

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
CHIEF INFORMATION  
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Testimony of  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Chief Information Officer  
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Tuesday, March 16, 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5  
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR  
FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING.

Dear Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee:

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 5, which establishes a Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures, needs and challenges across state agencies.

ETS looks forward to working collaboratively with members of this task force.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**SCR5**  
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR  
FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING  
Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Hana Aupuni

Malaki 16, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Lumi 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SCR5, a measure in OHA’s 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond.

**The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted longstanding data challenges faced by state, county, and private entities throughout Hawai‘i.** The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are broad—affecting our community’s health, employment, and housing security, for example—and may also include more nuanced, secondary effects such as increases in domestic violence. Unfortunately, efforts to better understand and address the significant and unique impacts of the pandemic on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have been stymied by insufficient and inconsistent demographic data collection, processing, retention, and sharing by and between critical government entities and programs. Notably, these data governance challenges have been a source of concern for many years, even prior to the pandemic, and have long inhibited the development of data-driven, fact-based, and tailored policies and interventions to address the varied and unique needs of our Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities.

SCR5 seeks to address these longstanding data challenges by: (1) requesting that certain state agencies, the county police departments, and the Judiciary compile and share existing disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders; (2) urging those same entities to work with OHA and the Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawai‘i COVID-19 Response, Recovery, and Resilience Team to develop procedures and agreements for improved data collection, processing, retention, and sharing; and (3) urging the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Collection to assess the current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures, needs, and challenges across state agencies.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly

| crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decisionmaking for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ANNE E. PERREIRA-EUSTAQUIO  
DIRECTOR

JOANN A. VIDINHAR  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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March 16, 2021

To: The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair,  
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021  
Time: 3:00 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio, Director  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

**Re: S.C.R. 5 RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA  
GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING.**

**I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

This proposal urges the department to compile and share existing data that disaggregates Native Hawaiians from other Pacific Islanders and to work with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response, Recovery, and Resilience Team to develop procedures and agreements for improving data collection, processing, retention, governance, and sharing with respect to Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and other relevant demographics, and to each submit a report on their respective procedures and agreements to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2022.

The DLIR offers comments on the measure.

**II. CURRENT LAW**

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards on race and ethnicity was last revised in 1997 by OMB's Statistical Policy Directive No. 15. OMB-15 modified the category of "Asian or Pacific Islander" category into separate categories "Asian" and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander." The 1997 OMB standards permit the reporting of more than one race. An individual's response to the race question is

based upon self-identification and voluntary.

### III. **COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL**

The DLIR's Research & Statistics Office (R&S), submits mandated reports on claimants for Unemployment Insurance by characteristics, including race, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. **Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed** is updated monthly and summarized annually on our DLIR website at:

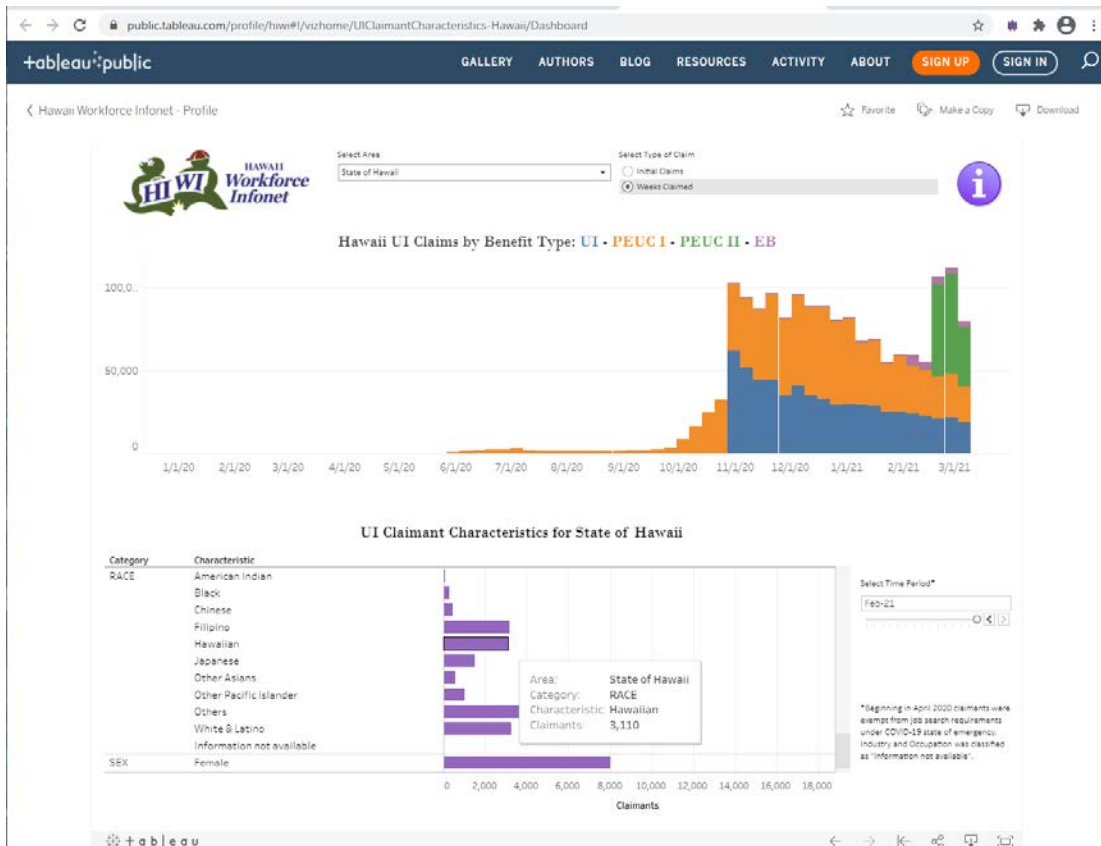
<http://labor.hawaii.gov/rs/home/unemployment/characteristics-of-the-insured-unemployed/>

This report provides the number of claimants for Unemployment Insurance benefits in Hawaii at the state and county levels. The report contains a category for race, including a separate breakout for Hawaiian.

