

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies  
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205  
Kane'ohe, HI 96744  
(808) 247-7942

Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director  
e-mail [Ken\\_Conklin@yahoo.com](mailto:Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com)  
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

For hearing Friday, April 8, 2022

Re: HB 2475, HD1 RELATING TO STATE HOLIDAYS.

Establishes July 31 of each year as La Hoihoi Ea. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

#### TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

There are two terms in this bill which are intentionally deceptive: "Ea" and "Hawaiian." The bill should be defeated because its hidden agenda is to make it appear that our people wish for Hawaii to secede from the United States. But if the legislature chooses to acquiesce in that agenda, then the bill should certainly be amended to clarify these terms.

"Ea" is deceptive because it is the most important word in the actual name of the historic holiday but is totally missing from the English

version of the name of the proposed holiday. That tiny 2-letter word focuses on the huge political impact of what happened in 1843 and especially the even more huge political purpose in the motives of this bill's authors. That word means "sovereignty."

"Hawaiian" is deceptive as used in the text describing the bill's rationale. Casual readers think it refers to the name of our archipelago or to our entire population; but in fact the sovereignty activists today adamantly insist it designates their highly favored racial group and cannot -- must not -- should not be used as the name of a place or the entire population which lives in that place. The Hawaiian Kingdom whose government was restored in 1843 had multiracial land ownership and voting rights for Asians and Caucasians who were either native-born or naturalized. Throughout the next 50 years many cabinet ministers, most department heads, and sometimes as many as 1/3 of the legislators were Caucasians. Back then the word "Hawaiian" designated citizenship or residence regardless of race; unlike today when "Hawaiian" designates race regardless of citizenship or residence.

EA

The name of the holiday proclaimed in 1843 is correctly stated in Hawaiian language as "La Ho'ihō'i Ea" But do you see that little third word "Ea"? That's the most important word in the holiday's name, and it's totally missing from the English version of the proposed holiday's name "Restoration Day." Why do the bill's authors suppress the presence of that word, and its meaning? Because they know how scary it is. "Ea" can mean "life" as in the usual but deceptive translation of the King's famous one-liner: The life of the land is preserved in

righteousness. But "Ea" actually means "sovereignty", and that meaning is clearly what was intended in the context of the events of 1843 when sovereignty was restored to the King after British Lord Paulet's illegal takeover by gunboat. In the historical context of what happened, the King was not speaking about dirt, or agriculture or curing the disease of some plants -- "The life of the land" is a strange locution -- it clearly refers to political status -- to sovereignty. The correct translation of the holiday's name "La Ho'iho'i Ea" is "Sovereignty Restoration Day." And that is the reason why the activists pushing this bill do not want to mention it, for fear you will realize that the intent of this bill is to support the concept that what should be restored nowadays is the sovereignty of an independent Hawaiian nation. The vast majority of Hawaii's people do not want to rip the 50th star off Old Glory. We are glad to be Americans. We do not want to restore the long-gone sovereign independence of a nation of Hawaii. We do not want to smuggle a wolf -- a radical, treasonous political viewpoint -- in the sheep's clothing of a mere remembrance of a long-forgotten historical event.

Elders suffering dementia sometimes unfortunately fall victim to con artists. A few of those victims get victimized repeatedly. This committee is in exactly that same position.

Perhaps the most flagrant example of malfeasance and historical malpractice by this committee and the legislature happened in 2007 when a permanent annual Hawaiian Restoration Day holiday was established for April 30 and enacted into law. Here's what happened. Reverend Kaleo Patterson knowingly used a fake Grover Cleveland

proclamation from 1894, cited it as fact, and used it as the basis for a media blitz in 2006 in Hawaii and on the mainland calling for a national day of prayer for restoration of Native Hawaiians and repentance for the overthrow of the monarchy. He repeated his local and mainland propaganda campaign in 2007 and pushed a resolution HCR82 through the Hawaii legislature citing the joke proclamation as real and "proclaiming April 30 of every year as Hawaiian Restoration Day." That holiday remains on the books today. How will you celebrate it?

Perhaps as a result of that resolution, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin on Wednesday April 23 2008, page 2, published a story describing the Cleveland proclamation as a fact. The newspaper refused to publish a correction despite nine of its editors and officers immediately being given proof of falsehood.

In 2010 Patterson repeated a trip to Grover Cleveland's tomb in Caldwell N.J. (the town where Orson Welles' Martians landed on Oct. 30, 1938) in furtherance of his hoax, where the town council honored him and gave him a check for \$2920 to defray his expenses.

