

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

**H.C.R. 313 / H.R. 227 , RECOGNIZING TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN
TATTOOING AS AN ART FORM**

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health**

**March 17, 2010
10:00 a.m.**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health offers comments.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The department respectfully recognizes the pursuit, recognition and
4 preservation of the Hawaiian arts and culture, and the department does have a responsibility to the health
5 of the people receiving tattoos in the state. The department's tattoo rules and regulations were developed
6 to protect the health and safety of all the people of Hawaii receiving tattoos and the department is
7 willing to work with the native Hawaiian tattoo artists to refine their practice to increase its safety while
8 maintaining their recognition of tattooing as an art form.

9 We note that in another field, hula, the kahiko tradition has allowed for developments in modern
10 times.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to comment.