

Testimony In Support HCR 11

Hearing: Monday, February 8, 2016 at 9:00am.

Deloris Guttman, Historian/President
African American Diversity Cultural Center Hawaii

To the Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Veterans, Military, International Affair and Culture and the Arts Committee, I am in support of HCR 11 House Concurrent Resolution urging the Governor to establish a Commission Regarding the Early Settlers of African ancestry and their Hawaiian African descendant's contributions to the State of Hawaii and Hawaiian history.

I am requesting that I speak at the Hearing to share additional information about this history.

Date: February 8, 2016

From: Guide Star Engineering, LLC
2045 Lauwiliwili St., Ste. 1301
Kapolei, HI 96707
Attn: Seibert Murphy

To: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, &
CULTURE AND THE ARTS, Chair Representative Ken Ito, Vice Chair Representative James
Kunane Tokioka and Members of the Committee

Honorable Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Committee Members:

Chair Ito and members of the committee, I am Seibert Murphy, chief executive officer and owner of Guide Star Engineering (GSE) Kapolei, HI, and I am pleased to provide testimony **in support of HCR11**.

In this time of greater accumulation of unbiased historical knowledge, pursuit of community unity and appreciation, supporting and continuing to proudly recognize our rich cultural heritage is crucial for the State of Hawaii. It has been demonstrated time and time again that Hawaii is held up as a shining example of diversity and respect for cultural values, to the benefit of our State and the United States of America.

The ability to continue and enhance this well deserved reputation is the responsibility of all the citizens but today falls especially on the shoulders of our representatives. Our ability to honestly appreciate the diversity of today and tell the story to our keiki tomorrow is at stake.

HCR11, which establishes that the Governor is urged to establish a commission regarding the early settlers of African ancestry and their Hawaiian African descendants to educate residents, young people, and visitors to Hawaii about the significance and impact of the early settlers of African ancestry and their Hawaiian African descendants, is a significant and historic positive step in enhancing our cultural and moral strength.

We strongly urge you to support of **HCR11** and we appreciate your continued support of the great diversity story of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Seibert Murphy
CEO/President
(808)497-0144
smurphy@gsellc.com

tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:19 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR11 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR11

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: It's a part of my culture being Hawaiian/Black. I FULLY SUPPORT this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 8:58 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: abel.m.konan@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR11 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR11

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Abel M. Konan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii is an inclusive State and it is important for all to know the contribution of the pioneers African Americans to the betterment of our exemplary color blind State. The respect and blessing of diversity would make Hawaii a thankful State.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 3:17 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR11 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM*

Categories: Yellow category

HCR11

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

From: Ed Young

Retired Meteorologist

Member, Board of Directors, African American Diversity Cultural Center of Hawaii

For: Committee on Veterans, Military & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts

Date/Time: Monday, February 8, 2015, at 0900 HST

Bill: House Bill H.C.R 11 – Urging Governor To Establish a Commission Regarding the Early Settlers of African American Ancestry and Their Hawaiian African Descendants

Testimony: As a nearly 28 year Hawaii resident of African American ancestry, whose grandfather was born a slave, I want to add my voice to those who are urging the Committee to pass Resolution H.C.R. Number 11. I have been active in African American community efforts since my arrival in Honolulu in April of 1988. Upon my arrival for a new job, I asked about the status of the State of Hawaii in establishing a Holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which at that time Hawaii was one of the few states that had not established a holiday in honor of Dr. King. I added my voice then to urge the Hawaii Legislature to establish the Holiday, and to establish a state Commission to help initiate activities for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, once the Holiday had been established, and eventually served 4 years, representing the Federal community in Hawaii on the State of Hawaii's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission.

I am here again to encourage efforts to establish a State Commission to recognize, honor, and promote the rich African American history of Hawaii, an in particular, the early settlers of African ancestry, and their little known contributions, and that of their Hawaii African descendants, particularly the land of the birth of the first President of the United States of African ancestry.