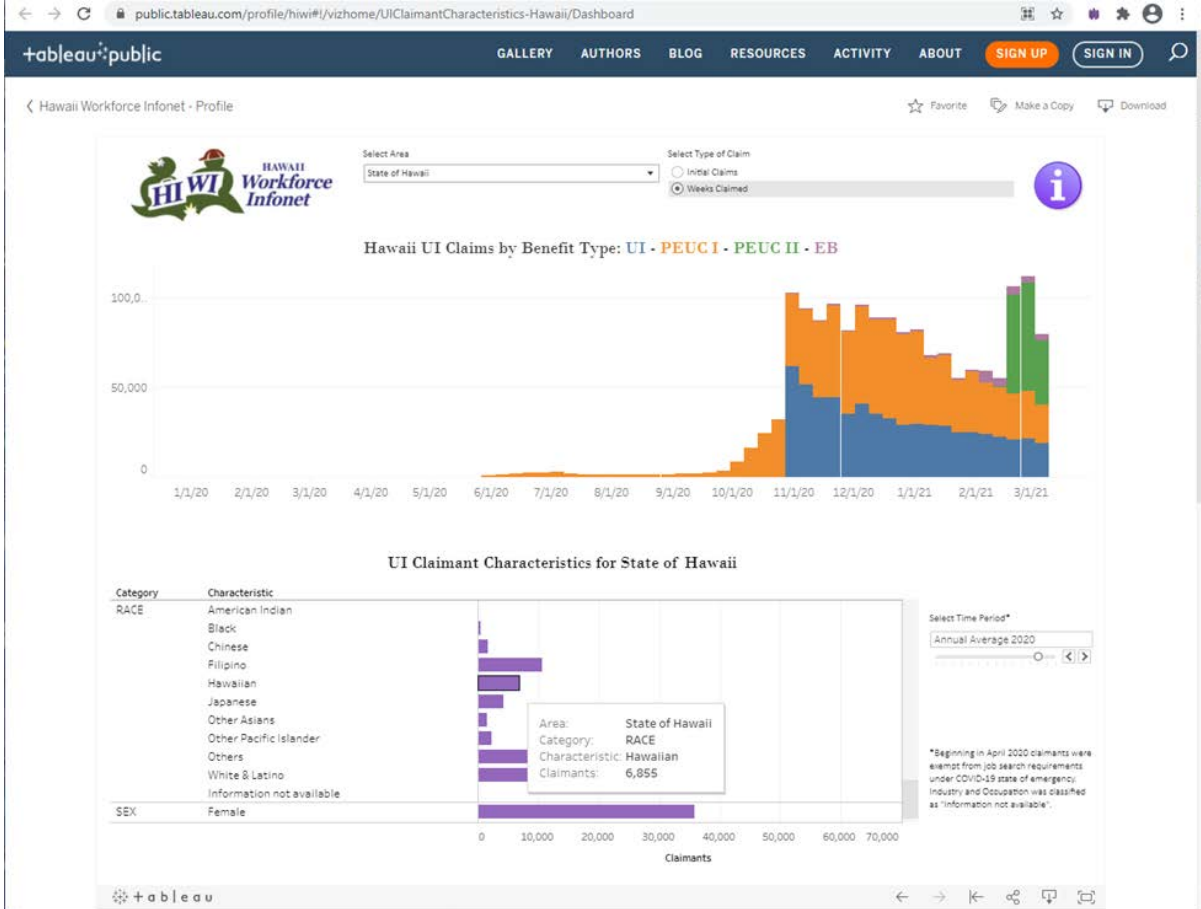
In addition, our DLIR website contains a dashboard with graphical presentation of UI Claimant Characteristics for the State of Hawaii that is updated monthly.

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/hiwi#!/vizhome/UIClaimantCharacteristics-Hawaii/Dashboard>

See Table 1 below – There were 3,110 Hawaiian claimants for Unemployment Insurance benefits in the State of Hawaii in February 2021.



In Table 2 below – There was an average of 6,855 Hawaiian claimants for Unemployment Insurance benefits in the State of Hawaii in the calendar year 2020.



R&S is unable to breakout data provided by the federal government that consolidates Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

## InterAgency Council for Immigrant and Refugee Services

### SCR5

### Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance For Fact-Based Policymaking

Senate Committee on Government Operations

March 16, 2021 at 3pm

Room 16

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,

The purpose of the InterAgency Council for Immigrant and Refugee Services is to promote justice and fairness for immigrants and refugees by: 1) serving as a planning and coordinating council to secure decent living, economic, educational, social, and other conditions conducive to the welfare of the immigrant and refugee community through the coordination and planning of services which maximize resources, avoid duplication, and meet the needs of immigrants and refugees, 2) educating the public on behalf of the needs of immigrants and refugees, and 3) serving as a clearinghouse for information on programs and services pertaining to immigrants and refugees. We are comprised of close to 45 agencies (government and non-profit entities).

My name is Darrin Sato and I am the Chair of the InterAgency Council. I submit testimony in **SUPPORT** as this measure our work is contingent upon solid data for all our targeted population, including NHPI sectors, and not having disaggregated NHPI data without consistent data governance practices directly affects our ability to find funding to support the disenfranchised with programs that will directly benefit the NHPI populations.

As highlighted with this COVID-19 pandemic, without disaggregated NHPI data, this delayed a data-informed response to best support and address the disparate COVID-19 impacts experienced by our NHPI communities. Of note:

- Disaggregated NHPI data is needed to best inform our COVID-19 response and recovery.
- Without disaggregated NHPI data, NHPI continue to be silenced and invisible.
- Improved data governance protocols are needed with regards to how data is collected, processed, retained, and shared.