For a detailed analysis of the fake Grover Cleveland proclamation; proof that it was a joke and not true; how it came to be accepted as true by Hawaiian sovereignty activists who should have known it was false; how the lie was widely disseminated; how it became the core of a terrible legislative resolution which passed overwhelmingly; proof that Kaleo Patterson was aware of the lie upon which his resolution was based; text of the 2007 legislative resolution and committee report and list of the representatives who disgraced themselves by

voting"aye"; text and citation of the New Jersey newspaper article reporting Patterson's 2010 trip and \$2920 grant:

<http://tinyurl.com/k38tm>

On April Fools Day 2008 a 4-page flyer was published, poking fun at the Hawaii Legislature for passing the resolution in 2007 which assumed that an April Fools joke from 1894 was true. The joke was actually an editorial poking sarcastic fun at Grover Cleveland. It was published in a New York newspaper the day after the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs published its 808-page "Morgan Report" of the facts about the Hawaiian revolution of 1893.

But in 2007 the joke was on this Hawaiian Affairs committee and this state legislature for being fooled by Kaleo Patterson into thinking the "Cleveland Proclamation" was real. The 4-page flyer includes photos of the two sarcastic editorials against Grover Cleveland, taken from the newspaper's archives. See <http://tinyurl.com/2tj5jl>

Will this committee now set in motion another ridiculous piece of legislation, once again making the legislature a laughing-stock?

WHO IS "HAWAIIAN"? WHO ARE THE "UPSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY"?

Section 1 of this bill says, at the end: "the purpose of this Act is to establish July 31 of each year as La Hoihoi Ea to recognize the accomplishments of King Kamehameha III in restoring the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Hawaii and honor upstanding members of the Hawaiian community."

The phrase "and honor upstanding members of the Hawaiian community." should be deleted in both places. That phrase is racist because of the way the word "Hawaiian" is racialized today. It fails to acknowledge the multiracial character of the Kingdom, and also the fact that many people today who want to honor the history of the holiday actually have no Hawaiian native ancestry. That phrase also uses the word "upstanding" in a way that demeans and insults everyone else who are apparently lazy, busy with other things, or uncaring -- it brings to mind Hillary Clinton's labeling of her opponents as the "deplorables."

This bill correctly notes that Rev. William Richards (a Caucasian with no Hawaiian blood) held coequal rank with Timoteo Ha'alilio as diplomatic envoys to England to seek the removal of Paulet's illegal regime. Would the authors of this bill, and readers of it, consider Rev. Richards to be an "upstanding member of the Hawaiian community"? No, but they should!

The Hawaiian Kingdom whose government was restored in 1843 had multiracial land ownership and voting rights for Asians and Caucasians who were either native-born or naturalized. Throughout the next 50 years many cabinet ministers, most department heads, and sometimes as many as 1/3 of the legislators were Caucasians. Would the authors of this bill, and readers of it, consider them to be "upstanding members of the Hawaiian community"? Back then the word "Hawaiian" designated citizenship or residence regardless of race; unlike today when "Hawaiian" designates race regardless of citizenship or residence. According to the Kingdom census of 1890, only 45% of the population had any percentage of Hawaiian blood.

There is one Caucasian not mentioned in this bill who was not only an upstanding Hawaiian but was actually the HERO whose courage, at risk of his life, was primarily responsible for putting into motion the events which led to restoration of the Kingdom in 1843. That man was Rev. Dr. Gerrit Judd.

When Lord Paulet forced the King to cede sovereignty to Britain, the King, suffering personal problems and a deep depression worsened by alcoholism, was unable to take action. Dr. Judd, close friend of the King who held many cabinet positions over the years, wrote the appeal to the British government that persuaded Britain to send Admiral Thomas to Honolulu to restore sovereignty. Dr. Judd, risking his life, worked secretly at night by candlelight in the Royal Mausoleum (which was then on the grounds of 'Iolani Palace), using the coffin of Queen Ka'ahumanu as his writing desk. He persuaded the King to sign the document, and recruited an American merchant to take it to Europe. When Admiral Thomas later arrived in Honolulu with the proclamation restoring sovereignty, it was Gerrit Judd who stood side by side with the King on the steps of Kawaiaha'o Church. Dr. Judd, fluent in Hawaiian, took the English-language proclamation and read it loudly in Hawaiian, whereupon the King made his famous one-sentence reply that is now our state motto: "Ua mau ke ea o ka 'aina i ka pono."

