



**HCR 113 proposed HD1  
REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE  
STATE OF HAWAII AND THE ISLANDS OF POLYNESIA**

House Committee on Tourism and Culture

April 10, 2008

10:00am

Room 325

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs supports the proposed HD1 to HCR113 as an outstanding opportunity to promote global connectivity among the islands of Polynesia for the purposes of proliferating meaningful and mutually rewarding international friendships, understanding between cultures, economic and social vitality, scientific and technological advancement, and enhanced regional security.

In addition this resolution would exemplify a common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, and financial bridge between Polynesians living in Hawaii with their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the islands of Polynesia, and the establishment of sister-state relations between the State of Hawaii and Polynesia would help reinforce and cement this common bridge.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.



# KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

**Nainoa Thompson  
Trustee Kamehameha Schools**

## **Testimony in Strong Support of HCR 113 and HR 96**

**Committee on Tourism & Culture**

**Chair: Representative Ryan .I. Yamane**

**Vice Chair: Joey Manahan**

Aloha Chair and Vice Chair and the Committee on Tourism & Culture. I am Nainoa Thompson trustee for Kamehameha Schools. For the last 20 years, I have been a navigator and sail master of the Polynesian Voyaging Society's double-hulled canoe Hokule`a. It has inspired and led a revival of traditional arts associated with long-distance ocean voyaging in Hawai'i and throughout Polynesia. My accomplishments throughout the past 20 years have developed multi-disciplined, culturally relevant educational programs in partnership with other educational institutions, organizations and agencies throughout Polynesian.

I have developed a system of wayfinding, or non-instrument navigation, synthesizing traditional principles of ancient Pacific navigation and modern scientific knowledge. I am the first Hawaiian and the first Polynesian to practice the art of wayfinding on long distance ocean voyages since such voyaging ended in Hawai'i around the 14th century.

We strongly support this resolution, which would request the establishment of a relationship between the state of Hawaii and the islands of Polynesia. Hawaii would benefit historical precedents exemplifying the common desire to maintain a close cultural, educational, commercial, and financial bridge between Polynesians living in Hawaii with their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the islands of Polynesia.

Thank you for hearing my testimony and for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Trustee Nainoa Thompson Kamehameha Schools



**TO: The Honorable Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Joey Manahan, Vice-Chair  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE**

**FROM: Bishop Museum**

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF H.C.R. 113 AND H.R. 96  
Relating the Establishment of a Relationship between the State of Hawaii  
and the Islands of Polynesia**

**HEARING: March 31, 2008**

Bishop Museum was founded in 1889 by Charles Reed Bishop in memory of his wife, Bernice Pauahi Bishop. The Museum is a non-profit organization whose mission is to "to study, preserve and tell the stories of the cultures and natural history of Hawai'i and the Pacific." The Museum houses 24 million natural history and cultural collection items, many that originated in Polynesia.

Throughout the Museum's history, we have enjoyed cooperative relationships with our Polynesian cousins. One of the first scientific expeditions conducted by the Museum was to Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands in the 1910s, resulting in collections housed at the Museum and in Tahiti. Dr. Kenneth Emory, the Museum's foremost anthropologist, carried out seminal archaeological surveys in Tahiti in the 1920s and met his wife there. The Museum's former Director, Sir Peter H. Buck (also known as Te Rangi Hiroa) led research expeditions to the Cook Islands and Mangareva in the 1930s. And since the 1960s, renowned Bishop Museum archeologist Dr. Yosi Sinoto has made numerous important discoveries throughout Polynesia. Most recently, Samoa and French Polynesia have enlisted the expertise of Bishop Museum's natural scientists who are conducting comprehensive plant and insect inventories. Bishop Museum's Polynesian interactions have also included repatriation of Maori, Tahiti, and Tongan ancestors, loans of collection objects, cultural gifts, and staff exchanges with other museums in Polynesia.

In the Museum's experience, formalizing relationships with nations in Polynesia would be beneficial. We currently have a Memorandum of Understanding with French Polynesia which articulates our desire to collaboratively work together on future projects. This document captures the spirit of goodwill and has been helpful when seeking grant funding for projects in French Polynesia.

Bishop Museum believes that if the state were to establish formal relationships with the nations in Polynesia, other organizations, institutions, and businesses in Hawai'i would similarly find benefit from this effort. For the above reasons, Bishop Museum asks the Committee to support the Establishment of a relationship between the State of Hawai'i and the Islands of Polynesia.