On behalf of the IAC, I urge the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR5  
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE  
FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING**

Senator SHARON Y. MORIWAKI, Chair  
Senator DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Vice Chair

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Hearing Date: March 16, 2021 3pm

Room Number: 16

Chair Moriwaki and Vice-Chair Dela Cruz,

The Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights SUPPORTS SCR 5. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) populations is important for immigrant communities and for Hawai'i as a whole, and SCR 5 is a critical step for health equity and informed, data-driven decision-making in our state.

It is well documented that state agencies let down NHPI communities, including Pacific Islander immigrants, during the early days of the pandemic. The Department of Health's decision to delay releasing disaggregated COVID-19 morbidity and mortality data was an unnecessary barrier to addressing health inequities and curbing the pandemic.<sup>1</sup> And the consequences were deadly, as Pacific Islanders were twice as likely to be killed or hospitalized by COVID-19.<sup>2</sup>

Today, these failures continue with the vaccine. It was recently reported that Hawai'i is one of nine states that still has not shared vaccine rollout disaggregated by race and ethnicity.<sup>3</sup> Without data, we only have stories, and the stories show that the rollout has been uneven and that Pacific

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Anita Hofschneider, *Health Officials Knew COVID-19 Would Hit Pacific Islanders Hard. The State Still Fell Short*, Civil Beat, August 17, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/08/health-officials-knew-covid-19-would-hit-pacific-islanders-hard-the-state-still-fell-short/>; Anita Hofschneider, *DOH Says Native Hawaiians Have A High COVID-19 Rate. But How High?*, Civil Beat, April 29, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/04/native-hawaiians-have-a-high-covid-19-rate-but-how-high/>.

<sup>2</sup> Anita Hofschneider, *Hawaii Pacific Islanders Are Twice As Likely to Be Hospitalized for COVID-19*, Civil Beat, November 20, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/11/hawaii-pacific-islanders-are-twice-as-likely-to-be-hospitalized-for-covid-19/>.

<sup>3</sup> Nambdi Ndugga, *Latest Data on COVID-19 Vaccinations Race/Ethnicity*, Kaiser Family Foundation, Mar. 3, 2021 at <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/latest-data-on-covid-19-vaccinations-race-ethnicity/>; Anita Hofschneider, *Critics Say More Data Needed To Avoid Racial Inequity in Hawaii's Vaccine Rollout*, Mar. 11, 2021 at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/03/critics-say-more-data-needed-to-avoid-racial-inequity-in-hawaiis-vaccine-rollout/>.



Islander immigrants who want to access the life-saving vaccine, given the disproportionate devastation to their communities, have not been able to do so.<sup>4</sup> But if anecdotes are not enough to move policy in our state departments, then we need data. The lack of transparent, accessible data disaggregation leaves the community only with our stories and our sense that health justice is not the priority it needs to be.

Data disaggregation concerns are not limited to the work of the Department of Health. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) also let down the NHPI community, particularly Pacific Islander immigrants, as individuals were unable to access Unemployment Insurance due to language access, technology access, and even initial confusion about COFA eligibility.<sup>5</sup> The Department of Human Services also saw an increase in demand for social services when the pandemic hit, even as COVID-19 made them more difficult to access. Without the release of disaggregated data, we have no way of understanding the overall extent of the consequences of departmental challenges and shortcomings, beyond community stories of NHPI families unable to access benefits which they had paid into and where entitled to receive.

Finally, disparities in NHPI experiences with the Judiciary and county law enforcement must be taken seriously in Hawai'i. In particular, county law enforcement has a history of racial disparities in policing, well known to the community through countless individual stories—some reported by news sources and many quietly shared among neighbors—but county law enforcement has repeatedly denied existence of racial disparity problems.<sup>6</sup> The data that does exist is troubling: for example, with the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, Micronesians represented 26% of those taken into custody for violating the orders, even though they represent

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<sup>4</sup> Anita Hofschneider, *Advocates Say Pacific Islanders Should be On Hawaii's Vaccination List. Here's Why*. Feb. 2, 2021, <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/02/advocates-say-pacific-islanders-should-be-on-hawaiis-vaccination-list-heres-why/>.

<sup>5</sup> Anita Hofschneider, *Advocates: Lack of Interpreter Services at Unemployment Office is Illegal*, Civil Beat, July 7, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/07/advocates-lack-of-interpreter-services-at-unemployment-office-is-illegal/>; Anita Hofschneider, *Hawaii Updates Unemployment Application to Include Pacific Migrants*, Civil Beat, April 14, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/04/hawaii-updates-unemployment-application-to-include-pacific-migrants/>.

<sup>6</sup> Christine Jedra & Anita Hofschneider, *'Significant' Disparity In Use Of Force Questioned By Honolulu Police Commission*, Civil Beat, February 3, 2021, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/02/significant-disparity-in-use-of-force-against-some-groups-questioned-by-honolulu-police-commission/>; Anita Hofschneider, *ACLU Presses HPD To Fix Racial Disparities In Policing*, Civil Beat, July 6, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/07/aclu-presses-hpd-to-fix-racial-disparities-in-policing/>; Anita Hofschneider, *Honolulu Police Chief Hopes Nationwide Reform Movement Skips Hawai'i*, Civil Beat, Jun. 19, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/06/honolulu-police-chief-hopes-nationwide-reform-movement-skips-hawaii/>.

only 1% of the whole state population.<sup>7</sup> The only way to truly understand the problem is with greater and more transparent disaggregated data.

The importance of data disaggregation is well studied,<sup>8</sup> and here in Hawai'i, while there are existing efforts at data disaggregation, they have not gone far enough or come fast enough. SCR5 is necessary for state agencies to address data disaggregation in a systematic, transparent manner so that Hawai'i can recover from COVID-19 and the economic downturn in as efficient, effective, and equitable way as possible. Data disaggregation is a matter of health equity, racial justice, and civil rights. We urge the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Catherine Chen, Co-chair, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

Liza Ryan Gill, Co-chair, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

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<sup>7</sup> Ashley Mizuo, *Racial Disparities Emerge In HPD Enforcement Of Stay-At-Home Violations*, Hawai'i Public Radio, Jun. 29, 2020 at <https://www.hawaiipublicradio.org/post/racial-disparities-emerge-hpd-enforcement-stay-home-violations#stream/0>.

