

To: Chair Mele Carroll
Vice Chair Maile Shimabukuro
Member of Hawaiian Affairs

LATE TESTIMONY

March 17, 2010

Aloha Chair Carroll,

My name is Steven Kala Kealoha and I am testifying in strong support of HR/HCR 227/313. **My only recommendation** would to input the Kahuna Kakau as the lead role and over all seeker of Hawaiian Tattooing. Keoni Nunes is recognized in Hawaii and around the Polynesia as the Kahauna Kakau. His tattooing has inspired many native Hawaiians to research their geneolology, tracing it back all the way to our Aumakuas.

Hawaiian Tattooing is a form of art because many of our ancestors have been practicing this traditional tattooing for thousands of years. We didn't need any license from any department to practice our culture art forms.

I ask that the state of Hawaii to recognize traditional Hawaiian tattooing is an art form. Native Hawaiians have been practicing our tattooing for thousands of years before any western needles had influenced tattooing. Thank you for giving me the time to testify on this reso.



Steven Kala Kealoha