



DEPT. COMM. NO. 404
**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

RANDALL TANAKA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

January 17, 2020

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members
of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a revised copy of the 2019 Hawaii Sister-State Report, as required by Act 150, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006. In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at:
<http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/overview/annual-reports-reports-to-the-legislature/>.

Please disregard the previous report that was submitted on December 24, 2019. The draft version was inadvertently attached to the transmittal letter.

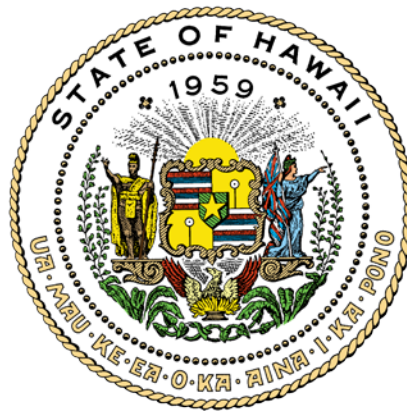
With aloha,

Mike McCartney

Enclosure

c: Legislative Reference Bureau

State of Hawaii's Sister-States



**Business Development & Support Division
Department of Business, Economic
Development & Tourism**

December 2019

A Report to the Legislature of the State of Hawaii
Prepared pursuant to Act 150, SLH 2006

Hawaii Sister-State Committee

As of 2019, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee had five active members filling all seats for this committee.

Kay Matsui (Chair)	Representing: Hawaii State Association of Counties
Kaho'okeleholu Hannahs	Representing: Native Hawaiian Cultural Organization
Debra Nakama	Representing: Speaker of the House of Representatives
Jean E. Rolles (Vice Chair)	Representing: East-West Center
Eduardo Topenio Jr.	Representing: President of the Senate
Dennis T. Ling	DBEDT – Committee Administration
Mark Ritchie	DBEDT - Committee Administration

With three committee members constituting a quorum, the Committee has been able to meet and continue its focus on the following goals and objectives:

- 1. The Committee takes an active role in evaluating prospective and current sister relationships, for both cultural and economic development reasons, with attention to fostering the most productive ties.**

There is agreement that most successful sister relationships occur when:

- a. There is commonality between Hawaii and the sister, primarily from geographical, historical, cultural or economic standpoints.
- b. There are active and interested support groups, such as Chambers of Commerce, cultural and civic associations.

- c. There are economic benefits for both sisters, such as increased numbers of visitors, or enhanced investment or marketing opportunities.
- d. Close ties have been established between educational institutions of the two potential sisters, including both student and faculty exchanges.
- e. There is a clear, strong governmental interest in not only forming, but maintaining the relationship.

2. To assure the productivity and viability of a sister relationship, the Committee has further reviewed and revised the sister-state application form. Last year, the Committee also reviewed and revised the Policies and Procedures Manual which governs the process of nominating and evaluating prospective and existing sister-states.

In addition to completing the revised application form, additional requirements include:

- a. A letter from the Governor of the proposed sister.
- b. A designated point-of-contact person.
- c. Recent activity reports between Hawaii and the proposed sister.
- d. Recommendations for future activities.

3. The Committee periodically reviews the activities of each sister relation to determine which ties should be strengthened and which should be severed. The State has 18 sister relationships, dating back to 1981. Some relationships have been very active (e.g. Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Okinawa, Taiwan and Guangdong), while others have shown little or no activity (e.g. Azores Islands).

SISTER-STATES (Chronological order)		
COUNTRY	PROVINCE/PREFECTURE	YEAR ESTABLISHED
Japan	Fukuoka	1981
Portugal	Azores Islands	1982
Greater China	Guangdong	1985
Japan	Okinawa	1985
Philippines	Ilocos Sur	1985
Korea	Jeju	1986
Greater China	Hainan	1992
Greater China	Taiwan	1993
Philippines	Cebu	1996
Japan	Hiroshima	1997
Philippines	Pangasinan	2002
Japan	Ehime	2003
Philippines	Ilocos Norte	2005
Philippines	Isabela	2006
Morocco	Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer	2011
Indonesia	Bali	2014
Japan	Hokkaido	2017
India	Goa	2018