<sup>8</sup> Victor Rubin, et. al., *Counting a Diverse Nation: Disaggregated Data on Race and Ethnicity to Advance a Culture of Health*, PolicyLink (2018).



**Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR5  
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE  
FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING**

Senator SHARON Y. MORIWAKI, Chair  
Senator DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Vice Chair

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Hearing Date: March 16, 2021      Room Number: 16

Chair Moriwaki and Vice-Chair Dela Cruz,

The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights SUPPORTS SCR 5. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (NHPI) and other race and ethnic groups is important for NHPI, immigrant communities, and for Hawai'i as a whole. SCR 5 is a critical step forward to assure health equity and informed, data-driven decision-making in our state.

The pandemic has underscored the importance of disaggregated race, ethnicity, and spoken language data in the delivery of critical health care information and other services for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and limited English proficient persons. A not insignificant percentage of Hawai'i's total population. Data disaggregation will allow government entities to determine immediate community-specific needs and impacts in any emergency, natural disaster, or health pandemic and to also meet those needs in relevant languages and in a culturally appropriate manner. Importantly, disaggregated data will also provide government entities the ability to leverage and incorporate the data in federal grant applications.

Disaggregating the data collected by public health, safety and welfare programs compliments these organizations' missions and enhances their business models for providing care for all Hawai'i's residents in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Amy Agbayani  
Co-Chair

Pat McManaman  
Co-Chair



**Papa Ola Lokahi**  
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

**Papa Ola Lokahi**

894 Queen Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Sen. Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair  
Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair

**IN SUPPORT**

**SCR 5 - RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY DATA  
GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING**

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 3:00 PM, Room 016/Videoconference**

**Papa Ola Lokahi**

is a non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and continental United States.

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*Hui No Ke Ola Pono*

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*Hawaii State Department of Health*

*Na Puuwai*

*Office of Hawaiian Affairs*

**Executive Director**

*Sheri-Ann Daniels, EdD*

Papa Ola Lōkahi is the Native Hawaiian Health Board responsible with raising the health status of Native Hawaiians and their families, which we do through public health policy and strategic partnerships. Only accurate, disaggregated data has enabled us to present the true picture of Hawaiian health status, thus enabling us to develop and implement the appropriate and acceptable programs and services throughout our communities.

Papa Ola Lōkahi and other partners around the United States and jurisdictions worked closely with our congressional delegation in the 1990s, which led to the 1997 revision in Office of Management and Budget Circular 15 (OMB 15) recommending that federal agencies, offices and institutes disaggregate the collection and reporting of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders separately from that of Asian Americans.

On March 11, 2021, CDC's National Vital Statistics System released a [report](#) causing celebration in Hawai'i for the nation's greatest life expectancy at 81 years (males at 78, females at 84). Yet, the Hawaii Health Survey, which disaggregates life expectancy by ethnicity, tells us that life expectancy for Native Hawaiians (2010) is 76.6 years (males at 73.9 and females at 79.4).

This disaggregated data also indicates that there were almost no Hawaiian men who qualified for the Tier 1A vaccine, when it was holding at 75 and older.

Recently, POL partnered with the Hawai'i Budget & Policy Center to assess how data is collected and how funding brought into the State for Native Hawaiians was allocated. The findings, in a joint report entitled [Data Justice: About Us, By Us, For Us](#), highlights a deficiency in standardization of race/ethnicity data across the State departments, although promising examples exist and State units generally appear open to adopting governance protocols. It also underscores a lack of accountability for funds that are brought into the State using Native Hawaiian data.

The resolution's call for the Departments of Health, Labor and Industrial Relations, Human Services, Judiciary, and county police departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders is key to greater understanding of health, economic and many social issues across the lifespan.

We strongly support the establishment of a Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Data Governance, which we believe will strengthen the State's overall data infrastructure to better serve the public.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**HIPHI Board**

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College of Tropical Agriculture  
and Human Resources

Garret Sugai  
Kaiser Permanente

Date: March 15, 2021

To: Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Government Operations Committee

Re: Support for SCR 5, Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century  
Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking.

Hrg: March 16, 2021 at 3:00 PM via Videoconference

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The Hawai'i Public Health Institute<sup>i</sup> is in **Support of SCR 5**, which seeks disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) and better data governance policies by state and county agencies.

Timely, detailed, and disaggregated data is an important component to develop good policy. In particular, disaggregated data for NHPs will identify critical needs and inform policies. This is especially relevant in light of disparities that have been highlighted and exacerbated by COVID-19. Beyond the pandemic, good data will be key to ending long-standing inequities for the NHPI community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 5.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Yamauchi'.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA  
Executive Director

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<sup>i</sup> Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.



Hawaii  
**Children's Action Network Speaks!**  
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

*Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.*

To: Senate Committee on Government Relations

Re: **SCR 5 – Recognizing the importance of 21<sup>st</sup> century data governance for fact-based policymaking**  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 016  
March 16, 2021, 3:00 PM

Dear Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and committee members,

**On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in support of SCR 5.** This resolution recognizes the importance of data that disaggregates Native Hawaiians from other Pacific Islanders in pandemic response and recovery efforts for these communities and for the State as a whole, as well as urges action from various state government entities to achieve that goal.

