elected by qualified voters who are Hawaiians. No longer are the OHA Board members are Hawaiians. All qualified members of the general community of Hawaii are allowed to run and vote for the OHA Board of Trustees. HB 266 HD 1 should reflect the present change that has been made in the election of the OHA Trustees.

Now if I am I like to get into the real "pilikia" that I have with HB 266 HD 1. The definition of native Hawaiian in the State Constitution and the Hawaii Admission Act defines native Hawaiian as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. These are the supreme laws of the State of Hawaii that protects the constitutional rights of native Hawaiians as recognized by the Congress of the United States.

HB 266 HD 1 Section 3 amends Section 10-13.5 Use of Public Land Trust Proceeds. Amends and abridges the lawful constitutional rights of the native Hawaiians.

I'm not a native Hawaiian as defined by the Constitution of Hawaii, the State Admission Act and the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. I am of Hawaiian, Portuguese, Irish, Scotch and English ancestries.

Among the native indigenous Kanaka Maoli people of today's Hawaii, it is the native Hawaiian trust beneficiaries of the State of Hawaii, the State Admission Act and the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act who are the "Dying Race" of our people. It is a well known fact that by the end of this century, there will no longer be any native Hawaiian of the purest blood line of the First Nation's People of Hawaii.

It is for this reason and only this reason that I "Strongly Oppose" to all amendments in HB 266 HD 1 that threatens and diminishes the State's Constitutional trust obligation to native Hawaiians!

Now to the issue that effects all of us. I "Strongly Support" that the Back Rent Due payment be "Paid In Full" to OHA. I strongly believe with my understanding of the history surrounding the Ceded Lands that the Back Rent

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Due payment should begin with at least 2 Billion Dollars!

2 Billion Dollars that rightfully belongs to the native Hawaiian beneficiaries of the State of Hawaii. Take care of the native Hawaiians and all of Hawaii will be a better place for all of us to live and call home.

I live in the Waianae Coast for the past three years. The Waianae Coast is the largest native Hawaiian community in the world. Not only on this island, in this State or in the United States, but in the world. I view the Waianae Coast as the last "homeland stand" for our Kanaka Maoli people. We the Kanaka Maoli can not afford to have the Waianae Coast become the Second Waikiki.


I "Strongly OPPOSE" the use of Ceded Lands as a political method of paying native Hawaiians what rightfully belongs to them in law. Do not use "Hawaiian Lands" to pay off the debt of the State of Hawaii. Especially for the past 30 years of commingling of the Public Land Trust and its revenues by the Executive Branch, past and present!. Simply comply with the present law! As the Hawaii Supreme Court recently said, Public Law 103-150 is law and should be obeyed! Obey the law and avoid any future law suits.

The present language of HB 266 HD 1 surely invites future law suits against the State for its violation of it's trust obligation to the native Hawaiian people of Hawaii and the United States.

Once more HPACH "SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS" the passage of HB 266 HD 1. Which simply means no amendments, I withdraw my support for this Bill.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to present testimony on this important Bill.

ALOHA KUU AINA HAWAII

  
Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney, SOVEREIGN  
Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii  
Email: [HLAHAWAII@aol.com](mailto:HLAHAWAII@aol.com)

030

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

C

**This person has signed up to testify.  
No written comments were submitted.**

First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

MANUEL KULOLOIO

Organization:  
(if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact:  
(phone or email) \_\_\_\_\_

330-2896

031

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

**This person has signed up to testify.  
No written comments were submitted.**

S

First & Last Name: Maunani Apoliona

Organization:  
(if applicable) DHA

Contact:  
(phone or email) 594-1886

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO. 0030  
ST. TIME 02/22 14:18  
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ERROR 95868474

Amended 2/22/08  
2:15 p.m

**TESTIMONY BY**  
**JODILYN OGAWA**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Auditorium**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Jodilyn Ogawa**  
**94-1043 Halepili Street**  
**Waipahoehoe, HI 96707**

Amended 2/22/08

2:15 p.m

**TESTIMONY BY**

**JODILYN OGAWA**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING  
HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Auditorium**

**State Capitol**

**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Jodilyn Ogawa  
94-1043 Halepili Street  
Waipahu, Hi 96797**



**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**  
**HOUSE BILL 266, HD1**  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
**Joint Committees on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs**  
**Judiciary and Finance**  
**February 23, 2008**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**State Capitol Auditorium**

Aloha Chairmen Ito, Waters, and Oshiro, and members of the House Committees. I appreciate this opportunity to present testimony supporting House Bill 266 HD1.

