

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Friday, February 21, 2020
12:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2209, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO IOLANI PALACE**

House Bill 2209, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds for repair, restoration, and maintenance of Iolani Palace. Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct a structural and electrical survey of Iolani Palace and submit to the legislature a five- to ten-year working plan for Iolani Palace to proceed with repair, restoration, and maintenance work on this property. **The Department strongly supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

The Department has executed a 25-year general lease with the Friends of Iolani Palace (FOIP) to manage and operate Iolani Palace, Iolani Palace Barracks (Hale Koa) and the Coronation Pavilion. FOIP is authorized to host events via special use permits to generate funding to support the management and maintenance costs of this unique and significant historic and cultural feature.

The Department's Division of State Parks (DSP) regulates and manages the various special use activities and events of the adjacent four quadrants that comprise the grounds surrounding the buildings. DSP also administers and executes capital improvement projects (CIP) for the buildings and appurtenant structures. The last major CIP was for the restoration of the fence and walls surrounding the Palace – which had not been restored for over 100 years.

The Department appreciates the reinvestment of one of the State's most valuable cultural asset. The appropriation of general funds would be designated for restoration and repairs and would assist with the FOIP list of high priority items.

The Department supports \$2,325,000 in general funds for the repair, restoration, and maintenance of Iolani Palace and \$100,000 in general funds for a structural survey, an electrical survey and a five- to ten-year working plan for Iolani Palace provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii tourismauthority.org

David Y. Ige
Governor

Chris Tatum
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
CHRIS TATUM

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, February 21, 2020
12:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #308

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL NO. 2209 HD1
RELATING TO 'IOLANI PALACE

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee on Finance: the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** House Bill 2209 HD1, which appropriates funds for repair, restoration, and maintenance of Iolani Palace. It requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to conduct a structural and electrical survey of 'Iolani Place and submit to the Legislature a five- to ten-year working plan for 'Iolani Palace to proceed with repair, restoration, and maintenance work on the property.

HB2209 HD1 would help 'Iolani Palace begin to address the many structural issues impacting this historic landmark that is now approaching more than 138 years since its construction was complete. Supporting this historical landmark with these funds will protect and preserve the Palace while also improving the overall experience for both visitors and residents. 'Iolani Palace, the only official royal residence in the U.S., is a National Historic Landmark that draws tens of thousands of visitors, which includes residents and non-residents, every year. Providing these additional resources will ultimately ensure that this incredibly important and culturally significant historic icon is preserved and protected for generations to come.

It is for these reasons that we offer our testimony in **support** of HB2209 HD1. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-2209-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 2:29:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Kennedy	Friends of 'Iolani Palace	Support	No

Comments:

I am retired from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. and have lived in Honolulu for the past 10 years. I have been active on several boards here including the Friends of 'Iolani Palace. As a citizen of this State and a board member at the Palace I strongly urge support for Bill 2209, the ongoing and critical maintenance of the facility. As a curator and Center director at the Smithsonian I know how absolutely necessary government support is for the proper functioning of the Institution, the national museum of the United States. The greatly beloved Palace here like the highly respected Smithsonian in D.C. represent the cultural heart of the state and deserve the general support of its government. I continue to be surprised there is not ongoing annual support from the State to maintain the Palace, and would hope that such support is considered in the future. In the meantime I reiterate my support for Bill 2209. Thank you,

Richard Kennedy, Ph.D.



IOLANI PALACE

Post Office Box 2259 Honolulu, HI 96804-2259 Telephone (808) 522-0822 FAX (808) 532-1051

**Testimony of
PAULA AKANA
Executive Director**

**Before the House Committee on
FIN**

**Friday, February 21, 2020
12:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In Consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2209 HD1
RELATING TO IOLANI PALACE**

Aloha,

I am Paula Akana, executive director of The Friends of Iolani Palace.

We STRONGLY SUPPORT HB2209 HD1. This bill would provide The Friends of Iolani Palace much needed funding to preserve and protect Hawaii's treasure, Iolani Palace. It would also provide for a structural and electrical survey to be done, which would help DLNR come up with a 5 – 10 year repair and maintenance plan.

