

March 31, 2009

Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature

Via Email: HAWtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: **Opposed to HCR213, Relating to the Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area**

Dear Representative Carroll and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Capital Cultural Coalition and partners strongly support the establishment of the Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area. **We are therefore opposed to the withdrawal of bills S.359 and H.R.1297 submitted to the US Congress by Senator Inouye and Congressman Abercrombie, and co-sponsored by Senator Akaka and Congresswoman Hirono.**

Designation of the Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area would recognize the significance of Hawai'i's incomparable heritage, acknowledge the importance of protecting and celebrating this precious legacy, and provide new resources to support preservation and perpetuation of Hawai'i's cultural sites and traditions.

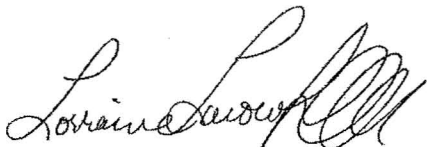
The initiative to create a National Heritage Area in the Kapalama/Honolulu ahupua'a is the result of an extensive feasibility study conducted by the Hawai'i Capital Cultural Coalition with a wide range of community involvement. Since the initiative was begun in 2004, information about the project has been regularly distributed to a large database, including many Hawaiian institutions and individuals all of whom were invited to be involved in the planning process. 'Iolani Palace, Queen Emma Summer Palace, and Washington Place are among the area cultural sites that have been involved in the NHA initiative since its inception and are strongly supportive.

The Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association provided cultural consultation for the National Heritage Area feasibility study, including a Hawaiian cultural assets inventory, area history, determination of the ahupua'a boundaries, and two rounds of review of the draft study by panels of Hawaiian historians and cultural consultants.

National Heritage Areas are *locally* planned and implemented through an inclusive community planning process. Neither the National Park Service nor any other federal agency has any regulatory authority over the NHA. National Heritage Areas do not impose any new local land use, zoning, land acquisition, building code, or similar federal regulations.

The Hawai'i Capital Cultural Coalition (formerly known as the Hawai'i Capital Cultural District) is a nonprofit partnership of more than 25 arts and cultural sites, and over 50 cultural associations, businesses, public agencies, and service organizations who are working together to preserve, nurture and celebrate the heritage of Hawai'i and establish a thriving cultural area in Honolulu's historic core.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Lorraine Lunow-Luke
HCCC Coordinator



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HAWAII CAPITAL CULTURAL COALITION PARTNERS

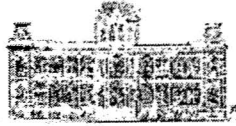
Arts/Cultural/Historic Organizations

The ARTS at Marks Garage
Bishop Museum
The Contemporary Museum
Foster Gardens
Hawaii Children's Discovery Center
Hawaii International Film Festival
Hawaii Maritime Center
Hawaii Opera Theatre
Hawaii State Archives
Hawaii State Art Museum
Hawaii State Library
Hawaii Theatre Center
Honolulu Academy of Arts
Honolulu Culture and Arts District
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu Police Department's Law Enforcement Museum
Honolulu Symphony
'Iolani Palace
Judiciary History Center
Kawaiaha'o Church
Mission Houses Museum
Our Lady of Peace Church
Queen Emma Summer Palace
St. Andrews Cathedral
State Capitol Building
Washington Place
YWCA of O'ahu

Business/Government/Associations

Aloha Tower Marketplace
Alston Hunt Floyd Ing Lawyers
American Institute of Architects
American Savings Bank
Anne Smoke PR
Arts with Aloha
Alexander & Baldwin Foundation
Belt Collins
Bendet, Fidell, Sakai & Lee
Communications Pacific
Cox Radio, Inc.
Cultural+Planning Group
Daughters of Hawaii

Department of Accounting & General Services
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
Department of Education
Department of Human Services
Downtown Neighborhood Association
Eight Inc.
Elizabeth Chalkley Design Consulting
Enoa Corporation
Enterprise Honolulu
Hard Rock Café Honolulu
Hawaii Arts Alliance
Hawaii Community Services Council
Hawaii Council for the Humanities
Hawaii Pacific University
Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and The Arts
Hawaii State Library System
Hawaii Tourism Authority
Historic Hawaii Foundation
HonBlue
Honolulu, Dept. of Planning and Permitting
Honolulu, Office on Culture and the Arts
Honolulu, Office of Economic Development
Honu Group Inc.
Joots, Inc.
Kaars&Pinlac Design
Kamehameha Schools
Ko Olina Station
Ko Olina Resort Association
Mānoa Foundation
Muriel Flanders Fund
Native Books/Na Mea Hawaii
Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
Nomura Design
O'ahu Visitors Bureau
Office of the Governor
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Peter Apo Company
Peter Rosegg & Associates
Smythe & Associates
State Historic Preservation Office
State Office of Planning
University of Hawaii at Mānoa
Waikiki Improvement Association



