

# SB 532

Measure Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO MOOKINI LUAKINI, INC.

Report Title: Mookini Luakini, Inc.; Grant to host children's day in Kohala; Appropriation

Description: Appropriates funds to Mookini Luakini, Inc. to host children's day in Kohala.

Companion: [HB89](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): INOUYE, CHUN OAKLAND, GALUTERIA, KIDANI, Ruderman, Slom, Wakai

**From:** [dbram71@aol.com](mailto:dbram71@aol.com)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB 532, Making an Appropriation to Monokini Luakini, Inc.  
**Date:** Sunday, January 31, 2016 6:20:00 AM

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Dear Senator Chun-Oakland and Senator Riviere:

I write in support of Senate Bill 532, an appropriation for the Mo'okini Luakini, Inc. This organization supports the Mo'okini Heiau by preserving it for future generations as well as supporting its educational efforts to inform the children of Hawaii -- as well as visiting children from the mainland and throughout the world -- on the traditions and customs of the historic Hawaiian people.

The Mo'okini family has cared for the Heiau, principally from the family resources, relying occasionally on donations and other support from those who share the family's commitment to the Heiau's preservation and educational value.

Without question, the annual Children's Day has become a major event on the Big Island for school children of the island. Each year around the start of Makahiki, Children's Day is announced and busloads of children come from throughout the island to learn about their traditions and heritage from the Kahuna Nui and a group of docents who teach a variety of subjects.

Additionally, the Kahuna Nui has led numerous children's groups through the Heiau and its part of Hawaiian history whenever they have come to the Big Island, apart from the annual Children's Day.

I have been a docent at Children's Day for several years and have seen first hand the respect and awe -- for the Heiau, its history, and for their heritage -- in not only the children's faces but also in those of their teachers, chaperones, and parents accompanying them. As this program has been going on for years, yesterday's children are today's adults with a better understanding of our islands' history and traditions.

With approval of Senate Bill 532, the state will take a positive step in supporting and sustaining a vital piece of Hawaii's history that has become living history through the dedicated efforts of Mo'okini Luakini, Inc and its volunteers.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

David A. Bramlett  
General, US Army (Ret)  
Hawaii Resident

## SENATE BILL 532

### STATE OF HAWAI'I

I, Eva Kim, one of the original docents (from November 20, 1979 to present) for the Mo'okini Luakini Heiau located in Kohala, Hawai'i, am submitting testimony supporting Senate Bill 532.

As the State of Hawai'i's first Registered National Historic Landmark (12-1962-January 1963) by the Department of Interior, this site that continues to annually host *Na Mamo O Hawai'i Nei* or Children's Day, has received national recognition as an important educational resource in the Hawaiian Studies program of the DOE. It is one of the most culturally, historically and spiritually significant sites in all of the Hawaiian islands, transforming the heiau and surroundings into a living classroom to learn about how native Hawaiians lived and worshiped in ancient times.

The Mo'okini Luakini Heiau built from sunset to first light and dedicated to the God KU is one of the largest and best preserved temples in the State and the only one whose stewardship has been continuously served by a direct family lineage of custodians since it was originally constructed and dedicated around the year A.D. 480 in Ahupua'a Pu'u'epea, Koko'iki, North Kohala on the island of Hawai'i. It is the site of the birthrites of Kamehameha I, who was born offshore in a canoe a scant 900 yards away.

Originally a closed Heiau reserved exclusively for kings, chiefs and priests for fasting, praying and offering human sacrifices, the transformation of this restrictive kapu into a learning center for the children of Hawai'i has opened the site's history and beauty to future generations into perpetuity. I fully support this bill.

From,

Eva Kim

**MEASURE TITLE: SB532**

**APPROPRIATION TO THE MO'OKINI LUAKINI, INC**

SUBMITTED BY: Gervin Miyamoto, Executive Support Officer,  
Lt Col (Ret) Hawaii Air National Guard  
Contact Information 808-222-8766 gkm002@aol.com

Introduced by Senators Inouye, Chun Oakland, Galuteria, Kidani, Ruderman, Slom and Wakai:

Report Title: Appropriate Funds to the Mo'okini Luakuni, Inc to host annual Children's Day in Kohala, Hawaii

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland and members of the Senate Committee

It is with great pleasure that I support written testimony **"In Support"** of the Mo'okini Luakini, Inc to appropriate funding to support the annual Children's Day in Kohala and to preserve the precious history of this treasured site.

