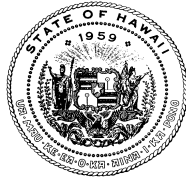


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1818
RELATING TO BROTHER JOSEPH DUTTON DAY**

REPRESENTATIVE CEDRIC GATES, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Hearing Date: 2/9/2022 Room Number: 329

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports HB 1818 which designates April 27th of
- 3 each year as “Brother Joseph Dutton Day.” Joseph Dutton remains a well-known “kokua” who
- 4 arrived in Kalaupapa and assisted Father Damien in the last years of his life. After Father
- 5 Damien’s death, he continued Father Damien’s activities in service to the thousands of Hansen’s
- 6 Disease patients living in the Kalaupapa settlement.

- 7 The establishment of “Brother Joseph Dutton Day” recognizes and honors this exemplary
- 8 individual. He dedicated his life and exceptional talents in service to the Hansen’s disease
- 9 patients living in isolation from 1886 to 1931.

- 10 Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

HB-1818

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 4:53:21 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/9/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Stand in Support. :)

HB-1818

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 11:38:05 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/9/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan Garcia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of HB1818 for the recognition of Joseph Dutton who was inspired by Father Damien (now Saint Damien) who selflessly dedicated his life to bring order and improve the lives for the people with Hansen's disease on Kalaupapa.

Joseph Dutton traveled to Kalaupapa to assist Father Damien, even after Father Damien was diagnosed with leprosy and passed away; Dutton continued to work to improve the lives of the residents of Kalaupapa.

Dutton never left Kalaupapa and continued to support the residents until he became ill and shortly thereafter died in 1931.

This measure will honor the selfless and compassionate work of Joseph Dutton for the people of Kalaupapa.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB1818.

HB-1818

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 12:09:42 AM

Testimony for CAI on 2/9/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lisa Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill, HB1818, to recognize the outstanding work of Joseph Dutton who dedicated his life for the betterment of the people of Kalaupapa who had Hansen's disease. After years of Dutton's compassionate work and support for the residents of Kalaupapa, Mr. Dutton became ill and passed away.

Dutton's story displays kindness, compassion, and love for all people, especially for our people with Hansen's disease at a time when the rest of society stayed away from anyone with leprosy.

HB-1818

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 12:23:30 AM

Testimony for CAI on 2/9/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jasmine Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am providing testimony to support HB1818 to honor and recognize the selfless work of Joseph Dutton for the people of Kalaupapa.

Dutton served in the military and defended our country. Later in life Dutton was inspired by the work of Father Damien who dedicated his life to serving the people of Kalaupapa, all who had Hansen's disease. While Dutton traveled to Kalaupapa to assist Father Damien, awhile later Father Damien contracted Hansen's disease and passed away. Dutton never abandoned the residents of Kalaupapa and eventually became ill and passed away.

Joseph Dutton leaves a legacy of compassion and the ultimate sacrifice to the people of Kalaupapa.

Charles St. Sure
2499 Kapiolani Boulevard
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs
Hearing on Wednesday, February 9, 2022
10:30 am
Conference Room 329

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and members of the committee:

In Strong Support of HB 1818

I would like to submit additional information on Brother Joseph Dutton which is not reflected in the bill:

- In 2015 the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu took the first official step in a long and complex road to the possible canonization of Joseph Dutton.
- Joseph Dutton completes the trifecta along with St. Damien and St. Marianne assuming the duties of administrative assistant at Kalaupapa after St. Damien's passing and overseeing the Baldwin Home for men while St. Marianne cared for the Bishop home for women.
- April 27th has double significance as it is not only his birthday, but also the day he was received into the Catholic Church, baptized and changed his name to Joseph, beginning his new life.
- Joseph Dutton is buried next to St. Damien at St. Philomena Church, Kalawao
- After hearing of the work of Father Damien, he gave away all his possessions, made his way by foot to San Francisco, got on a steamer bound for Hawaii and arrived at Kalaupapa in July 1886 where he stayed for the next 45 years.
- There is a statue of Joseph Dutton on the campus of St. Francis School in Manoa and another on Molokai.