My name is Jodilyn Ogawa. My mother is 3/4ths Hawaiian and I am grateful that I am Hawaiian. Excepting my going away to California for college, I have lived on `O`ahu all of my life.

We are grateful that we have an organization which acts as an advocate for our Hawaiian people. I have a degree in Business. One does not need a degree in business to know that it takes money to support enterprises, business ventures, education, legal concerns, and to own property.

House Bill 266, HD1 allows the State to meet its constitutional obligations to native Hawaiians by transferring cash and certain parcels of real property to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs needs a land base for business purposes. Revenues is needed to assist OHA to better the lives of the Hawaiian people – a mission which OHA pursued since its establishment in 1978 as mandated by the State Constitution. I believe that OHA is in the best position to move forward with their mission to create economic opportunities for our people and to leave a legacy for future generation to have a better life.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask that your committees pass and support HB266, HD 1.

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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ST. TIME 02/22 13:47  
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**TESTIMONY BY**

**JODILYN OGAWA**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING  
HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Auditorium**

**State Capitol**

**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Jodilyn Ogawa  
94-1043 Halepili Street  
Waipahu, Hi 96797**

**TESTIMONY BY**

**JODILYN OGAWA**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING  
HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008  
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State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Jodilyn Ogawa  
94-1043 Halepili Street  
Waipahu, Hi 96797**

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**

**HOUSE BILL 266, HD1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Joint Committees on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs**

**Judiciary and Finance**

**February 23, 2008**

**9:00 a.m.**

**State Capitol Auditorium**

Aloha Chairmen Ito, Waters, and Oshiro, and members of the House Committees. I appreciate this opportunity to present testimony supporting House Bill 266 HD1.

My name is Jodilyn Ogawa. Excepting my going away to California for college, I have lived on `O`ahu all of my life.

We are grateful that we have an organization which acts as an advocate for our Hawaiian people. I have a degree in Business. One does not need a degree in business to know that it takes money to support enterprises, business ventures, education, legal concerns, and to own property.

House Bill 266, HD1 allows the State to meet its constitutional obligations to native Hawaiians by transferring cash and certain parcels of real property to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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For these reasons, I respectfully ask that your committees pass and support HB266, HD 1.

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO. 0012  
ST. TIME 02/21 18:44  
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ERROR 95868474

Resent 2/21/08 6:43pm  
Amended

**TESTIMONY BY**

**KYLENE PUALEIHIWAWAHMAILANI BARGAMENTO KANANA**

**Student  
UH Hilo**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING  
HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Auditorium**

**State Capitol**

**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

Resent 2/21/08 6:43pm  
Amended

**TESTIMONY BY**

**KYLENE PUALEIHIWAHIWAMAILANI BARGAMENTO KANANA**  
Student  
UH Hilo

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
HB266, HD 1

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
9:00 A.M.  
Auditorium  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**

**HOUSE BILL 266, HD1  
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Joint committees on Water, Land, ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs  
Judiciary and Finance  
February 23, 2008  
9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol Auditorium**

My name is Kylene Pualeihiwahiwamailani Bargamento Kanana and I am more than half-Hawaiian. I am presently a student in the College of Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawai`i, Hilo campus.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Governor Linda Lingle is doing the right thing for the current and future generation of students like me who are seeking higher education and a better way of life.

There is a need for a native Hawaiian government to claim compensation and the return of the lands that were taken by the United States and transferred to the state after the 1893 overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy. This is only one of myriad reasons I am encouraging your support of the settlement agreement between OHA and the State of Hawaii.

We rejoice on behalf of our Hawaiian people in the landmark decision made recently by the Hawaii Supreme Court (of which OHA is also a plaintiff) stating that the state, as trustee of lands formerly belonging to the Hawaiian monarchy, cannot sell or transfer those ceded lands to third parties until claims of native Hawaiians to those lands are resolved. The ruling orders the state Circuit Court to issue an injunction to prevent the state from disposing of ceded lands to third parties.

The ruling has no effect on the proposed settlement OHA and Governor Linda Lingle announced earlier this month because the proposal would involve past and current ceded-lands revenue that is in dispute.

The ruling keeps intact whatever lands were taken following the 1893 overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy for native Hawaiians to seek their return or compensation.

The taking of the crown lands was without consent or compensation and that the indigenous Hawaiian people never directly relinquished their claims over their national lands to the United States.

The purpose of this Act is to allow the State to most effectively and responsibly meet its constitutional obligations to native Hawaiians.