SISTER-STATES (Alphabetical order by country and area)		
COUNTRY	PROVINCE/PREFECTURE	YEAR ESTABLISHED
Greater China	Guangdong	1985
	Hainan	1992
	Taiwan	1993
India	Goa	2018
Indonesia	Bali	2014
Japan	Fukuoka	1981
	Okinawa	1985
	Hiroshima	1997
	Ehime	2003
	Hokkaido	2017
Korea	Jeju	1986
Morocco	Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer	2011
Philippines	Ilocos Sur	1985
	Cebu	1996
	Pangasinan	2002
	Ilocos Norte	2005
	Isabela	2006
Portugal	Azores Islands	1982

GREATER CHINA

Guangdong Province (1985)

In July 2019, three students and two teachers from Le Jardin Academy were invited to attend the 2019 Guangdong International Youth Exchange Week. Along with over 40 participants from the Affiliated Tianhe School of Guangdong Experimental Middle School, a delegation of about 120 foreign students and teachers from different countries including Le Jardin Academy visited the Guangzhou Museum, Guangdong Yueju Opera Theater and Shawan Ancient Town in Guangzhou to learn about the city's history, culture and customs. They also visited the Ancient Nanfeng Kiln in Foshan to experience handcrafts. The foreign students also took part in a two-day homestay program to have an in-depth tour featuring Cantonese cuisine, as well as cultural and historical attractions in the Pearl River Delta region. The activity is designed to enhance global youth's understanding of Guangdong and China, thus promoting the communication between the young people from Guangdong and foreign countries.

Hainan Province (1992)

The 1st Hainan International Education Expo and Conference was held in Sanya City from December 26 to December 28, 2019. The event was hosted by the Sanya City Department of Business and Sanya City Department of Education. Study Hawaii and the State of Hawaii Beijing Office were invited to attend.

Taiwan (1993)

From October 21 to October 27, 2019, Hawaii State Senate delegation visited Taiwan. The delegation included Senator Kalani English, Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Senator Lorraine Inouye, and Senator Maile Shimabukuro. The delegation visited the Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Bureau of Energy (BOE), American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), Tea Research Center/Council of Agriculture (COA), Wastes Management Center, a recycle factory of Tao-Yuan County, and the State of Hawaii office in Taipei.

On September 4, 2019 the Taipei office was invited by the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), to attend the annual appreciation banquet, where AIT also invited Taiwan Government officials, business and community leaders to the banquet. Director of AIT,

Mr. Brent Christensen stated that the business and political relationships between U.S. and Taiwan have become stronger than ever.

On July 8, 2019, the Taipei office was invited by the Council of Indigenous Peoples to deliver a speech to 60 indigenous students who came from 10 different countries.

On March 14, 2019, along with the members of America State Offices Association (ASOA), State of Hawaii Taipei office Director Alex Lei made a courtesy call to Deputy Mayor Lin-Hu at Taichung City Government office, to express the gratitude to enhance economic and education relations with Taichung city. Taichung city signed a MOU with the State of Hawaii in 2014, to promote economic, education, travel and tourism, and clean energy.

To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Hawaii-Taiwan Sister-State relationship, the Taiwan government sent Spokesperson Ms. Yutaka of the Executive Yuan of Taiwan to visit Hawaii. She visited Governor Ige at the Governor's Office, followed by a courtesy call with Senator Kalani English.

On December 19, 2018, Governor Ige hosted a reception to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Hawaii-Taiwan Sister-State relationship at Washington Place. Three of the former Governors, Senators, House of Representatives, American Institute of Taiwan (AIT) chairman James Moriarty, Spokesperson Yutaka, Taipei Economic Cultural Office (TECO), Director Michael Tseng, and Hawaii community and association leaders, totaling 250 people who attended the event.

