

SB-83-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2021 2:02:08 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/2/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB83 as the first step for a Hawaiian Recognition Day. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

SB-83-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2021 5:14:50 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/2/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Will Caron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I support this bill, but would also support amending it to make La Ku'oko'a an official state holiday.

Mahalo.

SB-83-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2021 8:51:13 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/2/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I was at a neighborhood board meeting last week where discussions were being held on the bill concerning the development of Kaka'ako by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. A member in the audience, non-Hawaiian, expressed his sentiment by saying something to the effect that the Hawaiian people are being and continue to be shafted. It warmed my heart to hear a non-Hawaiian express such sentiments. He apparently recognizes the struggles of Native Hawaiians in their homeland.

I say these things as I start my testimony because I think it important to express the difference that you as legislators can make to right the wrong that was done to Native Hawaiians. Thus, while I appreciate that this bill intends to recognize the independence of the Kingdom of Hawaii, I am extremely disappointed that it is not being recognized as a state holiday.

As the bill itself recognizes, "The legislature finds that every state in the Union celebrates holidays unique to that state's history. Texas celebrates its own Texas Independence Day, a day honoring Texas' independence from Mexico's central government. Utah celebrates Pioneer Day, the day Brigham Young ventured to its territory. Alaska celebrates Seward's Day, when the purchase treaty between the United States and Russia was codified."

LÄ• KÅ«oko'a remained a national holiday under the Provisional Government of Hawaii (1893), the Republic of Hawaii (1894-1898), and the initial years of the Territory of Hawaii. LÄ• KÅ«oko'a was among the codified list of national holidays enacted by the Republic of Hawaii in 1896 (Act 66). I do not know why it was dropped by the State of Hawaii.

Thus, I urge you to amend this bill to declare Nov 28 as a state holiday. By doing so, in and of itself, would be educational. If you can't do this this year because it may be too soon to remove election day since mail ballot voting just started, then commit as legislators to revisit this day as a holiday next year. See this bill as the stepping stone leading to that objective.