

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
WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Friday, January 31, 2020
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2209
RELATING TO IOLANI PALACE**

House Bill 2209 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 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.

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

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

TO: Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair
Committee on Water Land & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
Historic Hawaii Foundation

Committee: Friday, January 31, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 325

RE: HB 2209 Relating to 'Iolani Palace

On behalf of Historic Hawaii Foundation, I am writing in **support for HB 2209**. The bill would appropriate funds for the repair, restoration and maintenance of Iolani Palace's roof, windows, lock sets, lighting, HVAC system, coronation pavilion, pergolas and bee removal.

Iolani Palace is an exceptional historic resource. It is designated as a State Monument, a National Historic Landmark and a contributing property in the Hawai'i State Capital National Historic District. Built in 1882 by King David Kalākaua, the palace served as the royal residence until 1893 for the King and his successor, Queen Lili'uokalani. For nine months in 1895, the deposed Queen was imprisoned in a bedroom of the Palace. From 1893 – 1968, the building served as the capitol of the Republic, the Territory and the State of Hawai'i. When the new capitol building opened in 1968, the process of restoring the Palace began under the leadership of the Friends of Iolani Palace, the Junior League of Honolulu and numerous community members.

The initial period of rehabilitation reflected a phenomenal effort and the results have been to restore the most significant building of the Monarchy era. All buildings require routine and regular maintenance; a historic structure of this level of significance also requires special treatment in accordance with strict preservation standards. The appropriation will allow the department to take appropriate actions on behalf of this beloved and significant site.

The historic, cultural and natural resources of Hawai'i are a great legacy and irreplaceable treasures. Historic Hawai'i Foundation strongly supports measures that lead to investments in Hawai'i's historic places and that help keep their stories alive for present and future generations. The Palace is an important icon for Hawai'i residents and visitors, adding to the enjoyment, education, and understanding of Hawai'i's history and inspiration for the future. We support the effort to identify additional funding sources to help preserve, restore, enhance and celebrate these resources.

Investing in historic property rehabilitation and preservation activities not only helps perpetuate these resources for Hawai'i's people, but also help educate and inspire visitors. Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Visitor Satisfaction and Activity Report (2017) notes that the vast majority of visitors to Hawai'i engaged in historical and cultural activities statewide (U.S. West = 74%; U.S. East = 81%; Canada = 75%, Europe = 77%; Oceania = 74%; China = 84%; Korea = 58%; Japan = 40%). These travelers visited museums, art galleries, historic sites and cultural attractions, and contributed to the economic vitality of the state.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports HB 2209.



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
WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Friday, January 31, 2020
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

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

Aloha,

The Friends of Iolani Palace strongly supports House Bill 2209.

This bill proposes to appropriate much needed funds for the repair, restoration and maintenance of Iolani Palace, which is now 137 year old and is an important part of Hawaii's history.

The Friends of Iolani Palace have a long term lease with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources - State Parks Division to maintain and operate the Palace. That lease also includes the Barracks, Coronation Pavilion and the Kanaina Building (the old archives).

We operate the Palace complex with the proceeds from entry fees for tours, as well as hosting special events held on the grounds. As you can imagine, the maintenance and repair costs for this wahi pana, or special place, exceed what we bring in.

We now look to the State for kokua.

This measure will enable us to make some much needed repairs and get the structural and electrical survey to begin the journey of catching up on long deferred maintenance.

Our goal is to continue to be able to share this wahi pana and Hawaii's story with our residents as well as people from all around the world, for generations to come.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to comment on HB2209.



IOLANI PALACE

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**Testimony of
LISSA GUILD EVELETH
President of the Board of Directors**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Friday, January 31, 2020
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

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

Aloha,

House Bill 2209 proposes funding to help restore, repair and maintain Iolani Palace.

Those monies will help preserve the historic Palace as well as the Iolani Barracks (Hale Koa), Coronation Pavilion and Kanaina Building (Old Archives) on the Palace Grounds.

It will also fund an electrical and structural survey that will help plan out what needs to be done in the future.

Iolani Palace is a National Historic Landmark that tens of thousands of people visit each year.

Just as important, it shares the story of an important part of Hawaii's history.

The board of directors of The Friends of Iolani Palace strongly supports this legislation.

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 10:07:29 AM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leatrice Maluhia Kauahi	Ka Lei Papahi O Kakuhihewa and Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments:

The Friends of Iolani Palace does not receive any financial subsidy from the State of Hawaii for operational Support, therefore must rely solely on ticket and shop sales, donations, and special events held on the palace grounds and have identified a critical need to renovate the palace roof and the coronation Pavillion, according to DLNR, the last major repair of the Coronation Pavilion was in 1983 and minor repair work since then have exposed the need for major repairs to the wooden and concrete elements of the structure; to upgrade the security of the palace and its nearby buildings through the replacement of various doors and locks. We strongly testify on behalf of this bill to protect Iolani Palace, a very important and historical structure for the State of Hawaii.

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 7:21:08 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 7:18:07 AM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB 2209. While this testimony is being provided as an individual citizen and not on behalf of my employer, I have been working with Iolani Palace in a professional capacity for many years now helping to reduce their energy operating costs. I have seen first hand the need for funding to repair the roof and other much needed repair work. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 4:22:58 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 6:13:01 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Manera	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 7:04:24 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rhonda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2209.

Funds for repair, restoration and maintenance of Iolani Palace should be appropriated.

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 7:41:29 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
maelani Lee	the Queen's Court	Support	No

Comments:

We, the Queen's Court, support this Bill. We have attended and held events at 'Iolani Palace and have noticed some repairs needed. We strongly recommend doing the necessary repairs to keep the community safe and accessible to all. 'Iolani Palace is a historical site and should be restored and open to the public for educational purposes. Without the repairs completed, 'Iolani Palace may close down for good and the future generations of Hawai'i may not have a "sense of place" or be able to experience how our Kingdom and monarchy once lived. It could deprive them of their own history, culture, and reflection of life. Please do not kill this Bill. It is necessary to restore our palace for our people, future generations, tourists, and keiki to gain a better understanding of our history, connect with our ancestors, and appreciate our home, Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

the Queen's Court

Maelani Lee/Coordinator

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 8:26:20 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaylene Sheldon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

Iolani Palace is our legacy and needs to be preserved. I support HB 2209. My name is Kaylene Kauwila Sheldon and I am a registered voter. The palace needs repairs and is very fragile. Thousands of people come to visit the only palace or known Kingdom within the continent. It's historical significance is crucial to our keiki, 'Ā• pio, ohana and nĀ• kĀ«puna. I kindly & humbly ask that the legislature support Iolani Palace.

Mahalo,

Kaylene Kauwila Sheldon

HB-2209

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 11:16:17 PM

Testimony for WLH on 1/31/2020 9:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Blaine De Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2209



KA LĀHUI HAWAI'I
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

LATE

LATE

BEFORE THE HOUSE WATER, LAND AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

JANUARY 31, 2020

HB 2209

Relating to 'Iolani Palace

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Todd, and Members of the Committee,

Ka Lāhui Hawai'i Political Action Committee (KPAC) SUPPORTS House Bill 2209 which provides funds for much needed repairs for 'Iolani Palace.

For many decades under the control of the Territory of Hawai'i and the State of Hawai'i, 'Iolani Palace was not treated with the care and respect it deserves as the home of the Rulers of the Kingdom of Hawai'i. The State of Hawai'i has an obligation to repair this historic and cultural treasure that is sacred to Kanaka Maoli and is a very important tourists attraction.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Healani Sonoda-Pale
Chair, KPAC