The 25th Anniversary Sister-State Relationship between the State of Hawaii and Taiwan was celebrated in 2018:

- DBEDT Director Luis P. Salaveria led an education mission to Taiwan from September 30 to October 7, 2018, that was represented by ten colleges, universities and schools and the Hawaii Sister-State Committee. The delegation visited three universities; four high schools; participated in three study world education fairs in Hsinchu, Taipei and Taichung; and held meetings with government officials representing the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Council of Indigenous Peoples, and American Institute of Taiwan. Director Salaveria delivered a presentation on Hawaii during U.S. Business Day which was also attended by the Governor of Wyoming and representatives of Arkansas

- The Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) supported the auspicious 25th Anniversary celebration by organizing a legislative delegation to Taiwan during this period that included five representatives representing the State Senate and State House of Representatives.
- In December 2018, a reciprocal celebratory event was held at Washington Place.

INDIA

Goa (2018)

On October 7, 2019, a delegation from Goa visited Hawaii and met with DBEDT and Governor Ige. In the discussions, it was agreed that the first exchanges and areas of cooperation should be in the education sphere. The official delegation included Mr. Govind S. Gaude - Honorable Minister for Art and Culture; Mr. Chokha Ram Garg - Secretary (IAS) Art and Culture; Mr. Ashwin Gomes - Officer on Special Duty II to Honorable Minister.

On the afternoon of September 28, 2018, a formal Sister-State agreement was signed by Governor Ige and Goa Director of Art & Culture, Hon. Gurudas Pilarnekar. The signing ceremony was followed by a reception on the ground floor of the State Art Museum. The delegation from Goa in addition to the Art & Cultural Director included Mrs. Vidya Pilarnakar and Mr. Pradeep Naik, Liaison of Art and Cultural, State of Goa. Goa and Hawaii hope to deepen their relationship in the areas of trade, tourism, communications, humanitarian, educational, professional, commercial, health and wellness, agriculture, technical, scientific, and peace and diplomatic exchanges.

INDONESIA

Bali, Indonesia (2014)

The watershed village project remains active and the Hawaii Indonesia Chamber of Commerce (HICHAM) has informally partnered with another organization to seek Federal/international funding and this work has been diligently pursued throughout 2016. The Bali village project essentially mirrors an Ala Wai watershed cleanup/mitigation project which is likely to receive funding first as a means of proof of the systems approach concept here on Oahu before it is carried to Bali. HICHAM is

looking to transition into the initial assessment work and preliminary feasibility studies for the Bali village watershed project in late 2017.

In addition to the substantial efforts involved in developing the funding sources above, HICHAM coordinated with the Consulate General of Indonesia in Los Angeles to recruit Indonesian firms to participate in the annual Hawaii Lodging, Hospitality and Foodservice Expo. During the expo, HICHAM served as the coordinating organization for a cordial visit and conversation on the status of the Hawaii-Bali Sister-State relationship as well as the potential for developing other relationships and business between Hawaii and Indonesia with Governor Ige.

JAPAN

Fukuoka Prefecture (1981)

The Hawaii Fukuoka Kenjin Kai (HFKK) is the point-of-contact for many activities together with the Fukuoka Prefectural Government.

In 2019, representatives of the Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly traveled to Hawaii to participate in the Hawaii State Legislature's Opening Day festivities. Eleven delegates from Fukuoka were recognized during Opening Day at the Hawaii State Capitol. The HFKK also hosted a dinner for the visiting delegation and the Consulate General of Japan welcomed the delegation during a luncheon.

During the annual HFKK New Year's event, keiro gifts were presented to HFKK members who reached specific age milestones. The gifts were provided by the Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture.

During the Honolulu Festival, the HFKK hosted a booth promoting Fukuoka Prefecture.

The Hawaii Global Education Foundation, in collaboration with HFKK, received a grant-in-aid to develop memorial plaques for Governor George Ariyoshi, former U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye, and former astronaut Ellison Onizuka. The plaques will be placed permanently in each honoree's ancestral home town in Fukuoka.

The Hawaii Fukuoka Kenjin Kai (HFKK) participated in numerous community events during 2018 including the Honolulu Festival among others.

In January 2018, Fukuoka Assembly members participated in the Opening Day festivities of the Hawaii State Legislature. These visits have occurred annually as a strong message of support for Hawaii.