Without good data, we can't make good policy. The recent *Data Justice* report<sup>1</sup> by Papa Ola Lokahi, a Native Hawaiian health advocacy organization, and the Hawai'i Budget & Policy Center highlights the lack of adequate data about the Native Hawaiian community and calls for the state to improve its collection of ethnic and racial data. They state:

*Collecting, analyzing and utilizing data sets the course for state program development and improvement. Yet, our research revealed that state programs' data practices fail to adequately detail needs and successes of Native Hawaiians. Some programs combine Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander demographic data and don't break out Native Hawaiians from other multi-racial clients.*

Native Hawaiians still face disproportionate rates of poor indicators in health, wealth and other social determinants. Our state needs better data in order to ensure that public programs are addressing the greatest needs and achieving the best results our Native Hawaiian keiki and their families.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Please pass SCR 5.

Thank you,

Nicole Woo  
Director, Research and Economic Policy

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hibudget.org/projects/data-justice>



**Na Pu`uwai**  
**Native Hawaiian Health Care System**  
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- Na Pu`uwai Adult Day Care (808) 560-1068
- Na Pu`uwai - Lana`i • PO Box 630713 Lana`i City, Hawaii 96763 • (808) 565-7204 • Fax (808) 565-9319

### **SCR5**

#### **Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance For Fact-Based Policymaking**

Senate Committee on Government Operations

March 16, 2021 at 3pm

Room 16

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, my name is Kamahanahokulani Farrar and I am the Executive Director of the of Na Pu`uwai. Na Pu`uwai is one of the five Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems developed to improve Native Hawaiian health equity and disparities. This resolution is very important for us; we need to have access to disaggregated data that is accurate and up-to-date for review, analysis, program planning and evaluation, budgeting, and advocacy.

I submit testimony in **SUPPORT** as this measure that will ensure we can continue to serve the islands of Moloka`i (including Kalaupapa) and Lana`i and be accountable to the intent of the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act and the funds we are awarded.

As highlighted with this COVID-19 pandemic, without disaggregated NHPI data, this delayed a data-informed response to support and address the COVID-19 impacts experienced by our NHPI communities.

- Disaggregated NHPI data is needed to best inform our COVID-19 response and recovery.
- Without disaggregated NHPI data, NHPI continue to be silenced and invisible.
- Improved data governance protocols are needed with regards to how data is collected, processed, retained, and shared.

I urge the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



## 'Ahahui o nā Kauka

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### SCR5

## Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance For Fact-Based Policymaking

Senate Committee on Government Operations

March 16, 2021 at 3pm

Room 16

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,

My name is Dr. Martina Kamaka and I am the Secretary for the 'Ahahui o nā Kauka (Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians). I am submitting testimony in **SUPPORT** of this measure. COVID-19 has adversely impacted our Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities throughout the country with NHPI having the highest case rates in several states. Sadly, it took a while for NHPI communities to realize that we were being impacted disproportionately by COVID-19 as there was a lack of disaggregated data nationwide. Having good disaggregated data would have allowed us to respond quicker and more efficiently in addressing this disparate COVID-19 impact on our NHPI communities.

We have been active partners with the NHPI 3R Team (Covid Response, Recovery and Resiliency) and through this partnership we have been able to witness how much can be accomplished with good communication and the timely sharing of critical data. Sadly, we were also able to see the challenges around inconsistent, nonstandardized collection, processing, retention and sharing of data. It took a pandemic to get some of the organizations to start talking to each other. There are many more agencies and organization that don't belong to our network and have data that could help us or need the data that we have. There are too many silos. We were not prepared to deal with this pandemic and we need to take the lessons learned to be better prepared for what may be coming next.

The resolution is a good first step in trying to understand and establish a system that would allow effective data sharing between organizations and agencies that will help us not only deal with the current pandemic but with future challenges. We urge the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.





# HAWAII APPLESEED

## CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Testimony of the Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice

In Support of SCR5 – RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING.

Senate Committee on Government Operations

Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 3:00 PM, Via Videoconference

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Dear Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

We write in **SUPPORT** of SCR5.

This measure calls for improved data collection and reporting practices by certain state departments, namely practices disaggregating data for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders and developing procedures in partnership with certain stakeholders. Proposals in SCR5 provide best practices not only for immediate needs for COVID-19, but also for all programs serving populations struggling to access successful social determinants of health, such as food security, affordable housing, living-wage work, and social justice.

Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice works to build a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. Data is key to informing our research, as well as providing full understanding of systemic issues for Hawai'i residents struggling to get by. Yet, we often find that state programs either lack detailed disaggregated data, do not collect data at all, or do not provide enough detailed data to the public. These poor data practices impede solutions that will justly and effectively support marginalized people in Hawai'i.

### **Importance of Data Disaggregation & Determination**

SCR5 provides two vital directions for improving the health and well-being of Hawai'i residents, especially for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders: (1) disaggregating racial/ethnic data, and (2) partnering with stakeholders from impacted communities to develop data collection, processing, retention, governance, and sharing.

*Disaggregated data* is information broken down into meaningful component parts, such as by race/ethnicity, age, gender, geographic area, or other characteristics that render the information meaningful for various uses. Without disaggregation, data cannot reveal disproportionate impacts on key groups. We saw an example of the adverse impacts of this in the early months of the pandemic. The state Department of Health failed to disaggregate data of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, which hid the disease's high prevalence in Pacific Islander communities. If advocates had not spoken up about the need for the state disaggregate data, we may not have implemented today's targeted services, and we may have seen many more unnecessary deaths.

The efforts of advocates during the COVID-19 pandemic show the importance of the state partnering

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*The Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.*

with communities and stakeholders to develop data practices for better informed and effective services for disproportionately impacted groups. Convening and consulting with impacted communities on data collection and reporting practices is best practice that should carry over into all agencies. By bringing community stakeholders to the table, officials can incorporate cultural knowledge, skills and goals in service design. Communities have inherent strengths that may not be found in generic models. By working collaboratively with these communities to identify the data that matters, these community strengths can be leveraged in a way that benefits us all.

### **Ineffective Data Practices by State Agencies**

SCR5 urges the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures, needs, and challenges across state agencies. This process is needed not just for the current emergency and recovery, but also for existing programs addressing all social determinant of health. Research shows there is a lack of data and ineffective data practices across all agencies, but we cannot create solutions without knowing the problem.