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# COUNCIL FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN ADVANCEMENT

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*Honorable Representative Ryan .I. Yamane, Chair  
Honorable Representative Joey Manahan, Vice Chair  
Committee on Tourism & Culture*

*Testimony of Robin Puanani Danner, President & CEO  
Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement*

*Hearing on Thursday, April 10, 2008, at 8:00 am*

*Support for HCR 113, Requesting the establishment of a relationship between the State of Hawaii and the islands of Polynesia.*

*Chair Yamane and Vice Chair Manahan, Members of the Committee:*

*The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) is a community development nonprofit with a mission of enhancing the well being of Hawaii through the cultural, economic and community development of Native Hawaiians. We achieve our mission through capacity building of community based organizations, training and technical assistance, leadership development and convening our community around topical and important policy issues.*

*The Council is on record with strong support with regard to HCR 113. Our organization has experienced firsthand the benefits of developing relationships that extend beyond the borders of our island home. CNHA programs that incorporate elements of intercultural communication and programs that partner with Polynesian or Native American groups are often the most rewarding relationships and most successful. While we have carved out a unique niche for ourselves in cross-cultural business and community ventures, State led efforts to foster extended relationships throughout Polynesia would bring added value to the many organizations like CNHA already promoting such interaction.*

*Historically, proactive measures that foster the commercial and cultural interface between the people of Hawaii and their Polynesian counterparts have generated positive social and economic results for Hawaiians and for Hawaii. The most recognized example of this is the famed Hokule`a project, which has been considered one of the cornerstones of the Hawaiian renaissance, reinvigorating an interest in classic Hawaiian practices. The Hokule`a is said to be responsible for garnering invaluable global media coverage for Hawaii.*

*A hands-on State led effort to identify and facilitate methods of communication and means of commerce between the people of Hawaii and our Polynesian neighbors will produce meaningful and profitable relationships. In addition, an understanding of how our Pacific Island partners are managing the challenges of finite resources, the pressures of rapid development, and the rights of Aboriginal Peoples will assist in our efforts to develop a sustainable future for all Hawaii.*

*Thank you for your time and consideration of this important Resolution.*

*Please take positive action on HCR 113. Mahalo.*

# HPACH

919 4th Street  
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

April 10, 2008

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Representative Joey Manahan, Vice Chair  
And Committee Members On Tourism & Culture  
House of Representatives, The Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2008, State of Hawaii

Subject: HR 96 HD2, HCR 113 HD2 Requesting The Establishment Of  
A Relationship Between The State Of Hawaii And the Islands of  
Polynesia, "SUPPORT"

ALOHA Kakou,

My name is Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney. As Sovereign of the  
Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii, I strongly SUPPORT the  
intent and passage of HR 96 and HCR 113 HD2.

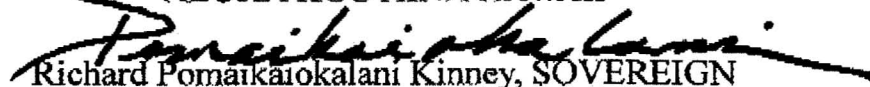
The islands of Polynesia are the homelands of the most extended  
native indigenous people in the world. The Pacific Ocean being the  
highways of their island nations.

Culturally the islands of Polynesia and their native indigenous people  
are all of the same Ohana.

Once more HPACH strongly Supports the passage of HR 96 and  
HCR 113.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to present my testimony on this very  
important Resolution. Hawaii needs to become one with our Ohana of  
Polynesia.

ALOHA KUU AINA HAWAII



Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney, SOVEREIGN  
Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii

Email: [HIAHAWAII@ao.com](mailto:HIAHAWAII@ao.com)

**Chair: Ryan Yamane**  
**Vice Chair: Joey Manahan**  
**TAC**

**Lautoa Atisanoe Jr.**  
**State of Hawaii**  
**Human Services & Housing**  
**Project Coordinator**

**4/10/2008 10:00am**

**"Strong Support" HCR 113 HD.2**

Aloha Chair and Members of the committee:

My name is Lautoa Atisanoe, Jr. I'm here testifying in Full Support of HCR: 113 relating to REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS OF POLYNESIA.

I am in strong support of this bill because it will benefit our economy and we could also learn about each others cultural and traditional practices being how Hawaii is so diversified with the different Polynesian ethnicities, as well as strengthening our goodwill and friendship in the Polynesian triangle. I also feel strongly about changing the some of the language in the bill in line #11 to add EXEMPLIFIES and take out EXEMPLIFY, and also adding to line #31 the word FOLLOWING before the word islands .Thank you for allowing me this time to submit my testimony and request your favor to support this measure.

Mahalo,

Lautoa Atisanoe, Jr.