

# Kaho'okeleholu "Kale" Hannahs

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April 6, 2017

Office of Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 219  
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Aloha Senate Committee Members on International Affairs and the Arts (IAA)

Please accept this statement of interest in regards to my nomination by Governor Ige to be a member of the State of Hawai'i's Sister State Committee.

I am Kaho'okeleholu "Kale" Hannahs and I appreciate the opportunity to express my interest in serving on the Hawai'i Sister-State Committee

The Sister-State Committee's purpose is to advise the governor & legislature on matters relating to sister-state or province relations between the State and states or provinces of foreign countries.

I've been fortunate to take an active role in contributing to the betterment of Hawai'i through my work at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), and sharing our culture throughout the world as a professional musician. I've also had the privilege of serving my fellow music industry colleagues as an elected board member of the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Arts, serving as Vice-President in my final year, in addition to currently representing Hawai'i on the Western Arts Alliance's Indigenous Performance Steering Committee.

Through my extensive travel experience in representing Hawai'i and Hawaiian culture through music and my archival work with the OHA & the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums, I feel that I have a lot to offer this Committee, specifically pertaining to Indigenous People and understanding customary cultural practices.

Aloha is the term most associated with Hawai'i around the world however its meaning goes far beyond what we market to tourists. This understanding is accompanied by the kuleana of understanding of one's home, the ability to share one's culture, and being able to respect and honor the people and the cultures that they represent. I believe it is very important for members of this Committee to be able to demonstrate this understanding and be able to speak to Hawai'i's value as a cultural leader in the world.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to introduce myself and express my interest in serving as a representative for Native Hawaiian Cultural organizations.

I humbly ask for your consideration to represent Hawai'i and Hawai'i's culture as a member of the Sister-State Committee.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Kaho'okeleholu "Kale" Hannahs  
Native Hawaiian Cultural Organization Representative

*References Furnished Upon Request*