IOLANI PALACE

PO. Box 2250 Honolulu, HI 96804 Ph: 808-522-0822 FAX: 808-532-1953

March 24, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senate
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 7-212
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Senator Inouye:

RE: In support of S.359 "Hawaii Capital National Heritage Area Establishment Act"

The Friends of Iolani Palace is in full support of this federal designation and greatly appreciates your support in shepherding the legislation through Congress.

Having been designated a National Historic Landmark since 1962, Iolani Palace welcomes the opportunity to be a part of a greater national historic district in Honolulu where the story of the Hawaiian Kingdom can be told in a wider context. In fact, the number of important historical sites within a one block radius of Iolani Palace is a testament to the viability of the proposed National Heritage Area and the unique experience that it will provide to visitors and residents.

As the focal point for much of the ongoing debate regarding Hawaiian self-determination, entitlements, and ceded lands, Iolani Palace is also a symbol for the community at large. The Palace represents King Kalakaua's vision of welcoming other ethnic groups to Hawaii's shores in order to strengthen a rapidly declining indigenous population. It also speaks to His Majesty's fascination with the world and other cultures in general, yet always rooted in the *kanaka* soul.

The designation as a National Heritage Area brings together the local community and the National Park Service (NPS) in an advisory capacity. Hawaiians have nothing to fear by having these important historical sites working with NPS. The Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island is a great example of a sacred site that is both protected yet accessible for traditional cultural practices as well as for viewing and hiking by the general public.

Finally, the proposed National Heritage Area for the Honolulu ahupua'a will strengthen the relationships between the historic sites and the local community and provide residents with a tangible stake in the preservation and planning process to perpetuate these cultural treasures for all the people of Hawaii and the world.

Sincerely,

Kippen de Alba Chu
Executive Director

State of Hawaii Museum of Monarchy History

TESTIMONY TO SENATOR DANIEL INOUE SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 359

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
United States Senate
Prince Kuhio Federal Building
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 7-212
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Senator Inouye:

RE: Supporting Senate Bill 359 "Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area Establishment Act"

Hawai'i is rich cultural diversity and our history from Kingdom, to Republic, to Territory, to Statehood is one of the least understood parts of the American Story. Our geo-cultural isolation from the Continental United States has sometimes left us an orphan child to America's other 49 states. The telling of Hawaii's story has largely been driven by tourism marketing strategies that present a wide but shallow characterization of our people, our places, and our history.

S.B. 359 is an extraordinary opportunity for Hawai'i to tell its own story by the people who live it and whose institutional memory and connection to our vibrant past is an invaluable prism from which to construct a Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area. It is finally an opportunity to celebrate ourselves, our institutions, our cultures, our customs, our traditions, and all those things that define us as unique in the nation's heritage.

Hawai'i Capital Cultural Coalition Chair Mona Abidir is to be commended for her unwavering commitment to forge an alliance of the many organizations, institutions, and individuals to move this project forward. The planning process has been the most transparent and inclusive an effort I have ever been a part of given the complexity and demands of the National Park Service criteria and application guidelines.

The overarching themes of the Native Hawaiians struggle for cultural preservation and self-determination, the dramatic development of Hawaii's multi-cultural society, and the role Honolulu played as the forward geo-political center of the nation's growth as a leader in the Asia-Pacific is are remarkable and compelling stories in world history.

As a native Hawaiian cultural leader I welcome this initiative as long overdue and clearly anticipate that it will have a profound impact on our growth as a society and as a process that will yield new bridges of understanding and an even stronger bond between our many cultures.

Me ke aloha,

Peter Apo

Peter Apo
98-021 Kamehameha Hwy
Suite 212
Aiea, HI 96701

Representative Mele Carroll
Chair, House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Opposing HCR 213

Aloha Chair Carroll & Members of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee:

With all due respect HCR 213 seems uninformed and ill conceived.