The Friends of Iolani Palace is a Hawaii non-profit organization. We hold a long term lease with DLNR to operate Iolani Palace, the Barracks, the Coronation Pavilion and the Kanaina Building (the old archives building).

Iolani Palace opened in 1882. It served as the seat of government for the Hawaiian Government until the overthrow in 1893. It then served as government offices for the Provisional, Territorial and State governments until the present Hawaii State Capitol opened in 1969.

The Palace has been designated as the State of Hawaii Museum of Monarchy History. It is a National Historic Landmark and is the only official royal residence in the United States.

The Friends was formed in 1966 to help with the restoration of Iolani Palace. In the past, the state provided funding that would assist with repair and maintenance.

That stopped in 1998.

Our revenue today comes from ticket and gift shop sales, membership, donations and fees for events held on property. We also, as part of our lease, offer Palace tours one Sunday each month to kamaaina and active military for free. About 160,000 people walk through the doors of the Palace each year.

While much was done in those first two decades, time has not been kind on the 138 year old building.

The biggest issues we face today involve deferred maintenance, and with any structure, the longer you wait, the more expensive it will be to fix, especially with a historic structure.

Our biggest and costliest problem, by far, is the Palace Roof. It is leaking on employees, computers and artifacts.

A close second is our HVAC system, which regulates temperature and humidity, which is important for artifacts. In the first six months of this fiscal year, we have spent \$45,000 on that system alone. We are currently working to find a solution

We also have an issue with bees. There are several hives within the outer layer of the Palace. They are not inside the building's rooms, but in the four columns. We are currently working on a solution with DLNR/DAGS.

Items in need and cost estimates include:

<u>ROOF REPAIR</u>	\$835,000 (2018 estimate)
That doesn't include contingency fees. We are unsure what they will find when they remove those shingles.	
<u>CORONATION PAVILION</u>	\$113,000 (2018 estimate)
The historic structure is badly in need of repair and is off limits due to safety concerns	
<u>PERGOLAS</u>	\$40,000 (2018 estimate)
These shady areas are closed off with construction fencing due to safety concerns	
<u>ETCHED GLASS</u>	\$90,000
This will recreate the 1881 panels damaged by vandalism, as well as the remaining original panels, which will be placed on display in the future.	
<u>PALACE DOOR LOCKS</u>	\$64,000
<u>PALACE DOOR HINGES</u>	\$50,400
This is for only the first floor doors, which are heavier and larger. Unknown cost for remaining doors.	
<u>SCONCES</u>	\$115,000
<u>ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION</u>	\$225,000
This elevator is heavily used daily.	

WINDOW FRAMES

\$90,000 (Estimate)

Possibly higher now due to water/sun damage on the windows

SECOND FLOOR LANAI FLOORS (?????)

The wood is rotting. The railings are rusting and the plaster surrounding them is spalling.

MASONRY FOR STAIRS

\$200,000 (Verbal estimate)

These are the four main stairs into Palace. There are a lot of cracks.

COLUMNS, RAILINGS, LIGHT POLES (?????)

These are on the first floor. all rusting. columns and railings need rustproofing and repainting before the rust gets worse and causes more costly problems. The light poles are rusting at base.

PALACE EXTERIOR

(?????)

Beneath the plaster is brick. You can see the brick outlines in many areas.

Above the mauka steps if you look up, the plaster has fallen off and the red brick is exposed.

These are just some of the items in need of repair. For The Friends of Iolani Palace, it is a labor of love to restore, preserve and now repair Iolani Palace and to share the stories of Hawaii's monarchs with the people of Hawaii and the world.

We hope with your help, we can work together to protect this wahi pana, or special place, so it will be around for future generations to see and hear those stories.

Much aloha,
Paula Akana



**NATIVE HAWAIIAN
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**



BISHOP MUSEUM



**COUNCIL for
NATIVE HAWAIIAN
ADVANCEMENT**



**THE QUEEN'S
HEALTH SYSTEMS**



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Papa Ola Lōkahi

House Committee on Finance

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Date: February 21, 2020

Room: State Capitol Room 308

To: Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee

RE: In Support of HB 2209, HD1, Relating to 'Iolani Palace

The listed organizations write in **SUPPORT** of HB2209, HD1, which appropriates funds for the repair, restoration, and maintenance of 'Iolani Palace and requires DLNR to conduct a structural and electrical survey and submit to the legislature a related five- to ten-year working plan.