In February 2018, the Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation sent six college students from Fukuoka to Hawaii as part of the 2017 Global Stage Program. The students visited local businesses and attended classes at the University of Hawaii West Oahu.

Fukuoka Prefecture invited 11-year-old children from Hawaii to Fukuoka for a gathering of young students from around the world with ties to Fukuoka. The HFKK also sent representatives from Hawaii to Fukuoka for this occasion.

In July 2018, former Governor George Ariyoshi, State Representative Bert Kobayashi, HFKK members Nikki Thompson and Keith Sakuda attended the Hawaii Festival in Fukuoka. In August 2018, Hawaii Tourism Japan organized a Hawaii Festival in Fukuoka with the Nikkei Legacy Photo Exhibit on display. The HFKK sent a representative to attend this event, too.

In October 2018, the Kaiyu Maru Maritime Training Vessel will visit Hawaii and again have an exchange program with James Campbell High School.

In 2018, the HKFF donated \$25,000 to Fukuoka Prefecture in support of the flooding disasters that occurred.

Okinawa Prefecture (1985)

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) members actively engaged in numerous programs and activities in 2019 with Okinawa with a theme of "Look to Create the Future."

Each year, newly elected HUOA officers travel to Okinawa to meet with government officials and business leaders to support, encourage and promote ongoing relationships between Hawaii and Okinawa. Programs such as high school educational exchanges, economic development and product promotion opportunities and supporting travel between Hawaii and Okinawa were highlighted during the visit.

In 2019, the 29th Annual Student Exchange program was held in Hawaii where 25 high school students from Okinawa traveled to Hawaii to participate in this program.

With a goal to promote Okinawa culture among youth in Hawaii, a five-day Children's Day Camp was organized by the HUOA. Children from grades three to six were invited to participate in the program which included cooking, performing arts and language instruction. Older students in middle school and high school were also involved and allowed students to gain leadership experience.

During the 2019 summer, 15 Hawaii students participated in a Student Exchange to Okinawa program that included a school immersion program and homestay in Okinawa. Also during the summer of 2019, *Irei no Hi*, an event that honored the final day of the battle of Okinawa was held. Activities included a program of oral histories from civilian survivors from the battle of Okinawa.

The 37th Okinawan Festival was held at the Hawaii Convention Center. Over 4,000 volunteers and 50,000 attendees attended the annual Hawaii event. This popular community event celebrates the Okinawan heritage and culture.

Uchinanchu no Hi was held in celebration of the spirit of Uchinanchu immigrants all over the world. The event attracted over 100 participants and included music to celebrate Okinawan immigration to Hawaii.

During the Fall of 2019, a Study Tour in Okinawa was conducted and attended by over 60 people from Hawaii. This annual heritage tour to Okinawa included meetings with government officials and visits to historic cultural sites in Okinawa.

Also in the Fall of 2019, the tragic Shuri Castle Fire devastated the iconic castle one day after Uchinanchu Day in 2019. Hawaii HUOA members established the Shuri Castle Fundraising Drive to raise funds that could help reconstruct and restore the historic monument.

2018 was the 28th year of the Okinawa Prefectural Government (OPG) sponsored student exchange program, the longest continual exchange program between Japan and the United States. A total of 25 High School students and chaperones from Okinawa attended. Students from Hawaii participated in a reciprocal visit to Okinawa. Many student groups from Okinawa also visited Hawaii, including students from Gushikawa Commercial High School; Ginoza, Chatan, Tomigusuku, Nago City, Miyako Island, Yaese, Haebaru, Tomigusuku, Ginoza and Kin Villages/Townships/Cities in Okinawa.

In 2017, construction began on the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza, a commercial building that will support the mission of the HUOA and the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Construction began through the generous donations from Hawaii by individual members and HUOA member clubs as well as over \$1,000,000.00 from the Okinawan Prefectural Government and individual townships throughout Okinawa. The construction of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza was completed in 2018 and a grand opening ceremony was held on September 3, 2018.

In June 2018, the Ireisai Memorial Service was held to remember the 12 Okinawan Prisoner of War detainees who passed away while imprisoned in Hawaii. This powerful remembrance included 55 Ireisai members from Okinawa as well as Vice Governor Isho Urasaki.

