
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO QUEEN LILIUOKALANI.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Native Hawaiians are
2 the indigenous, native people of the Hawaiian archipelago and
3 are a distinctly native community. From its inception, the
4 State has had a special political and legal relationship with
5 the Native Hawaiian people.

6 On January 14, 1893, John L. Stevens, the United States
7 Minister assigned to the sovereign and independent Kingdom of
8 Hawaii, conspired with a small group of non-Hawaiian residents
9 of the Kingdom of Hawaii, including citizens of the United
10 States, to overthrow the indigenous and lawful government of
11 Hawaii. In a conspiracy to overthrow the Government of Hawaii,
12 the United States Minister and the naval representatives of the
13 United States caused armed naval forces of the United States to
14 invade the sovereign Hawaiian nation on January 16, 1893, and to
15 position themselves near the Hawaiian government buildings and
16 the Iolani Palace to intimidate Queen Liliuokalani and her
17 government.



1 On the afternoon of January 17, 1893, a Committee of Safety
2 that represented the American and European sugar planters,
3 descendants of missionaries, and financiers deposed the Hawaiian
4 monarchy and proclaimed the establishment of a provisional
5 government. The United States Minister thereupon extended
6 diplomatic recognition to the provisional government that was
7 formed by the conspirators without the consent of the Native
8 Hawaiian people or the lawful government of Hawaii and in
9 violation of treaties between the two nations and of
10 international law.

11 In 1993, the United States formally apologized to Native
12 Hawaiians for the United States' role in the overthrow of the
13 Hawaiian Kingdom through Public Law 103-150 (107 Stat. 1510),
14 commonly known as the "Apology Resolution", which stated in
15 pertinent part:

16 "The Congress -

17 (1) on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the illegal
18 overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii on January 17, 1893,
19 acknowledges the historical significance of this event
20 which resulted in the suppression of the inherent
21 sovereignty of the Native Hawaiian people[.]"



1 The Apology Resolution acknowledges that the Native Hawaiian
2 people never directly relinquished to the United States their
3 claims to their inherent sovereignty as a people over their
4 national lands, either through a treaty of annexation or through
5 a plebiscite or referendum. The Apology Resolution further
6 expresses the commitment of Congress and the President to
7 acknowledge the ramifications of the overthrow of the Hawaiian
8 Kingdom and to support reconciliation efforts between the United
9 States and Native Hawaiians.

10 The legislature finds that Hawaiian sovereignty remains
11 unrelinquished today. In December 2010, the United States
12 endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of
13 Indigenous Peoples, which acknowledged, among other things, that
14 "[i]ndigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By
15 virtue of that right they freely determine their political
16 status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural
17 development."

18 Queen Liliuokalani never relinquished the throne in the
19 face of the overthrow, notwithstanding her forced removal from
20 the throne. Therefore, the legislature finds that Hawaiian
21 sovereignty was never relinquished in the overthrow and that



1 Queen Liliuokalani remained the Queen of the Kingdom of Hawaii
2 until her death.

3 The memorial statue of Queen Liliuokalani, located on the
4 grounds of the state capitol and maintained by the department of
5 accounting and general services, is a symbol and a tribute to
6 the Hawaiian Kingdom. The legislature further finds that the
7 inscription on the memorial should be befitting of the honor and
8 greatness of Queen Liliuokalani.

9 The purpose of this Act is to honor the dignity and memory
10 of Queen Liliuokalani as the reigning Queen of the Hawaiian
11 Kingdom until her death.

12 SECTION 2. The department of accounting and general
13 services shall inscribe the memorial statue of Queen
14 Liliuokalani on the grounds of the state capitol with the
15 Queen's coronation date of January 29, 1891, and November 11,
16 1917, the date of her death, rather than the years inscribed on
17 the statue as of the day prior to the effective date of this
18 Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Queen Liliuokalani Statue

Description:

Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to change the inscription on the memorial statue of Queen Liliuokalani on the grounds of the State Capitol to reflect the dates of her coronation and death. (SB233 HD1)

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