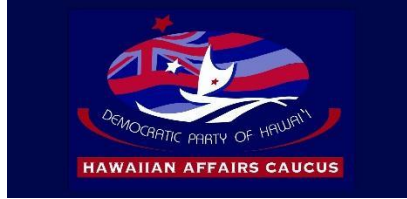
Hawai'i Budget & Policy Center, a project of Hawai'i Appleseed, and Papa Ola Lōkahi recently released a relevant report, "[Data Justice: About Us, By Us, For Us.](#)" The report reviews the data collection practices of several departments and programs that disproportionately serve Native Hawaiians. Our research revealed that poor data practices on race and ethnicity were found across departments. For example:

- The Judiciary Branch of the state government does not collect or report ethnic/racial data of any kind, even though Native Hawaiians are over-represented in correctional facilities; and
- The Corrections Division at DPS records a wide variety of ethnic information about inmates, and their records show that 37 percent of the people in jails and prisons identify as Native Hawaiian. However, current data collection only allows people to indicate one race, which may miss data for part-Native Hawaiians. Because of this method, the percentage of Native Hawaiians in the correctional system is likely higher.
- The Department of Health's Behavioral Health Division collects information in such categories as "Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander" and "more than one race," which may include Native Hawaiians of mixed race. The largest number of MHD's clients (29 percent) are reported as "race not available," which also may include Native Hawaiians.

Our Data Justice report's small sample size shows it is highly likely that SCR5's Task Force would reveal systemic problems with state agencies' collection of disaggregated data and its use in designing and improving programs, and reporting transparency. The Task Force report would help the Legislature and advocates make long-lasting change, so our state can be prepared to analyze needs and to create effective programs for any type of emergency.

Hawai'i Appleseed urges the committee to **PASS SCR5** to address our immediate public health emergency, as well as to prepare for the future. Detailed data, especially disaggregated racial/ethnic data, can help sculpt targeted services. With clear data, we can allocate time and resources to those most impacted by services, reducing systemic needs in the long run.

We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.



March 16, 2021

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Testimony SUPPORTING SCR 5

Aloha, Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Committee:

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly SUPPORTS SCR 5 recognizing the importance of quality data for better, fact-based policymaking in Hawai'i.

As you know, statistical data drives government resources and decision-making. Native Hawaiians still have many socio-economic issues and are in need of funding to address some of those problems, such as basic and higher education, affordable housing, health disparities, and the high cost of living. In trying to address systemic inequities, however, there continue to be substantial data gaps.

SCR 5 encourages state agencies and county departments to compile and share data, and to disaggregate groups such as Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. By disaggregating data, we can advocate for targeted policies and interventions that are appropriate to each sector, thus engaging in informed policymaking and interventions.

SCR 5 also establishes a task force to assess data collection and challenges, and report back to the Legislature. This would be a valuable step toward ensuring that government data collection is thorough, accurate, and useful for making decisions.

We encourage the Senate to pass SCR 5.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me ka mahalo nui,

JUANITA MAHIENAENA BROWN KAWAMOTO, Chair

Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i



## Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i

A Project of the William S. Richardson School of Law

2515 Dole Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822

T: (808) 688-3313 / [www.mlpchawaii.org](http://www.mlpchawaii.org)

Committee on Government Operations  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 16, 2021

### **Re: Support of SCR5: Recognizing The Importance Of 21st Century Data Governance For Fact-Based Policymaking**

Dear Committee Members,

The Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) represents patients at a community health center with their legal needs. Most of our clients are from Pacific Islander communities and have been disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. We strongly support SCR5.

Data disaggregation is necessary to competently and equitably serve and protect all of Hawai'i's residents. It is now well-documented that state agencies let down NHPI communities during the early days of the pandemic, and the Department of Health's decision to delay releasing disaggregated COVID-19 morbidity and mortality data was an unnecessary hurdle in this fight.<sup>1</sup> The consequences were deadly, as Pacific Islanders were twice as likely to be killed or hospitalized by COVID-19.<sup>2</sup> These data shortcomings continue with the vaccine, as it was recently reported that Hawai'i is one of nine states that still has not shared vaccine rollout disaggregated by race and ethnicity.<sup>3</sup>

The need for data disaggregation is not limited to the Department of Health but applies to all the agencies listed by SCR 5. First, many NHPI families were unable to access Unemployment Insurance at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations due to

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Anita Hofschneider, *Health Officials Knew COVID-19 Would Hit Pacific Islanders Hard. The State Still Fell Short*, Civil Beat, August 17, 2020, at

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/08/health-officials-knew-covid-19-would-hit-pacific-islanders-hard-the-state-still-fell-short/>; Anita Hofschneider, *DOH Says Native Hawaiians Have A High COVID-19 Rate. But How High?*, Civil Beat, April 29, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/04/native-hawaiians-have-a-high-covid-19-rate-but-how-high/>.

<sup>2</sup> Anita Hofschneider, *Hawaii Pacific Islanders Are Twice As Likely to Be Hospitalized for COVID-19*, Civil Beat, November 20, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/11/hawaii-pacific-islanders-are-twice-as-likely-to-be-hospitalized-for-covid-19/>.

<sup>3</sup> Nambdi Ndugga, *Latest Data on COVID-19 Vaccinations Race/Ethnicity*, Kaiser Family Foundation, Mar. 3, 2021 at <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/latest-data-on-covid-19-vaccinations-race-ethnicity/>; Anita Hofschneider, *Critics Say More Data Needed To Avoid Racial Inequity in Hawaii's Vaccine Rollout*, Mar. 11, 2021 at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/03/critics-say-more-data-needed-to-avoid-racial-inequity-in-hawaiis-vaccine-rollout/>.



## Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i

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language access, technology access, and even initial confusion about COFA eligibility.<sup>4</sup> Second, although county law enforcement has repeatedly denied the existence of racial disparity problems, the community has long shared stories of racial disparities in policing.<sup>5</sup> The data that does exist is troubling: for example, with the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, Micronesians represented 26% of those taken into custody for violating the orders, even though they represent only 1% of the whole state population.<sup>6</sup>

The advocates at the MLP have heard story after story of these disparities and their harmful effects on families, but where anecdotes are not enough to move policy, we need data. The only way to truly understand the problem is with greater and more transparent disaggregated data, a powerful tool for both community members and state agencies. The state needs to take the lessons of COVID-19 seriously and address the disparities facing the NHPI community. SCR 5 is an important step in that process, and its passage is a matter of health equity, racial justice, and civil rights.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony supporting SCR5.

*Dina Shek*

Dina Shek

Legal Director, Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i

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<sup>4</sup> Anita Hofschneider, *Advocates: Lack of Interpreter Services at Unemployment Office is Illegal*, Civil Beat, July 7, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/07/advocates-lack-of-interpreter-services-at-unemployment-office-is-illegal/>; Anita Hofschneider, *Hawaii Updates Unemployment Application to Include Pacific Migrants*, Civil Beat, April 14, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/04/hawaii-updates-unemployment-application-to-include-pacific-migrants/>.

<sup>5</sup> Christine Jedra & Anita Hofschneider, *'Significant' Disparity In Use Of Force Questioned By Honolulu Police Commission*, Civil Beat, February 3, 2021, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/02/significant-disparity-in-use-of-force-against-some-groups-questioned-by-honolulu-police-commission/>; Anita Hofschneider, *ACLU Presses HPD To Fix Racial Disparities In Policing*, Civil Beat, July 6, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/07/aclu-presses-hpd-to-fix-racial-disparities-in-policing/>; Anita Hofschneider, *Honolulu Police Chief Hopes Nationwide Reform Movement Skips Hawai'i*, Civil Beat, Jun. 19, 2020, at <https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/06/honolulu-police-chief-hopes-nationwide-reform-movement-skips-hawaii/>.

<sup>6</sup> Ashley Mizuo, *Racial Disparities Emerge In HPD Enforcement Of Stay-At-Home Violations*, Hawai'i Public Radio, Jun. 29, 2020 at <https://www.hawaiipublicradio.org/post/racial-disparities-emerge-hpd-enforcement-stay-home-violations#stream/0>.

## **SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 7:57:50 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Terina Fa'agau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Moriwaki, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5 - 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Terina Fa'agau, and I **strongly support** this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

**SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century**, and it would recognize the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts. This measure would also urge: (1) the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance, and (2) the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges.

The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence, and incarceration has long hindered state agencies' efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget's Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander." Though the State of Hawai'i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, **the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.**

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. **Without accurate, disaggregated data that account for the experiences of our community's most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them.** As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.

Sincerely,

Terina Fa'agau

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/12/2021 3:23:22 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christy MacPherson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in STRONG support of SCR5. This is so critical for Hawai`i and it's about time!



**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/13/2021 1:39:54 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support for all of the reasons stated in the bill itself, and in particular the following: "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the same departments to work with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response, Recovery, and Resilience Team to develop procedures and agreements for improving data collection, processing, retention, governance, and sharing with respect to Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and other relevant demographics, and to each submit a report on their respective procedures and agreements to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2022..." Recognizing the statistics that showed a disproportionate representation of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders impacted by COVID, this resolved clause has merit.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 3:59:26 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dina Shek	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I strongly **SUPPORT S.C.R. 5** as a critical—and long overdue—step towards developing better policies for all people of Hawai'i. Disaggregated data and community-informed categories are essential bases for an accurate and meaningful understanding of our community. This critical data has been lacking for too long, and we have seen the deadly consequences for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities during the pandemic.

Passing S.C.R. 5 is a significant step towards advancing justice and addressing critical disparities in Hawai'i.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dina Shek.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 8:09:47 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:**

**Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5 - 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Thaddeus Pham (he/him), and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.**

**SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century, and it would recognize the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts. This measure would also urge: (1) the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance, and (2) the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges.**

**The current lack of data on NHPs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration have long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.**

**SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences**

**of our community's most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.**

**Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.**

**Sincerely,**

**Thaddeus Pham (he/him)**

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/14/2021 11:08:21 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gloria Palma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5 - 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Gloria Palma, and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century, and it would recognize the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts. This measure would also urge: (1) the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance, and (2) the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges.

The current lack of data on NHPs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration have long hindered state agencies' efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget's Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander." Though the State of Hawai'i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community's most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.

Sincerely,

Gloria Palma

HEARING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

ATTN: CHAIRS SHARON Y. MORIWAKI  
& VICE DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ

Testimony in **Strong Support** of SCR5:

Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking

March 16, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,

My name is Alexa Deike and I am testifying in **strong support** of SCR5. I am a student at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

**SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century**, and it would recognize the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts. This measure would also urge: (1) the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance, and (2) the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges.

The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration has long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, **the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.**

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. **Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them.** As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Alexa Deike

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 10:25:23 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leanne K. Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT and urge the Committee to PASS SCR5. Disaggregated NHPI data is needed to best inform Hawai'i's COVID-19 response and recovery. Improved data governance protocols are needed with regards to how data is collected, processed, retained, and shared.



**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 10:37:53 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Valerie Rose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SCR5. As a public health worker serving the Pacific Islander Communities, we need a variety of languages. In the beginning of COVID we worked with the Office of Language Access and community health centers to guess which languages are most needed for translated materials. Having accurate data would help us to more effectively and efficiently utilize our resources.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:20:02 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Luukia Archer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:20:37 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:21:48 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Keli'i Fisher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:22:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Olan Leimomi Fisher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:23:05 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tercia L. Ku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution. COVID-19 revealed that our indigenous people of Hawaii and our Pacific Island cousins were greatly impacted by this pandemic. Now is the time to make the changes that would assure that these populations remain visible to policy makers and the community at large.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:59:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Josh & Kanani DeLary	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 1:00:04 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this important bill.



