LATE TESTIMONY

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Statement of Ani Martirosian Individual

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Monday, April 2, 2012 10:00 A.M.

in consideration of

HOUSE RESOLUTION 132 AND COUNTERPART HCR 172

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING A LASTING RELATIONSHIP AND FRIENDSHIP

BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII AND YEREVAN, ARMENIA.

Dear members of the House Committee on International Affairs,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Resolution 132 and its counterpart HCR 172. I was born to Armenian parents that moved to Hawaii in 1998. I have lived in Hawaii for over 14 years, and I am a product of Hawaii's public schooling system. There are many Armenians in Hawaii who contribute to our State economy and the betterment of our community while maintaining contact with Yerevan, Armenia. In fact, the many Armenians who call Hawaii home also travel frequently to and from Armenia for business. Armenia's history and culture is much like Hawaii's, and the people are very similar in cultural values.

Armenia is a flowering country that is working hard to become a frontrunner in its region. With the help of the United States, it has made tremendous steps in promoting democratic values, freedom, and a free and open market. With the adoption of this resolution, the State of Hawaii and Armenia can further cultivate a mutually beneficial economic relationship, with the prospect of future growth.

I am thankful for this opportunity to provide testimony, and ask that you vote in support of this Resolution to continue the growth of a strong relationship between Hawaii and Armenia.

Signed: Ani Martirosian Phone: (808) 429-4490

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TESTIFIER: Ali Altunkaya
TITLE, ORGANIZATION: Honolulu Representative, Pacifica Institute
COMMITTEE: House International Affairs Committee
HEARING DATE: Monday, April 02, 2012
HEARING TIME: 10:00 a.m.
MEASURE NUMBER: HR 132 / HCR 172
REQUESTED COPIES: 4

I support the House for recognizing the importance of building a lasting relationship and friendship between the people of Hawaii and the Yerevan, Armenia.

Rich culture of both Hawaii and Armenia make it possible to have mutual understanding and beneficial relations between the people of Hawaii and Armenia. I hope that the close friendship and relationship between the people of Hawaii and Armenia have positive results in all areas of life.

I strongly support the House for recognizing the importance of building a lasting relationship and friendship between the people of Hawaii and the Yerevan, Armenia.