

2/14/2024

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Greg Takayama, Vice Chair  
**Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs**

**HB 1950**

Designating November 22 each year as **Kimchi Day** in the State of Hawai'i  
Friday February 16, 2024  
State Capitol Conference Room 325  
415 South Beretania Street Honolulu HI 96813

**In Support**

A day can give rise to many things such as a time to offer remembrance and respect, moments of joy in togetherness, reasons to campaign, or a cultural stage to celebrate. In designating November 22 each year as Kimchi Day, it will not take away the slightest of the meaning in all things pursued by those who live in or are visiting the state. It will not replace a tribute to anyone's history or diminish the importance of accomplishments by any assemblage. Instead, it shall simply present one more significance to the day. On November 22<sup>nd</sup> each year the communities can come together and congratulate the contributions made by the Korean Americans in the state as we the various communities have done so under different banners in the spirit of union. Kimchi Day Hawai'i will be for the festival of collective history and the celebration of cultures cherished.

Food is the pulse of day-to-day living. Kimchi has been part of the treasured family recipes in the islands of Hawai'i for well over a century since the earliest arrival of immigrant workers and their families from S. Korea in 1902. Kimchi and its industry have steadfastly become the Korean American experience in Hawai'i for dining, for retail & commerce, and in agricultural practices. As a member of the Maui Korean community and as a citizen of the State of Hawai'i, I am gratified to see the meaningful growth in the socioeconomic contributions made by Korean American families in public service, education, banking, and defense, just to name a few. And I am hopeful that the annual Kimchi Day celebration in Hawai'i will be recognized not only as an attractive source of tourist interests, especially for the international visitors, but also as an occasion to showcase the continued mutual goodwill amongst the different heritage groups in our community.

I thank you for the time and attention kindly offered by the committee. I am also grateful for your dedication and commitment to Hawai'i and her people.

Sincerely,



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Jeannie Archer/Director  
Maui Korean Community Association  
Pukalani HI 96768



하와이 한인문화회관

# HAWAII KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER

1311 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 200-5 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
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Date: February 15, 2025

To: Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Greg Takayama, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Re: Designating November 22 each year as **Kimchi Day** in the State of Hawai'i

I write this letter to you in support of HB1950, Designating November 22 each year as Kimchi Day in the State of Hawaii on behalf of the Hawaii Korean Cultural Center (HKCC). HKCC is a nonprofit entity established in Hawaii in July 2007, with a mission of establishing Korean Cultural Center to share rich Korean history, language and culture with the people of Hawaii and those visiting Hawaii islands.

Hawaii is known for diverse ethnic groups living harmoniously and sharing their culture and tradition with the people of Hawaii. This sharing and celebrating different culture and tradition, including foods, with all make Hawaii a special place to live and visit. In designating November 22 each year as Kimchi Day, it will not take away the slightest of the meaning in all things pursued by those who live in or are visiting the state. It will not replace a tribute to anyone's history or diminish the importance of accomplishments by any assemblage. Instead, it shall simply present one more significance to the day. On November 22<sup>nd</sup> each year the communities can come together and congratulate the contributions made by the Korean Americans in the state as we the various communities have done so under different banners in the spirit of union. Kimchi Day Hawai'i will be for the festival of collective history and the celebration of cultures cherished. It is no different from National Pizza Day, National Pretzel Day and so on (See Page 2 of this letter). November 22 as the National Kimchi Day is also celebrated by the State of California and Virginia.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,

*Amanda S. Chang*

Amanda S. Chang,  
President, Hawaii Korean Cultural Center



하와이 한인문화회관

# **HAWAII KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER**

1311 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 200-5 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
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## **FEBRUARY FOOD HOLIDAYS**

**February 7:** National Fettuccine Alfredo Day  
**February 9:** National Bagels and Lox Day  
**February 9:** Pizza Day  
**February 13:** National Tortellini Day  
**February 18:** Drink Wine Day  
**February 20:** National Cherry Pie Day  
**February 22:** National Margarita Day  
**February 24:** National Tortilla Chp Day  
**February 25:** National Clam Chowder Day  
**February 27:** National Strawberry Day  
**February 28:** National Chili Day

## **MARCH FOOD HOLIDAYS – NATIONAL FOOD HOLIDAY**

**March 1:** National Peanut Butter Lovers Day  
**March 7:** National Cereal Day  
**March 9:** National Meatball Day  
**March 10:** National Ranch Dressing Day  
**March 13:** National Ginger Ale Day  
**March 14:** National Potato Chip Day & National Reuben Day  
**March 18:** Oatmeal Cookie Day  
**March 19:** National Poultry Day  
**March 20:** National Ravioli Day  
**March 21:** National French Bread Day  
**March 23:** National Chip and Dip Day  
**March 24:** National Cocktail Day  
**March 26:** [National Spinach Day](#)  
**March 31:** Tater Day