**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 1:02:09 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Meleana Shim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5 - 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Meleana Shim, and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century, and it would recognize the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts. This measure would also urge: (1) the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance, and (2) the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges.

The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration has long hindered state agencies' efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget's Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander." Though the State of Hawai'i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we rely increasingly on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community's most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.

Sincerely,

Meleana Shim

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 1:10:41 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 1:30:10 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Bagasol	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a lawyer at the Office of the Public Defender, I have seen how inaccurate or incomplete data can impact people in a negative way, particularly Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders. Disaggregated Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander data is needed to best inform our COVID-19 response and recovery, along with providing accurate information to make other relevant policy decisions. Toward this end, improved data governance protocols are needed with regards to how data is collected, processed, retained, and shared. Hence, I write in support. Thank you.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 1:38:43 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Kekoa	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA’s 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **PASS** SCR5.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 1:50:43 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linn Merlitti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 legislative package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted response to Covid-19 and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention and sharing practices to facilitate fact based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for Covid-19 recovery efforts are based on community-specific data that is timely, clear and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by Covid-19.

**OHA urges the committee to PASS SCR5.**

Mahalo

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 2:06:41 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gordon B. Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SCR5,for varrious reasons

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 2:19:11 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Judy Strait-Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-5 - SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5 RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING

Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my **STRONG SUPPORT** for SCR-5. SCR5 recognizes the importance of detailed and disaggregated data that will enhance pandemic response and recovery efforts in our communities.

We know that Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders in Hawaii have been negatively affected by Covid-19. Polynesians, Micronesians and Melanesians should not be grouped under 'Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders', as this type of classification does not create specific enough data collection to allocate resources appropriately. Targeted Covid-19 relief is needed for these groups. SCR5 will provide the mechanisms to begin pandemic response is a more humane and needed way.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SCR5.

Judy Strait-Jones



**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 2:33:38 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kamaile Maldonado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Native Hawaiian attorney and doctoral student in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SCR5.

Indigenous data sovereignty is critical to Hawaiian nation-rebuilding. This resolution urges the appropriate steps needed to improve governance of Native Hawaiian data, as well as expand Native Hawaiian rights to and control over Native Hawaiian data. OHA can help coordinate other state agencies to ensure that data collected about Native Hawaiians is accurate, accessible to our community, and beneficial to our community. Through SCR5's careful process, state and county agencies can engage on critical needs and challenges related to the collection and reporting of Native Hawaiian data, while building internal infrastructure to best serve Native Hawaiian data needs. I urge the state take these actions to support future Native Hawaiian data governance and Native Hawaiian data sovereignty.

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 2:42:34 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Noalani Nakasone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Respectively,

Noalani Nakasone

Wailua Homesteads, Kaua'i

TESTIMONY ON SCR 5 RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA  
GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING.

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

MARCH 16, 2021

Time: 3pm

Virtual

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Del Cruz and members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, **my name is Lilinoe Kauahikaua, I am a Masters of Social Work Candidate at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and the co-author of a recent report released by the Hawaii Budget and Policy Center on Data Justice: About us, By us, For us, and I am here today to support SCR 5 Recognizing the importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policy Making.**

State agencies run public programs that are vital toward helping disenfranchised Native Hawaiians remain healthy, be productive, and become self-reliant. We expect these agencies to be good stewards of public funds, wisely focusing their resources and expertise to get the best results. However, how do we know they are? Without disaggregated data, we have no way of knowing if public funds are being used to benefit the NH pop.

The State Constitution acknowledges the special status of Native Hawaiians where it recognizes the State's continuing obligation to uphold the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 and establishes the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Native Hawaiians, as the indigenous people of the land currently occupied by the State of Hawai'i, deserve special consideration by both the federal and state governments. The government additionally has an ethical responsibility to acknowledge and address the effects of colonization, the overthrow, and illegal occupation.

There are large differences in the history, life experiences and viewpoints among all ethnic groups. So, Lumping NH, OPI, and even sometimes Asians does not account for the complex nuance needed in addressing each of these marginalized populations, and effectively sends a message that NH are invisible, which perpetuates continued marginalization

Native Hawaiians make up 21 percent of the overall state population making us one of Hawai'i's five largest ethnic groups. Additionally, more than 34 percent of Hawai'i's children under the age of 18 are Native Hawaiian.

The overall lack of disaggregated data collection across all of the state agencies is concerning Act 155 (HRS 226-20) in which the legislature codified a commitment to reduce health disparities for Native Hawaiians and other groups by updating the Hawai'i State Planning Act,

made it state policy to eliminate “health disparities by identifying and addressing social determinants of health” in order to improve the health and wellbeing of Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos. How then, are these policies being adhered to, if many agencies are not collecting this data?

Without comprehensive and detailed data, our state agencies cannot truly evaluate and improve their services for the populations they serve. To address these failings, **we must support SCR 5** as a movement toward disaggregation, decolonization, and consultation with Native Hawaiians as agents of our own data and move toward Indigenous data governance.

Lilinoe Kauahikaua  
Lkauahik@hawaii.edu

**LATE**

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 6:27:42 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Ann K Poire	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Testimony Needed Today**

**RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING, SCR5**

[View Status](#) | [Submit Testimony](#)

A Hearing is scheduled for the Senate Committee on Government Operations on

**Tuesday, March 16th at 3 p.m.**

[Watch the Live Stream on the Hawai'i State Senate YouTube Page](#)

**Sample Testimony:**

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA's 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

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Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

**LATE**

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 10:00:02 PM  
Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jen Jenkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SCR5.

**LATE**

**SCR-5**

Submitted on: 3/16/2021 9:21:07 AM  
Testimony for GVO on 3/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Davielynn Briones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a measure in OHA’s 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

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Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.