



HB1089

RELATING TO KALO APPRECIATION MONTH

House Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs,
and Culture and the Arts

February 6, 2013

10:30 a.m.

Conference Room 312

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** HB1089, which would designate October as "Kalo Appreciation Month."

This measure honors the rich culture and history of the kalo plant in October. In 2007, the Hawai'i Legislature passed Act 36 (2007) naming kalo as the official plant of the state. HB1089 would provide an opportunity to showcase the health benefits of kalo as a staple of the traditional Hawaiian diet as well as highlight the kalo plant's historic, cultural and spiritual significance to Native Hawaiians. No other plant more suitably represents Hawai'i.

The traditional mo'olelo of Wākea and Papahānaumoku explains that the first kalo plant, Hāloanakalaukapalili, is the elder brother of Native Hawaiians. As the elder sibling, Hāloa provides sustenance to Native Hawaiians and, in return, we as the younger siblings care for Hāloa by ensuring that kalo flourishes. The bond that connects Native Hawaiians to kalo remains a sacred one, and it is our kuleana to preserve it. Kalo is not only integral to the identity of Native Hawaiians but also to the State of Hawai'i as a whole.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to **PASS** HB1089. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

vmitestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 6:51 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
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HB1089

Submitted on: 2/5/2013

Testimony for VMI on Feb 6, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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