

SCR 109 SD 1

EDT



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TESTIMONY OF
STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND TECHNOLOGY

ON

April 11, 2012

SCR 109 SD 1 / SR 53 SD 1

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee,

I am Eva Laird Smith, executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) and I am pleased to offer testimony on SCR 109 SD 1/ SR 53 SD 1.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts empathizes with the Hawaiian people, whom history has both blessed and challenged on the issue of annexation to the United States of America. As this resolution eloquently documents, the plight of Hawaii's last queen, the beloved Liliuokalani, was trying and unjust. In that light, honoring the efforts of President Grover Cleveland in support of the monarchy is fitting.

However, the SFCA's Collections Policy Manual, section 2.4.11 on commemorative artwork states that the commissioning or acquisition of commemorative artwork "except for commissioning the State's official portrait of the governor," is disallowed. We therefore support the SD 1, which allows the SFCA and another entity or other entities in partnership to obtain or source out a work of art, either visual or literary, in President Cleveland's name.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135

Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

TESTIMONY OF PRESIDENT SOULEE STROUD

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 109, SD1

HONORING UNITES STATES PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE HAWAIIAN MONARCHY AND EFFORTS TO PRESERVE THE HAWAIIAN KINGDOM, BY REQUESTING THE STATE OF HAWAII, CITY AND COUNT OF HONOLULU, COUNTY OF MAUI, COUNTY OF KAUAI ND COUNTY OF HAWAII TO NAME A STATE OR COUNTY PROPERTY IN HIS NAME, AND REQUESTING THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS TO COMMISSION, PURCHASE, OR PARTNER WITH ANOTHER ENTITY TO CREATE OR OBTAIN A WORK OF ART, WHETHER VISUAL OR LITERARY, IN HIS NAME

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Wednesday, April 11, 2012; 2:45pm; Room 016

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs is pleased to support this resolution. Twenty years ago our current First Vice President, Annelle Amaral, was the House Majority Floor Leader and assisted the Hawaiian Civic Clubs in the facilitation of a stone monument to President Grover Cleveland. It is a tangible commemoration of Cleveland's just treatment toward the Hawaiian Kingdom, and the respectful courtesies he and his wife provided to Queen Liliuokalani when she was in Washington, D.C.

It was Cleveland's action that assured there is no treaty of annexation, as he bluntly cautioned the Congress against the taking of Hawaii, and sent an investigator to document the situation. James Blount's investigation is an invaluable historical record of America's duplicity. It was Cleveland's successor, President William McKinley, who successfully used an illegal tactic to annex Hawaii still honored by the United States.

We appreciate that the historic background included in Standing Committee Report 3060 provides a proper context for a memorial for President Cleveland. We regret that there are streets named for presidents Coolidge and Harding – men who could have assisted, but held back support of Delegate Kalaniana'ole in his quest to help his people. Schools are named

presidents and historic figures that did irreparable harm to the Hawaiian Kingdom – a high school is named for Theodore Roosevelt who was a Secretary of the Navy in 1898, and the worst insult of all, McKinley High School, to honor the man who presided over the theft of a nation by receiving it from the thieves. Clearly, these landmarks speak volumes to the administration of the Territorial government of the time.

Rendered obscure by the writers of Hawaii's history, a tribute to Grover Cleveland by the State of Hawaii is long overdue. When a government sponsored memorial finally becomes a reality, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs will join other Native Hawaiians in honor of Grover Cleveland, the man that so many writers of Hawaiian history tried to ignore.

We urge the passage of this resolution.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2012 10:17 AM
To: EDTTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SCR109 on 4/11/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDT 4/11/2012 2:45:00 PM SCR109

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Javier Mendez-Alvarez
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Submitted on: 4/4/2012

Comments:

President Cleveland was supposed to be honored with two different commemorative presidential dollar coins this year (in celebration of his two non-consecutive terms in office.) Unfortunately, Vice President Biden announced last year that the Presidential Dollar Coin mint series was going to issue fewer coin per president starting in 2012, and now the banks have received notice that the production of presidential dollars has been discontinued completely. So the nation has decided to honor only its presidents from Washington until Garfield...and no one else!