As the official residence of Hawai'i's last reigning monarchs, King David Kalākaua and Queen Lili'uokalani, and as the capitol building for the Republic, Territory, and eventually, the State of Hawai'i, 'Iolani Palace preserves a significant time in Hawai'i's past that inspires our modern national and cultural identity.

In allocating funds for the maintenance of this important historic site, we ensure that future generations can learn of our unique history and develop an understanding of who they are and where they come from. In doing so, we build meaningful connections between Hawai'i and its people, promoting aloha for our home and community.

State funds are necessary to ensure the care, protection and preservation of this priceless historic site, which is of tremendous importance to Hawai'i's people. Accordingly, we ask you to support this bill and urge the Committee to **PASS** HB2209, HD1.

Testimony of
PONO SHIM
**In Support of HB2209, HD1
Relating to Iolani Palace**

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Friday, February 21, 2020
12:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

Please accept this testimony in support HB 2209, HD1.

HB 2209, HD1 would provide vital funding for the repair, restoration and maintenance of Iolani Palace, The State of Hawaii Museum of Monarchy History. The Palace is a National Historic Landmark, and the only royal residence in the United States.

Iolani Palace opened its doors in 1882 and represents a pivotal point in the history of Hawaii. The funding provided through HB 2209, HD1 will help to ensure that this story is preserved and shared with Hawaii's visitors and our future generations.

I also serve as part of the Executive Board of the Friends of Iolani Palace and the organization depends on monies raised from ticket and gift shop sales, donations, and events to help pay for the operations and maintenance of this very special place. We encourage the approval of HB 2209, HD1 to ensure that the Palace is preserved for visitors and future generations.

Mahalo,
Pono Shim

Testimony of Mark T. Shklov in Support of House Bill 2209 H.D.1

My name is Mark T. Shklov. I am a Hawaii Lawyer and a Member of the Board of Directors of The Friends of Iolani Palace.

The Friends of Iolani Palace is the non-profit corporation whose Mission is “to preserve, restore, interpret, share and celebrate the unique cultural, historical, and spiritual qualities of Iolani Palace and its grounds for the benefit of and to serve Native Hawaiians, the People of Hawaii, and the World”.

I submit this testimony in support of House Bill 2209 H.D.1.

House Bill 2209 H.D.1 appropriates funds for the repair, restoration, and maintenance of Iolani Palace.

These funds are vital to the preservation and promotion of Iolani Palace, which is an iconic symbol of Hawaii.

I believe that King Kalakaua had a positive vision for Hawaii’s place in the world when he built Iolani Palace. I believe that King Kalakaua intended Iolani Palace to represent the Aloha Spirit and welcoming friendship of Hawaiian culture. Iolani Palace continues that vision today and it should be shared with visitors to Hawaii and kept alive for Hawaii’s future generations. All of the children of Hawaii deserve this beneficial historical and cultural resource as they grow up and interact with others in life.

If Iolani Palace is properly preserved, restored, and protected, it can provide inspiration to Hawaii’s people, especially Hawaii’s youth, now and into the future. Iolani Palace is a unique asset that will continue contributing to the people of Hawaii and the world if it is appreciated and cared for.

House Bill 2209 H.D.1 would help The Friends of Iolani Palace continue King Kalakaua’s vision and assure Iolani Palace’s beneficiaries, the people of Hawaii and the World, that it will be standing for future generations.

Mahalo,

Mark T. Shklov

Date: February 21, 2020

To: House Committee on Finance

From: Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

Re: HB 2209 HD1

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Ty Cullen, and members of the House Committee on Finance,

As a native Hawaiian, I **SUPPORT HB 2209 HD1**. This bill appropriates funds for repair, restoration, and maintenance of 'Iolani Palace.

'Iolani Palace is a wonderful asset to the State Hawai'i and is a symbol of the royal history of the islands. The repair and maintenance with funds contributed by the State is deperately needed. Please PASS HB 2209 HD1.