The struggle has been long for the people of Hawaii nei. On behalf of my generation, we urge your support of the settlement agreement between OHA and the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Kylene Pualeihiwahiwamailani Bargamento Kanana  
UH Hilo Campus  
65 Hiluhilu Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720



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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO. 0013  
ST. TIME 02/21 20:26  
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**TESTIMONY BY**  
**PUALANI C. BARGAMENTO**  
  
**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**  
  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
  
**WLH/JUD/FIN**  
  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Auditorium**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**TESTIMONY BY**  
**PUALANI C. BARGAMENTO**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Auditorium**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

## **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**

### **HOUSE BILL 266, HD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Joint Committees on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs  
Judiciary and Finance  
February 23, 2008  
9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol Auditorium**

Aloha Chairmen Ito, Waters, and Oshiro, and members of the House Committees. Mahalo for this opportunity to present testimony in strong support of House Bill 266, HD1.

My name is Pualani C. Bargamento and I am a native Hawaiian, and am grateful that we Hawaiians have an organization like OHA who not only advocates for the rights of the Hawaiian people, but pursues the mission of bettering their lives.

I find it difficult to believe that since the Monarchy that we have never had a Hawaiian entity who was in a position to empower the natives of Hawaii until the Office of Hawaiian Affairs was constitutionally mandated in 1978.

To assist the Hawaiian people to raise above the level of poverty, it takes - - funding -- trust, perseverance, wisdom, and love for its people -- and funding -- to be able to empower Hawaiians to better themselves.

The mission of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is to better the lives of our Hawaiian people. OHA has struggled from 1978 to this date to negotiate with the Executive branch and the State Legislature to enact statutes to implement OHA and provide a pro-rata share of ceded land revenues. OHA continued its pursuit in spite of oppositions.

OHA's funding is based on revenues from the crown lands, also known as the ceded-lands. Governor Lingle who knows the people of Hawaii, and knows that this settlement is fair and ~~is~~ is the right step in the right direction.

It is for this reason, that I strongly urge you to support the growth and improvement of the life style of the Hawaiian people by supporting the settlement agreement between OHA and the State of Hawaii – a settlement which the Hawaiian people rightly deserves.

Mahalo nui loa for allowing me to present my testimony.  
.Pualani C. Bargamento

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO. 0019  
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**TESTIMONY BY**  
**JOSHUA T. HORITA**  
  
**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**  
  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
  
**WLH/JUD/FIN**  
  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Auditorium**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Joshua T. Horita**  
**P.O. Box 301**  
**Pearl City, Hi 96782**

**TESTIMONY BY  
JOSHUA T. HORITA**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING  
HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008  
9:00 A.M.  
Auditorium  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Joshua T. Horita  
P.O. Box 301  
Pearl City, Hi 96782**

## **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**

### **HOUSE BILL 266, HD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Joint Committees on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs  
Judiciary and Finance**

**February 23, 2008**

**9:00 a.m.**

**State Capitol Auditorium**

Aloha Chairmen Ito, Waters, and Oshiro, and members of the House Committees. Mahalo for this opportunity to present testimony supporting House Bill 266 HD1.

My name is Joshua Horita. I am grateful that I am a native son of Hawaii - a Hawaiian who was given the opportunity to further my higher education through scholarships offered by OHA, Kamehameha School, and other Hawaiian organizations. It was through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, that I was able to repay my obligation in service.

It was at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs that I learned how OHA helped our Hawaiian people to preserve their culture and traditions; how they educated and encouraged them to become entrepreneurs; and how they legally assisted them in protecting their land and resources.

I learned that they didn't work alone. They partnershiped with Alu Like, Ke Ola Mamo, Native Hawaiian Legal Corps. They worked with the military, developers, and communities to uphold cultural practices. They held community meetings to provide information and to gather input.

OHA assisted in fulfilling the educational needs of our Charter Schools, and our Hawaiian Immersion Schools by funding their educational system, transportation and facility needs. OHA also worked with Hawaiian Homes and one of the rural schools in finding shelter for the children and families who were living on the beach. OHA supported the Waianae-Maile community in their move to prevent the kayak tourist company from continuing their business in the ocean. The kayak business was ruining the community's fishing area where families were fishing for their subsistence.

It would have been a longer journey of struggle for some of us if we did not have an advocate like OHA. OHA is not asking for revenues which will be coming directly from the tax payers' pockets. They are asking for revenue which the

Courts have directed to come from the "Crown Lands". I urge you to strongly assist in this endeavor by passing this settlement agreement of HB 266 HD1.