## **APRIL FOOD HOLIDAYS – NATIONAL FOOD DAYS**

**April 2:** National Peanut Butter And Jelly Day  
**April 3:** National Chocolate Mousse Day  
**April 4:** National Ramen Noodle Day  
**April 5:** National Deep Dish Pizza Day  
**April 7:** National Beer Day & National Burrito Day  
**April 12:** Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day  
**April 16:** National Eggs Benedict Day  
**April 26:** National Pretzel Day  
**April 27:** National Prime Rib Day  
**April 29:** National Shrimp Scampi Day



# 하와이 한인회

## The United Korean Association of Hawaii

Mailing: PO Box 235512, Honolulu, Hawaii 96823  
Physical: Physical: 1527 Keeaumoku Street, Building 42, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Tel: (808) 591-8984 E-Mail: [tukah808@gmail.com](mailto:tukah808@gmail.com)  
FEIN: 20-0070639 Hawaii Tax ID: T-047-622-9632



February 15, 2024

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Greg Takayama, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Re: HB 1950  
Designating November 22 each year as Kimchi Day in the State of Hawaii

This is a statement in support of HB 1950.

The perception of kimchi has undergone a remarkable transformation in recent years, evolving from a niche ethnic dish to a globally recognized culinary icon. Once considered exotic, unfamiliar and even disdained outside of Korea, kimchi is now celebrated as a symbol of health, flavor, and cultural richness across the world.

Historically, kimchi was often perceived as an acquired taste, limited to Korean households and restaurants catering to Korean cuisine. However, as international interest in diverse foods has surged, kimchi has transcended cultural boundaries, captivating palates and inspiring culinary innovation worldwide.

Furthermore, the recognition of kimchi as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2013 has elevated its status on the world stage, underscoring its significance as a cherished culinary tradition with deep historical roots.

The changing perception of kimchi mirrors the evolution of Hawaii's multicultural landscape, where diverse communities coalesce to form a rich tapestry of traditions and experiences. Kimchi symbolizes more than just food; it represents the spirit of resilience, adaptability, and unity.

Thus, designating November 22<sup>nd</sup> as Kimchi Day in Hawaii is a powerful celebration of cultural diversity and culinary heritage. Kimchi, a staple of Korean cuisine, embodies centuries of tradition, craftsmanship, and communal gathering. By dedicating a day to celebrate kimchi, Hawaii embraces inclusivity, fostering deeper connections among its diverse population.

As Hawaii celebrates Kimchi Day each November 22<sup>nd</sup>, we hope to reaffirm our commitment to inclusivity, cultural appreciation, and the celebration of culinary diversity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

David Suh  
President, The United Korean Association of Hawaii

**HB-1950**

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 2:07:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/16/2024 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for this opportunity to honor the history of immigration of Korean Americans with this measure.

**HB-1950**

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 8:11:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/16/2024 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sharron VanDeusen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB1899! What about Maui?!



## KOREAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION HAWAII

1881 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96822  
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February 15, 2024

Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

**Subject: Support for Bill # HB1950 - Designation of November 22 as "Kimchi Day" in the State of Hawaii**

Dear Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,  
On behalf of the Korean American Foundation Hawaii, I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Bill # HB1950, which seeks to designate November 22 of each year as "Kimchi Day" in the State of Hawaii.

Today, Kimchi is not just a Korean dish. Kimchi is recognized as one of the beloved dish worldwide and also serves as a symbol of cultural diversity. It represents the artistry, tradition, and the vibrant flavors that have been passed down through generations.

By designating November 22 as "Kimchi Day," Hawaii has an opportunity to celebrate and honor the Korean community's contributions to our state, fostering a greater sense of unity and understanding among our diverse population. The proposal to designate a specific day for Kimchi aligns with Hawaii's commitment to embracing and celebrating the various cultural influences that contribute to our vibrant tapestry.

I urge you to give your full support to Bill # HB1950, acknowledging the cultural richness that "Kimchi Day" can bring to Hawaii. By officially designating November 22 as "Kimchi Day," we take a meaningful step towards embracing our diverse cultural heritage and fostering unity within our great state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will consider the positive impact that this designation can have on our community.  
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis C. Park".

Francis Park  
President  
Korean American Foundation Hawaii