In 2018, the Okinawan Festival was held at the Hawaii Convention Center. Approximately 55,000 people, over 400 from Okinawa, attended the annual event.

HUOA Legacy Awards recognizes individuals for their service to the Okinawan community and people of Hawaii. 2017 and 2018 recipients included Governor David Ige, Jake Shimabukuro, Hidehito Uki, Dr. Shinye Gima, Herbert Yanamura, Thomas Taro Higa, Dr. Satoru Izutsu, Patsy K. Young, John and Lynne Waihe'e and as a group, Lisa Nakasone Nakandakari, Keith Oshiro and Julia Nakasone Okamura.

Hiroshima Prefecture (1997)

Since the establishment of the Hawaii-Hiroshima Sister-State Relationship, the Hiroshima Hawaii Sister-State Committee (HHSSC) has worked together with the Hiroshima Prefectural Government on mutually beneficial programs and causes in the spirit of building a partnership of friendship, cooperation and aloha between the people of both regions. It has been the committee's goal to concentrate their collective efforts on programs focused on education; business and economic development; culture and the arts; athletics; and peace initiatives.

During 2018-2019, the HHSSC participated in the following activities:

- Sera Town Board of Education: During the past eight years, in collaboration with the Honolulu Hiroshima Kenjin Kai, a workshop to promote English language was conducted for 12 middle school students, teachers and administrators.
- Hiroshima City University: A workshop on immigration from Hiroshima to Hawaii was conducted for 15 students from Hiroshima City University. The visit included a tour of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii.
- Film Features: Promoted two films featuring Hiroshima that were shown at the 2018 Fall Hawaii International Film Festival – (1) "For Love's Sake" or "Koi no Shizuku" filmed in Saijo, Hiroshima and featured the Kamoizumi Sake Brewery; (2) "The Blood of Wolves" or "Koru no Chi" depicted Kure, Hiroshima in the 1990s.
- Raised funds for the "Hawaii for Hiroshima" campaign for the victims of the torrential rain which caused widespread damage in Hiroshima Prefecture.

Donations raised totaled over \$43,500.00 and presented to Hiroshima Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki in October 2018.

- Celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Honolulu-Hiroshima sister city relationship in July 2019. A commemoration was held in Honolulu including a delegation from Hiroshima City led by Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui. The event included the reaffirmation of the relationship during a signing ceremony; a tree planting at Foster Botanical Gardens; and a reception held at the Consulate of Japan in Honolulu which included a Hiroshima products fair. In addition, meetings with Hawaii companies with Hiroshima ties including Kobayashi Travel, Yohei Sushi, Carp Dori and MW Restaurant was held.

The Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce (HJCC) and the Hiroshima Prefectural Government selected next generation leaders from Hawaii who participated in the 2019 Emerging Young Business Leaders program. They also hosted representatives from Hiroshima who participated in the Hawaii program. This exchange program has provided personal development skills, supports and encourages young leaders to continue developing cross-cultural skills within their communities and organizations in Hawaii and Hiroshima according to the HJCC.

The Hawaii Hiroshima Sister-State Committee planned and participated in numerous events in Hawaii and Hiroshima during 2018:

- “Hawaii for Hiroshima” campaign raised funds for the victims of the widespread damage experienced by Hiroshima Prefecture. The landslides and flooding caused the deaths of more than 100 residents. Total donations raised was \$43,500.00 and presented by the Hawaii-Hiroshima Sister-State Committee to Hiroshima Prefecture in October 2018.
- In December 2018, in celebration of their third consecutive title of the Central League, will again be traveling to Honolulu which will include 150 members staying five to seven days in Hawaii.
- The Hawaii-Hiroshima Sister-State Committee also promoted education and cultural events in 2018 including featuring Hiroshima films shown during the 2018 Hawaii International Film Festival. Education programs occurred in 2018 with exchanges between Hawaii’s Roosevelt High School Yasunishi High School. Also, in 2018, Sera Town and Hiroshima City University both sent students to Hawaii to participate in various educational workshops.

The Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce (HJCC) in collaboration with Hiroshima Prefecture, launched the Emerging Young Business Leader Program during 2017 and

2018. Seventeen young business professionals from each region were selected to participate in the program. The program was a tremendous success and will be implemented again in 2019.

Ehime Prefecture (2003)

In November 2019, over 70 baseball youth and their families traveled to Hawaii for the 17th Annual Hawaii-Ehime Goodwill Youth Baseball Exchange. In addition to participating in the baseball games, the delegation, which also included representatives of the Ehime Assembly, attended a luncheon in their honor at Washington Place. First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige hosted the luncheon and represented Governor David Ige during the event. The First Lady welcomed the delegation and provided inspirational remarks on the importance of international youth exchanges and the Ehime-Hawaii relationship.

In 2019, the inaugural Hawaii-Ehime Goodwill Judo Exchange also was held in Honolulu during the same weekend as the baseball tournaments. The judo exchange is between the 50th State Judo Association and the Ehime Prefecture Judo Association.

The November 2019 delegation was led by Assembly Member Junnosuke Kaino, Assembly Member Kazuhisa Matsuo, Assembly Member Makoto Onishi, and Matsuyama Council Member Yuji Shiraishi. Upon arrival of the delegation, Hawaii officials, parents, and coaches welcomed the Ehime group at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. The delegation paid respects at the Ehime Maru Memorial and Kakaako Waterfront Park. Reverend Yoshida from Soto Mission conducted a memorial service at that time.

The delegation met with Mayor Kirk Caldwell followed by a tour of the Hawaii State Capitol.

The weekend ended with a formal reception at Natsunoya Tea House. The highlight of the evening was the speeches delivered in Japanese and English by Ehime youth participants. The Ehime youth also participated in homestays during their visit to Hawaii.

In September 2019, staff of Ehime Prefectural Government's International Affairs Division traveled to Hawaii to meet with DBEDT representatives. The visit to Hawaii included their participation in the Honolulu Century Ride. The purpose of their visit was also to promote the Cycling Shimanami 2020 event that will be held in Ehime. The prefecture hopes that Hawaii will be represented during the 2020 cycling event in Ehime.

In November 2018, over 100 baseball youth and their families traveled to Ehime for the annual Hawaii-Ehime Goodwill Youth Baseball Exchange. During this visit, in addition to the participating in the baseball games, the Hawaii delegation visited Uwajima Fishery High School; Uwajima Minami Secondary School; participated in homestays and attended numerous networking events.

During 2017 and 2018, the Hawaii Ehime Kenjin Kai received students from Uwajima Minami Junior High School and Super Global High School Students from Ehime.

Hokkaido (2017)

The Hawaii-Hokkaido relationship has shown much promise with the numerous activities and exchanges that have occurred through efforts by the Hokkaido Club of Hawaii.

In February 2019, a Hokkaido Product Exhibition and Hokkaido Ainu Culture exhibit was on display at the International Market Place. During the Honolulu Festival held in March, the Hokkaido government funded a mini exhibition with similar themes. Each year, Hawaii fans from Hokkaido participate in the Honolulu Festival. Since 2017, 150 people from Hokkaido participated in the festival, many who used the direct Hawaiian Airlines flight between Sapporo and Honolulu. In 2019, the Hokkaido Hawaii Club sponsored six booths in collaboration with BRUG and the Rice Factory in Hawaii. The relationship is further strengthened by involving Hawaii companies with Hokkaido ties in activities such as these.

The Honolulu Marathon is an event that attracts many runners from Japan and, specifically, from Hokkaido. Approximately 750 participants were from Hokkaido in 2019.

In support of building educational exchanges with Hawaii, Hokkaido Obihiro Hakuyo High School and Kalani High School in Hawaii entered into a sister-school agreement. In December 2019, Hokkaido government officials, educators, school principals, etc. visited Hawaii. The Hokkaido Hawaii Club has been instrumental in facilitating educational exchanges between the regions.