Scores of hard working community organizations and individuals, including Hawaiians, spent 6 years working on this milestone proposal. In all my years of public service and community work I have never seen a more inclusive and transparent process with no political or hidden agendas but to try, for a change, do something to celebrate ourselves and for ourselves. The very organizations mentioned as examples for concern in paragraph 5 – Iolani Palace and Mauna Ala (add Queen Emma Summer Palace, Kawaiahao Church, the Mission Houses) were all involved in the multi-year dialogue and supportive of the initiative. The roll out of Senate Bill 359 a few weeks ago by Senator Inouye attracted many Hawaiian supporters including several of the Hawaiian Royal Societies. Since 2003, from the very inception of the Coalition, every effort was made to be inclusive in the deliberations.

The good news is that Senate Bill 359 is just a beginning of the process. People have every opportunity to provide input to the congressional delegation as they see fit to support, oppose, or amend the legislation. But, before this legislature, as a body, decides to take a very premature and uninformed position on this proposal to Congress I would strongly suggest that you do some homework and find out who was involved in its shaping.

I am including below my testimony on Senate Bill 359 to Senator Inouye and you may be interested to read it through. This Bill is about celebrating our diversity, our history, our traditions, our customs, those things that make us unique in the nation - Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian alike.

Peter Apo



**House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 329
Wednesday, April 1st, 9:30am**

**Submitted by
T. Lulani Arquette, Executive Director
Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association
P.O. Box 700790
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96709
628-6370**

In opposition to HCR 213

Aloha Chair Carroll and members of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee:

The Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association (NaHHA) opposes HCR 213. Too many years of work have gone in to this effort to let it be halted now. NaHHA is the lead entity for the Hawaiian Culture Initiative, one of the goals in the Hawai'i State Tourism Strategic Plan, which seeks to perpetuate and promote Hawaiian culture and values in the visitor industry. NaHHA has more than forty partners in the Hawaiian community, the visitor industry and government working together to nurture, share and teach Hawai'i's culture and traditions within the tourist industry and the local population. From my work in the visitor industry for the past years, our culture and history have not been represented accurately, and in many cases – have been shamefully distorted and abused. We need to change this.

The Hawai'i Capital Culture Coalition (formerly the Hawai'i Capital Culture District) has spent hundreds of hours visioning, planning, conducting meetings, developing a feasibility study, and communicating the Hawai'i Capitol National Heritage area possibility. Mona Abadir, the visionary person behind the project, has donated countless hours of personal time and her own resources to help launch this effort. The effort has succeeded to this point based on the sheer will and dedication of many dedicated volunteers. Funding support has been limited and there is only one paid staff person, Lorraine Luke-Lunow, who has also contributed a lot of pro bono time.

There are many Hawaiian organizations and individuals who have been involved in the process. Others have regularly been sent communications. Some of the organizations include Iolani Palace, Queen Emma Summer Palace/Daughters of Hawai'i, Kamehameha Schools, Bishop Museum, Department of Hawaiian Homelands, Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement. NaHHA has been involved for several years and most recently helped review the Feasibility Study and assist with cultural consulting. In addition, most of the major arts and cultural institutions in the downtown, Nuuanu and Kalihi areas, arts and culture related associations, state agencies, and businesses with an interest in supporting arts and culture and heritage tourism have been involved.

The Hawai'i Capitol Culture Coalition has engaged in a very transparent and inclusive process. There has been a great deal of communication that has gone out to the public and ample time to participate. However, it's understandable that some people may not have heard about the effort. There are always many competing issues that occupy the minds and hearts of Native Hawaiians during these challenging times. There is still plenty of time to participate and contribute in the process. The next phase is very important and involves developing a strategy for the Hawai'i Capitol National Heritage Area that includes identifying restoration work, improvements, partnerships and programs.

The proposed Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area includes an assemblage of cultural/natural sites, architecture, and living traditions that represent Hawaii's unique and diverse backgrounds. It provides an opportunity to preserve and honor a special ahupua'a that has unique history and significance for Hawai'i, local communities, and Native Hawaiians. It engages us to tell our stories from an accurate and truthful perspective.