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO. 0020  
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**TESTIMONY BY**  
**PUANANI C. RESURRECTION**  
  
**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**  
  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
  
**WLH/JUD/FIN**  
  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Auditorium**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**



**TESTIMONY BY**  
**PUANANI C. RESURRECTION**

**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**

**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
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**Fax 586-8474**

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**  
**HOUSE BILL 266, HD1**  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Joint Committees on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs**  
**Judiciary and Finance**  
**February 23, 2008**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**State Capitol Auditorium**

Aloha Chairmen Ito, Waters, and Oshiro, and members of the House Committees. I appreciate this opportunity to present testimony supporting House Bill 266 HD1.

My name is Puanani C. Resurrection and I am a native Hawaiian. Although I have never personally utilized the services of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, I am very much aware of the opportunities they have provided our Hawaiian ohana and friends.

From my vantage point, the most important body who can help our people of Hawai'i nei right now is the Hawai'i State Legislature. Governor Lingle and the Executive Branch of the Government have done what they felt is a move in the direction they felt is right for the Hawaiian people. The Executive Branch recognizes the many years of struggles that OHA has undergone to preserve the dignity and cultural rights of the natives of Hawaii. The Executive Branch also recognizes to continue their pursuit, OHA will need revenue to continue advocating for the rights of our Hawaiian people. The source of revenue from which they are asking is justifiable.

OHA's funding is based on revenues from the crown lands, also known as the ceded-lands – an avenue which OHA had to sue to receive. The struggle has been endless and now we are again at another point where we are asking the State Legislature to support the settlement agreement between OHA and the State of Hawaii – a settlement which would help OHA support the growth and better the life of the Hawaiian people.

On behalf of my ohana and friends, I urge you to pass House Bill 266, HD I. Mahalo nui loa for allowing me to present my testimony.

Puanani C. Resurrection  
98-1465 B Kaahumanu Street  
Aiea, Hi 96701

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO. 0033  
ST. TIME 02/22 15:28  
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**TESTIMONY BY**  
**CLEMENT KAINOA BARGAMENTO**  
**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
**WLH/JUD/FIN**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Auditorium**  
**State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**(Written comments to be inserted into the official record)**

**Fax 586-8474**

**Clement Kainoa Bargamento**  
**1140 Hakina Place**  
**Wailuku, Maui, Hi 96793**

**TESTIMONY BY**  
**CLEMENT KAINOA BARGAMENTO**  
**STRONGLY SUPPORTING**  
**HB266, HD 1**  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**WLH/JUD/FIN**

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**Fax 586-8474**

**Clement Kainoa Bargamento**  
**1140 Hakina Place**  
**Wailuku, Maui, Hi 96793**

## **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF**

### **HOUSE BILL 266, HD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Joint Committees on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs  
Judiciary and Finance  
February 23, 2008  
9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol Auditorium**

Aloha Chairmen Ito, Waters, and Oshiro, and members of the House Committees. I appreciate this opportunity to present testimony supporting House Bill 266 HD1.

My name is Clement Kainoa Bargamento. I am a Native Hawaiian who currently lives on the Island of Maui – the Island which Governor Lingle, when Mayor, had the initiative to open areas to be used as parks for the enjoyment of our keiki – a skating area, a baseball field, a little outdoor stadium; and also an Arts and Cultural Center. She was a Mayor who had the vision to act in the best interest of the Maui people.

If Governor Lingle had collaborated with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs on this joint recommendation to the State Legislature, there is no doubt in my mind that she has the vision and foresight to help better the life of us Hawaiians; and that this Bill is forwarded to the Legislature with the best interest of the native people in mind.

We are grateful that we have organizations which act as advocates for our Hawaiian people - the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Alu Like, Ke Ola Mamo, Queen Lili'uokalani Trust, Kamehameha Schools, Native Hawaiian Legal Corps to name a few.

However, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs works closely with our people in many facets. OHA also partnerships with other agencies to assist our native people. OHA needs a land base to malama our people and to transact business. Revenues are needed to create economic and educational opportunities to better the lives of our Hawaiian people. This is a mission OHA has pursued since it was constitutionally established in 1978.

House Bill 266, HD1 allows the State to meet its constitutional obligations to native Hawaiians by transferring cash and certain parcels of real property to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OHA, at this time, is in the best position to move forward with its mission to create economic opportunities for our people of Hawai`i nei and to leave a legacy for future generation to have a better life.

For these reasons I urge the committees to pass and support HB266, HD 1. Hawai`i nei deserves to better their lives and the time is now.

Mahalo for this opportunity to present my testimony.