



H.C.R. NO. 245

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF  
THE BERNICE PAUHI BISHOP MUSEUM TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT  
REPLICAS OF HAWAIIAN HALE ON THE STATE CAPITOL LAWN SURROUNDED  
BY TROPICAL FOLIAGE FOR REST AREAS.

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 17, 2010  
Room: 329

10:00 a.m.

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS** to H.C.R. No. 245, which requests the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, with the assistance of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, to develop a plan to implement replicas of Hawaiian hale on the state capitol lawn surrounded by tropical foliage for rest areas.

While OHA supports the idea of developing a plan to implement replicas of Hawaiian hale on the state capitol lawn, we are concerned that this may not be the appropriate time to allocate scarce resources to this project given the current economic and fiscal crisis impacting the State of Hawai'i and its residents, including Native Hawaiians, many who face daily challenges in meeting basic needs.

OHA continues to advocate for preservation of traditional and customary practices, including the kauhale lifestyle and specific practices related to design, construction, maintenance, and use of traditional Hawaiian hale. However, this creative initiative may be better suited to a more positive environment when financial and human resources are more available to dedicate to this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.