On September 6, 2018, Hokkaido suffered a devastating earthquake with a magnitude of 6.7. The local Hawaii community were saddened to hear of the tragic loss of life and the damaging effects to many communities in Hokkaido. In the spirit of the sister-state relationship, the Hokkaido Hawaii Club helped to raise funds for Hokkaido and raised

\$1,500.00 by early 2019 that was donated to Hokkaido through the Japanese Red Cross.

To commemorate the sister-state relationship between Hokkaido and Hawaii, a movie about Hokkaido was shown at the 2018 Honolulu Festival.

Representatives from the Hawaii State Legislature and DBEDT participated in the 150th anniversary of the naming of Hokkaido. The participants accepted the invitation by Governor Harumi Takahashi to attend various commemorative events in Hokkaido. DBEDT did a presentation on the investment climate in Hawaii at a seminar hosted by the prefectural government's International Affairs Office. Hawaii was well represented by a delegation of five to show its strong support of the Hawaii-Hokkaido sister-state relationship.

In June 2018, a nine-member delegation representing the Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly officials, Hokkaido's Vice Governor and staff of international relations traveled to Hawaii. The group participated in the Gannenmono events that were held in Honolulu.

In January 2018, Chitose City sent a delegation of twenty to Hawaii in support of the international educational exchanges. Fifteen members of the delegation represented by high schools and universities.

Consadole Sapporo, a pro soccer team based in Hokkaido traveled to Hawaii to compete in the Pacific Rim Cup. Their fans from Hokkaido also traveled to Hawaii on this occasion. The prefecture and the State hope to increase sports exchange between youth from both regions.

KOREA

Jeju Province (1986)

DBEDT was invited to participate in the Jeju International Week – Sister and Friendship City Exchange sponsored by the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (JSSGP), June 17 to June 20, 2019. Hawaii was one of 15 participants. This event was held concurrently with the 2019 Sustainable Development Jeju International Conference, sponsored by the JSSGP Council. The primary outcome of this exchange was a continued strengthening of Hawaii's relationship with Jeju, as well as other Asian provinces,

prefectures and cities who participated in the areas of business, sustainability, tourism and energy.

The State of Hawaii's Office of Environmental Quality Control/DOH and the Commission on Water Resource Management/DLNR are working with counterparts in Jeju Province to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding sharing information and best practices on water resource management, conservation and water quality. The MOU has been drafted but is still pending.

The Hawaii Department of Education (DOE) was invited to send a high school team to the 9th Annual Jeju Youth Forum. The Forum is sponsored by the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Provincial Office of Education and was held in November 2018. Kalani High School represented Hawaii during the 2018 event.

MOROCCO

Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer (2011)

No activities reported in 2018-2019.

PHILIPPINES

Ilocos Sur Province (1985)

From October 12 to October 22, 2019, the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (FCCH) led a mission to Manila, Clark, Tarlac, Candon, Vigan and Laoag. DBEDT Administrator Dennis Ling participated in the mission to Manila and Clark. The mission focused on the promotion of the 2020 Hawaii-Philippines Sister States, Provinces and Cities Expo and Summit to take place in Honolulu in July of 2020. The FCCH received a grant-in-aid from the 2019 Legislature to produce the Expo and Summit, along with DBEDT. The event will also tie in with the MOU that Governor Ige and Governor Ryan Singson of Ilocos Sur signed in 2017 to further Hawaii and Philippines Provinces relations, especially as it relates to economic development. This October mission included site visits and meetings with several potential participants and attendees to the Expo and Summit in 2020, including meetings with Candon City Mayor Ericson Singson and Ilocos Sur Governor Ryan Singson.

Cebu Province, Philippines (1996)

No activities reported in 2018-2019.

Pangasinan Province (2002)

No activities reported in 2018-2019.

Ilocos Norte Province (2005)

As part of the October 2019 mission to the Philippines undertaken by the FCCH, the mission visited Laoag, Ilocos Norte to promote the Hawaii-Philippines Sister States, Provinces and Cities Expo and Summit in 2020. Meetings were held with the Ilocos Norte Governor Matthew Manotoc and Laoag Mayor Valdez.

Isabela Province (2006)

No activities reported in 2018-2019.

PORTUGAL

Azores Islands (1982)

No activities reported in 2018-2019.