

FAMILY CELEBRATION COMMISSION

Attn: testimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Please deliver testimony to: Senate HSP Committee
Hearing date: February 26, 2008 (Tuesday)
Time: 1:15 p.m.
Location: Room 016

Date: February 22, 2008

To: Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

From: Kelly M. Rosati, JD, Chair
Kaipo Duncan, Vice- Chair

Re: **Strong Support for SCR 8 / SR 3 Requesting the Governor to Reschedule the year of the Family Celebration from 2008 – 2009.**

Honorable Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing, I am Kaipo Duncan, representing the Family Celebration Commission (FCC).

SCR 8 / SR 3 is essential for the Family Celebration Commission to continue its work as directed by this Legislature and the Administration. It would change the year of the family designation from 2008 to 2009 in order to provide the FCC with the time necessary to implement the Legislature's directives in HCR 269 (2006).

Attached, for your information, is the report to the Governor on the history and activities of the Family Celebration Commission to date, as required by our organizing documents.

Mahalo for your strong support of the Family Celebration Commission. We urge you to pass SCR 8/SR 3.

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December 19, 2007

Family Celebration Commission Report to the Governor

Background

The Family Celebration Commission was created under House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 269 (2006) and Executive Order (EO) 07-03. The purpose of each document is to designate 2008 as the Year of the Family and Establish a Family Celebration Commission (FCC) to gather information and furnish advice on a program to celebrate the year of the family.

The Commission is placed within the office of the Governor for Administrative purposes and the FCC has been directed within the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Timeline of Activities

August 21, 2007 FCC named on this date. Members are: Dill, Judith Ann; Duncan, Bradley; Durrett, Jonathan; Ishizu, Ann Akiko; Kaneshiro, Clara; Lau, Walter; Lum, Ernest; Mau, Rennie; Naki, Thomas; Rosati, Kelly; Shibata, Myles; Ta'a, Vernon; Tabangay, Diane; Washofsky, Dana; and Yamada, Darryl.

September 5, 2007 Kelly Rosati designated as chair.

October 10, 2007 Commission met on these dates

November 14, 2007

December 11, 2007

November 14, 2007 Commission formed these sub-committees: Legislative, Finance, Communications and Programming and Outreach.

Commission Recommendations

Commission's unanimous recommendations/reports are as follows:

1. **Delay the Year of the Family Celebration from 2008 to 2009.** This recommendation comes as a result of the later start date than previously anticipated and the desire of the FCC for enough time in which to accomplish our objectives. To this end, we have communicated with the legislative sponsors of the previous resolution and recommended the language for a 2008 resolution that will establish the Year of the Family Celebration in 2009.
2. **Use the 1992 Year of the Family Celebration as a general guideline for our future planning activities.** FCC members reviewed the 1992 activities and believe that year's celebration will be a very useful guideline for our planning and outreach activities.

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3. **The FCC worked with the office of the Attorney General and the office of the Lieutenant Governor to resolve the question of how the FCC could receive funds for our activities.** (See attached memorandum from the office of the Attorney General)
4. **The FCC will be asking the 2008 Legislature for \$50,000** to accomplish the objectives mandated by the previous Legislature.
5. **The FCC would like to work collaboratively with the Statehood Commission** to ensure that our 2009 activities are collaborative and cooperative rather than competitive. The FCC would like to establish liaisons between the Commissions to maximize our collective efforts. A FCC member had been invited to the January meeting of the Statehood Commission.
6. **The FCC sees its role as one of community coordinator** more than a direct sponsor of the Year of the Family events. It also believes it can serve the community during the Year of the Family by keeping a master community calendar of events.
7. **The FCC planning & outreach committee will be reaching out in the broadest possible way** emphasizing the unity of the message of celebrating Hawaii's families.
8. **The FCC will continue in 2008 its substantive planning for a 2009 Year of the Family Celebration** subject to a new resolution from the Legislature.
9. **The FCC communications committee is working on logo and pro bono marketing assistance with emphasis on less-expensive, technology-driven communication.**
10. **The FCC will commence private fundraising upon legislative designation of 2009 as the Year of the Family.**
11. The Commission received a report on the work of promoting aloha under HRS section 5-7.5 with the aloha cards currently in use in business and education sectors. The report indicated that aloha card promoters were planning on designating 2009 and the year of Aloha and Ohana. **Commission members unanimously agreed we should incorporate the traditional Native Hawaiian understanding of aloha into our work emphasizing the importance of Ohana in Hawaii.**

As you can see, this represents a preliminary report as the Commission's work has only recently begun. Provided the Legislature passes the resolution to move the year of the family celebration to 09, we will report again to you at the end of 2008 and 2009.

Mahalo for the opportunity to highlight the importance of Hawaii's ohana for the vitality of our community and state.



THE 'OHANA PROJECT

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING

PUBLIC HEARING:
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2008
1:15 P.M., CONFERENCE ROOM #016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 3 and SR 3 – REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO RESCHEDULE THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY CELEBRATION FROM 2008 TO 2009.

TO: Chair CHUN OAKLAND, Vice-chair LES IHARA and Members of the Senate HSP Committee:

Aloha. As director of the 'OHANA PROJECT of the Hawaii Family Coalition of Hawaii, I submit this testimony in **SUPPORT** of **SCR 3 and SR 3** – Requesting the Governor to Reschedule the Year of the Family Celebration from 2008 to 2009.

Due to the delays in constituting the commission to celebrate the Year of the Family, it is necessary to ask for this change in order to properly organize and plan a suitable and meaningful state-wide celebration emphasizing the need to strengthen our community by strengthening our families.

The 'Ohana Project of the American Family Coalition of Hawaii urges you to pass **SCR 3 and SR 3**.

Mahalo a nui loa

Leon Siu
Director, The 'Ohana Project