

**SB 2498**

February 6, 2008

**LATE**

TO: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

FROM: Sharon Lum Ho

RE: **SUPPORT** for **SB 2498** Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration

I support SB 2498 Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration because other Polynesian regional governments celebrate the Makahiki season and have designated November 20<sup>th</sup> as the start of the Makahiki observance. Makahiki is a time of peace and harvest and renewal. Thus, in an effort toward global peace and unity it is fitting that the Senate pass this bill.

February 6, 2008

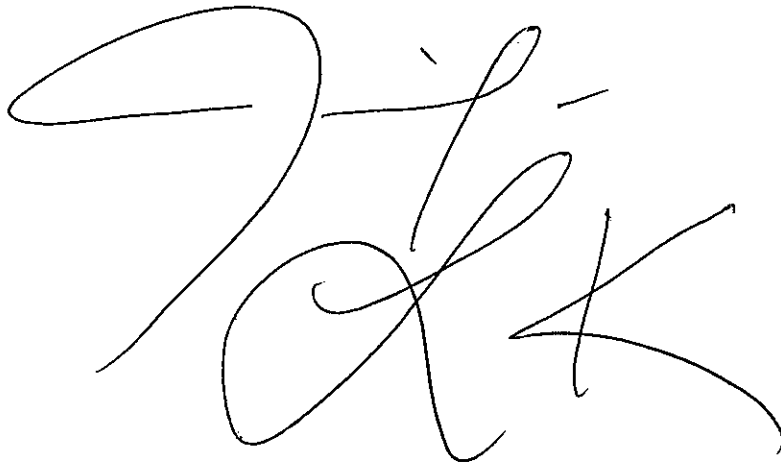
**LATE**

TO: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

FROM: Jennifer Carrell

RE: **SUPPORT** for **SB 2498** Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration

I support the intent of SB 2498 Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration; however, I would like to offer the suggestion that the bill be amended to designate Makahiki Day a State Holiday as an expression of the importance of the Polynesian culture its contributions to the State of Hawaii.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Kalani English". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jennifer Carrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

February 6, 2008

**LATE**

TO: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

FROM: Libby Kimball

RE: **SUPPORT** for **SB 2498** Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration

I support SB 2498 Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration because, as a Hawaiian, Makahiki is a time of great personal significance. It was a time of replanting, a time to stop all conflicts, and a time of religious observance. Although Makahiki season occurred over months, this bill provides an opportunity for all of the current celebrations to unite on one day, as we as a people must unite in the future. Mahalo for your consideration.

February 7, 2008

**LATE**

TO: Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

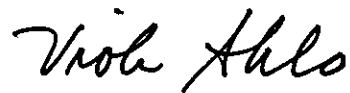
RE: **SUPPORT FOR SB 2498** Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration

Dear Chair Tokuda and honorable members:

Makahiki was a season of peace in the Pacific. Besides being a festive time, it was a time of prayer in thanks for food that kept the people alive, a time to set aside conflict and to think about living in harmony. Setting aside November 20 as a day to commemorate peace in the Pacific is a statement of your belief and recognition in Pacific ideas and concepts that contribute to the changing identity of what it means to be a United States citizen.

Mahalo for your time.

Viola Ahlo

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Viola Ahlo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

February 7, 2008

**LATE**

TO: Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

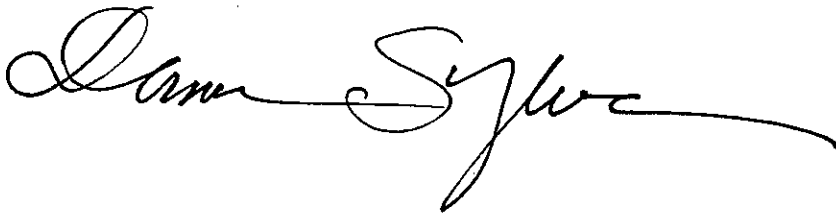
RE: **SUPPORT FOR SB 2498** Relating to Makahiki Day Commemoration

Dear Chair Tokuda and honorable members:

As a Hawaiian tax payer, I pay to recognize many diverse cultural holidays. As more and more Hawaiians die, and there are less of us to speak up for our beliefs, those who can must at least try to stand up for our deep ancestral roots and beliefs. We pay to recognize the contributions of those who have come to our shores to have a better life. So, it is fitting that we set aside November 20 as a day to commemorate Makahiki season to recognize the contributions of the peoples of the Pacific.

Mahalo for your time.

Donna Sylva

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Sylva". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**LATE**

TO: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

FROM: Sheryll Bonilla *Sheryll Bonilla*

DATE: February 7, 2008

RE: SB 2498, Makahiki Day Commemoration – Please pass

Please establish November 20 as Makahiki Day for Hawaii. Hawaii is known as the Aloha State because our diverse ethnic groups have learned to co-exist in a more or less harmonious condition. Makahiki Day recognizes the values of the Hawaiians who generously share this state with all of us whose ancestors came from other regions of the world. The Hawaiian values that teach peace and unity transcend the Pacific and unify our global community.

I had the pleasure a few years ago of watching my children participate in the Makahiki at Bishop Museum. All of the children played the various competitions, all of them with the innate sense that everyone belonged, that no one should be left out because of racial divides. My little daughter won the Konane championship that day, a memory that is still a thrill for her and us.

This is the spirit of Hawaii, the spirit that enables us to have the melting pot we do, where we can get along, love, work, raise families, take care of our land and our community. We owe this appreciation to the Hawaiian people, to honor their culture of respect and acceptance. Establishing November 20 as Makahiki Day gives the Native Hawaiian people the recognition and appreciation they have long deserved for allowing those of us who are descendants of peoples from other countries to be here and call Hawaii our home.