Kahuna Nui Leimomi Mo'okini Lum, with the love and devotion to the children of Hawai'i, has been hosting the Annual Mookini Luakini "Children's Day" for approximately 35 years, at tremendous personal sacrifice. She continues to perpetuate the regal history of this treasured site and wants to continue to share the rich history of this "culturally significant" site for the Children of Hawai'i.

On this day, we have learning centers staffed with docents to share the stories of the heiau, the significance of its location in relation to Kamehameha's Birthplace, as well as engage students in hands on learning.

In any year we have about 600 -1300 children who visit the site on that one day - coming from as near as Kohala and as far as Mountain View. Funding assistance for this cultural event will help ensure its viability as it has been supported primarily by private donations, predominately from our family.

I have been a part of this rich tradition and humbly ask the Senators of this committee to support this measure. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

With humility.

Signed////////  
Gervin Miyamoto  
808-222-8766

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ikobayashi@lshawaii.com](mailto:ikobayashi@lshawaii.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB532 on Feb 2, 2016 13:15PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 01, 2016 12:51:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony.docx](#)

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**SB532**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for HMS on Feb 2, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ivan Kobayashi	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: February 1, 2016 Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland Honorable Gil Riviere Hawaii State Senate, Committee on Human Services Re: Making an Appropriation to Mookini Luakini, Inc. SB 532 – Testimony of Ivan T. Kobayashi Dear Honorable Ms. Oakland and Mr. Riviere, It has been a honor to have gone and visited the Mookini Luakini Heiau. The Mookini Luakini Heiau is the most sacred place in all Hawaii. This place is close to where King Kamehameha was born and where he launched his attack on all the Hawaiian Islands. This Heiau was only restricted to chiefs and men. When Aunty Moni became the Kahunanui she asked her Kupunas if they would allow her to change the purpose of the Heiau from a war Heiau to a peaceful Heiau. She asked her Kupunas if the Heiau can be for the children of the world. Her Kupunas granted her permission and now the Heiau is dedicated to the children of the world. Aunty Momi open up the Heiau during the year to children, but once a year in November she invites children from all over the world to visit and learn about the Hawaiian culture and values. She does this on her own generosity and her dedication to her ancestors . Please consider helping Aunty Moni continue this great service to the children of the world. Very truly yours, Ivan T. Kobayashi

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## **Committee on Human Services**

**February 2, 2016, 1:15 pm** □

**TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair and members of the committee**

**FROM: Leimomi Lum**

**RE: SB 532 Making an Appropriation to Mo`okini Luakini, Inc.**

My name is Leimomi Mookini Lum and I am the Kahuna Nui of the Mookini Heiau in North Kohala. I am writing to express my support for Senate Bill 532.

For 35 years we have been hosting a Children's Day in November; a day when schools can bring their 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders who are studying Hawaiiana to the site.

On this day, trained docents, friends and family provide learning centers to share the stories of the heiau, the significance of its location in relation to Kamehameha's Birthplace, as well as engage students in hands-on learning. Centers include learning about the building of the heiau in which students have an opportunity to replicate the passing of the stones from hand to hand, the importance of the salt pans located makai of the heiau, and the role of sacrifice in Hawaiian History. After our centers, the students then visit the Kamehameha Birthsite.

In any year we have about 600 -1300 children who visit the site on that one day - coming from as near as Kohala and as far as Mountain View. The day is chosen according to the lunar calendar during the Makahiki Season (November)

Funding assistance for this cultural event will help ensure its viability as it has been supported primarily by private donations, predominately from our family.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. I would be happy to answer any question you may have.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [honolulu@wcitarch.com](mailto:honolulu@wcitarch.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB532 on Feb 2, 2016 13:15PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, February 01, 2016 6:14:07 PM

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**SB532**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for HMS on Feb 2, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert K. Iopa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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