

**The Kawaihapai Ohana**

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**April 26, 2021**

**Public Hearing**

**Monday, March 29, 2021 / 2:00PM**

**House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)**

**Chair – Representative Mark M Nakashima**

**Vice Chair – Representative Scot Z Matayoshi**

**RE: Testimony of Support for HCR 135 & HR 115 (Recognizing Mekia Kealakai’s Birthday of Oct 15  
Royal Hawaiian Troubadours Day)**

**Aloha Chair Nakashima & Committee Members,**

**I am testifying as an Individual and Po’o of The Kawaihapai Ohana which is recognized by The Department of Interior’s Office of Hawaiian Relations as a Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO). I’m a member of a Waialua Piko Ohana and lifetime resident of Mokule’ia currently serving my fourth consecutive term on the North Shore Neighborhood Board Sub-District 1 (Mokule’ia to Ka’ena Point).**

**Mahalo to Representative Daniel Holt for introducing this legislation to honor and recognize Mekia Kealakai. He is one of our greatest Native Hawaiian Musician, Composer and twice Conductor of The Royal Hawaiian Band inspiring many Hawaiian Musicians here in Hawaii and Worldwide. Attached with this testimony is one of his compositions entitled Waialae as a love song for this place where Paul Isenberg’s home is situated. It’s a popular mele performed by many including Gabby Pahinui and The Sons of Hawaii. Mekia Kealakai was also a student of Henri Berger.**


**Please ensure his complete vital information be inserted in this legislation and perhaps considered annual recognition: Mekia Kealakai (B) October 15, 1867 – Honolulu, Hawaii – (D) March 31, 1944 – Waipahu, Hawaii**



**MAJOR KEALAKAI'S  
ROYAL HAWAIIAN SEXTETTE**

VOCALISTS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS  
Of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands

SINGING THEIR NATIVE SONGS, PLAYING THEIR NATIVE INSTRUMENTS  
APPEARING IN HAWAIIAN COSTUMES



UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF  
LORO GOOCH MUSICAL-DRAMATIC BUREAU  
32-33 AUDITORIUM BUILDING, CHICAGO

Ukulele  
Guitar and 8 Basses  
Steel Guitar  
Accomp.

Tempo di valse

U - a i - ke no ha-i o - e Ika i - i - ni a ka ma-na-o Ho - o -  
 There a - love dear art as - quanted with the longing of my heart Just to

ku-hi sin-gu-a-i le-o U - a la wa ia ka ma-na-o  
 hear thee, oh he - lov-ed Is suf - ficient to sat - is - fy me.

Ai - a hi - ki ko a - la - ha Ku - a ko - mo i Wai - a - la - o Ko a -  
 When your love comes, oh he - lov-ed, In the still hours of the night There's no

lo - ha hi - ki an - mo - e Pu - lu - pe i ko ko - ha -  
 oh - er thing that cheers me In my home at Wa - i - a - la - o

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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide Testimony of Strong Support for HCR 135 & HD 115.

Thomas T Shirai Jr

Mokule'ia, Waialua