It is our hope that with the designation of Hawai'i Capital National Heritage Area it will serve as an important catalyst in several capacities:

- 1. Preservation and Enhancement of Culture & Values:** We will honor our people with this national designation and generate great pride to work together towards preservation of our cultural landscape and perpetuation of our culture & values.
- 2. Education Outreach and Access:** Hawai'i has physical limitations with its separation of our islands and people by water. This means many residents have never had the opportunity to visit our cultural treasures. We will strive to provide greater access for more residents/students to know their own history first hand and participate in its perpetuation.
- 3. Tourism Industry:** Hawai'i enjoys a global and national reputation for its natural beauty and unique island hospitality. Through the HCNHA designation we will expand upon Hawai'i's image of its unique cultural roots and diversity, allowing visitors to appreciate and enjoy the heritage of this ahupua'a.
- 4. Virtual and Physical Infrastructure Support:** Over time many different districts were developed on 'Oahu. There is an opportunity to create better connectors with transportation, information centers, signage, way finding, technology, and education. These improved connections can also serve our neighbor islands residents and visitors.
- 5. Partnerships:** The broad base of potential partners amongst the Hawaiian community, arts community, government, business, and the visitor industry will generate a far greater involvement in the culture and history of Hawai'i because of this designation.

HPACH

919 4th Street
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

April 1, 2009

Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
Representative Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
And Committee Members on Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives, 2009 Legislature Session
State of Hawaii

Subject: HCR 213, HR 183, Requesting Hawaii's Congressional
Delegation Withdraw Its Support For The Hawaii Capitol National
Heritage Area, SUPPORT

ALOHA Kakou,

My name is Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney. On January 17, 1993 after reading Public Law 103-150 I renounced my citizenship to the United States. I come here today as a Hawaiian Nationalist of the Hawaiian Kingdom. I strongly support the restoration of the Hawaiian Kingdom government that was invaded and occupied thru an Act of War on January 16, 1893 with the involvement of the diplomatic and military forces of the United States.

As Sovereign of the Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii, I strongly SUPPORT the passage of HCR 213 and HR 183.

Public Law 103-150 is more then just a symbolic apology, it is an admission of guilt. Admission that a great wrong has been done to the Native Hawaiian people. That Great Wrong continues till this day as I give my testimony to this committee.

Since the passage of Public Law 103-150 many Native Hawaiians like myself have begun to learn the truth of the history of Hawaii. The history of an Indigenous people going from living in Grass Huts to a Constitutional Monarchy.

The Hawaii Capitol National Heritage Area plan is HEWA. HEWA in that it continues the wrongs committed against the Hawaiian Kingdom and those like myself who are declared Hawaiian Nationals of the Kingdom.

After the passage and signing of the Apology Resolution into law by President Clinton, United States should pull down their flag. Withdraw its

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919 4th Street
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

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Military forces to the military bases in Hawaii. Allowing the Native Hawaiian people time to gather and decide their future based on the findings in the Apology Resolution.

The Congress of the United States should honor its own laws. The Congress of the United States should not be involved in the "Self-Determination" process of Native Hawaiians based on the findings in the Apology Resolution.

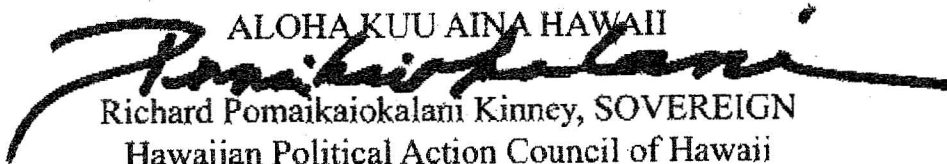
The introduction of the Hawaii Capitol National Heritage Area Bill into Congress by Senator Inouye without any public hearings in Hawaii is HEWA.

Mahalo Nui Loa to Representative Sylvia Luke for her introductions of these very important resolutions. As I've told many of my family and friends many times you don't have to be Hawaiian in blood, as in Spirit is where it counts the most to be Hawaiian.

Mahalo Nui for allowing me to give testimony on this important Bill.

Attachment: Renouncement Documents

ALOHA KUU AINA HAWAII



Richard Pomaikaiokalani Kinney, SOVEREIGN
Hawaiian Political Action Council of Hawaii
87-168 Maaloa Street, Waianae, Hawaii, 96792
Email: HIAHAWAII@aol.com