Today's Hawaiian sovereignty ethnic nationalists conveniently forget the heroic role of Rev. Dr. Gerrit Judd in restoring the sovereignty of the Kingdom. The activists celebrating at Thomas Square on July 31 never mention Dr. Judd (in modern parlance: they have "cancelled" him because he was haole and they don't want any haoles taking credit for

a "Hawaiian" triumph). If Gerrit Judd had not taken strong action, the Kingdom would almost certainly have been lost in 1843. The independence activists say sovereignty is about nationhood and not race. But if that is true, then Gerrit Judd should be remembered on this day as a great hero of the Hawaiian people (nation, not race).

Let us remember that the Kingdom of Hawai'i was multiracial, multiethnic, with full partnership, full voting rights, and full property rights; for non-natives who were either naturalized or born in the Kingdom. Thousands of their descendants still live here today. Let us remember that there were many patriotic non-native subjects of the Kingdom, such as Dr. Judd. Let's stop the ethnic cleansing of Hawaiian historic holidays. Let us respect the equality and unity of all Hawai'i's people today.

Here is a quote about Gerrit Judd from the Hawaiian history book by Gavan Daws, titled "Shoal of Time", p128

"Of all the white men in the Hawaiian government no one did more for the chiefs than Gerrit Judd. In formal procession at Honolulu he always marched closest to the king, and no matter how much this upset the other cabinet ministers the chiefs never begrudged him his place of honor. He had their unreserved confidence. He spoke their language fluently, looked after them when they were ill, translated state papers for them, and defended with all his considerable strength the right of the Hawaiian kingdom to be recognized as a sovereign nation."

In the events of 1843 leading up to ka La Ho'ihō'i Ea, Rev. Dr. Gerrit Judd was the most upstanding Hawaiian of them all.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
COMPTROLLER  
AUDREY HIDANO  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
CURT T. OTAGURO, STATE COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

APRIL 8, 2022, 10:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 211, STATE CAPITOL

HB 2475 H. D. 1 S. D. 1

RELATING TO STATE HOLIDAYS.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2475 HD1 SD1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports this bill and wishes to add the following comments for consideration:

1. The restoration of Hawai'i's sovereignty on 31 July 1843 after the unauthorized occupation by Captain George Paulet of the British Navy was one of the most pivotal moments in Hawaiian history. These events lead directly to Hawai'i's recognition as a co-equal nation amongst the greatest powers of the day.
2. Mō'ī Kauikeaouli [Kamehameha III], reflecting on the near extinguishment of the Hawaiian nation established by his father Kamehameha I, proclaimed the now famous phrase , "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono." As his words are now our State motto,

remembering this day in Hawai'i's history offers an excellent opportunity to educate the population of how that expression came to be.

3. Lā Ho'ihō'i Ea also brings forward a more broad international history of the Hawaiian Islands—specifically its early and close ties to Great Britain. From the trusted relationship of the 1790s between Kamehameha I and Capt. George Vancouver that engendered diplomatic correspondence between the Hawaiian monarch and King George III, to the 1823 diplomatic voyage of Mō'ī Liholiho [Kamehameha II] to London in which the Hawaiian sovereign and his Queen, Kamāmalu tragically died, Hawai'i and her fate as a budding nation were tied to this like island nation half-way across the globe.
4. As the Keepers of Public Memory, the State Archives has extensive original documentation of the events leading up to the seizure of the Hawaiian Kingdom by Capt. Paulet, the ensuing negotiations between Mō'ī Kamehameha III and Paulet, the diplomatic mission to Europe and America, and the eventual restoration of Hawaiian sovereignty by Admiral Richard Thomas, along with many other important historical documents that clearly illustrate the many ways in which this singular event impacted the history of Hawai'i.
5. Recognition of this event will provide a unique opportunity for the People of Hawai'i to reflect upon their history and the prominent place that Hawai'i has held on the world stage for over two centuries.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter

**LATE**

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 11:40:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Comment:

This should be a public holiday as well. This is Hawai`i and we should have Hawaiian historical, related to govt. not religion holidays.

It could have easily replaced the Christian religious holidays that continue on the "public" state calendar. (waiting for that discussion)

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-8500 • FAX: (808) 768-5563 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov/hr

**LATE**

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR



NOLA N. MIYASAKI  
DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

FLORENCIO C. BAGUIO, JR.  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

April 7, 2022

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Senate, Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Subject: Testimony on H.B. 2475 HD 1 SD 1 Relating to State Holidays

The Department of Human Resources, City and County of Honolulu recognizes the cultural and historical significance of Lā Ho'iho'i Ea (Sovereignty Restoration Day) which celebrates the first national holiday of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Our concern is if this day becomes a paid State holiday. If it becomes a paid State holiday, the matter will require negotiations with the various public unions through the collective bargaining process. We also note that the yearly cost to the City and County of Honolulu alone would be an estimated \$1.7 million.

We thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nola N. Miyasaki".

Nola N. Miyasaki  
Director Designate

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 4:50:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynette Cruz	Testifying for Malama Makua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for allowing me to testify in support of this bill on behalf of Malama Makua. This holiday is important to Hawaiians and to all who call Hawaii home. It acknowledges that Hawaii already had a history prior to the illegal overthrow in 1893. We have lost much since then, but we try to remember our national holidays. Thank you for standing with us.

**LATE**

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 11:12:44 PM  
Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kapua Medeiros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Committee members,

I urge you to Support HB2475 to establish July 31 of each year as Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea. I also would like to see this take effect immediately, and most definitely before the year 2050.

Mahalo for taking a Stand to Correct some of the Injustices that we Kānaka Maoli have been experiencing for 129 years now.

Me ke Aloha nō,

Kapua Medeiros

Waimānalo Raised Resident

**LATE**

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 6:49:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ekini Lindsey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In FULL SUPPORT for HR2475!!!

**LATE**

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 8:08:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Regina Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of HB2475. July 31 of each year should be observed and designated as Lā Ho‘iho‘i EA, to recognize King Kamehameha III accomplishments AND honor upstanding members of the Hawaiian community for their accomplishments to bringing back the EA of Hawai‘i. This Hawaiian holiday, Lā Ho‘iho‘i EA IS NOT and SHALL NOT be construed to be a state holiday of the fake state of Hawai‘i.



**LATE**

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 9:07:14 AM  
Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Corey Asano. I live in Kaneohe. I strongly support Bill HB2475. La Hoi Hoi Ea celebrates a significant time in Hawaii's History and needs to be celebrated for years to come. This type of re connecting to our true past, I believe, is what is most needed in our communities today. Knowing our history is a powerful tool that can help our future leaders of Hawaii make educated decisions.

Mahalo,

Corey

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 9:58:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Tong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My Name is Ryan Tong and I'm a resident and teacher in Wainae Hi. I am fully in support of Recognizing La Hoihoi Ea as a holiday. I believe that Hawaii should continue to remember and celebrate it's hard fought victories against imperialism, and that they can be won through non-violent means. This holiday will give us time to reflect on where we have come and where we are going as a community.

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 10:18:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenji Cataldo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the designation of Lā Ho‘iho‘i Ea as a state holiday. The restoration of sovereignty after British occupation and King Kamehameha II's famous declaration "Ua mau ke ea o ka ‘āina i ka pono" are not only important to Kānaka Maoli but to all residents of Hawai‘i who believe in the sovereignty and self-determination of all peoples and nations and who oppose the violation of that sovereignty by imperial powers. Amid the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, it is more important than ever to publicly affirm this vision of a world in which might does not make right.

**LATE**

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 10:19:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hardy Spoehr	Testifying for Spoehr Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, thank you for the opportunity to submit supportive testimony for HB 2475. Passage of this measure would bring much more visibility to an event which all of us who live in these islands should cherish and celebrate. While the event which this measure celebrates is important; it also brings to mind the initial long and somewhat dangerous voyage Kauikeaouli's older brother Liholiho and his Queen Kamamalu along with 8 other members of the government undertook to England to confer with King George IV about establishing a British protectorate over the young kingdom. After six and a half months, the group arrived in Portsmouth and then moved on to London to await King George's audience. Sadly, as we all remember, the king and his wife contracted the measles and passed away but eventually King George does meet with the Hawai`i government officials and a political relationship based on supporting the young Hawaiian nation is first achieved among the highest levels of governments. This relationship ultimately was continued and confirmed almost 20 years later in 1843 when instead of supporting Lord Paulet's actions, Admiral Thomas reversed them and reinforced the Hawaiian Kingdom's independence.

For many years La Hoi, Hoi EA has been celebrated by a few congregating at Thomas Square where this event first took place in 1843. One of the original organizers of this event was beloved Hawaiian culturalist and physician Dr. Richard Kekuni Blaisdell. He gave us the "honi" once again as a way of traditional greeting; he used Hawaiian language when it was appropriate and meaningful; and now with the passage of this bill, he and the others who have supported this effort will give us an extremely important event for all of us who call Hawai`i home an event to talk about and participate with our children and grandchildren.

Mahalo for this opportunity. Hardy Spoehr

**HB-2475-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/8/2022 11:03:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/8/2022 10:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Rodrigues	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

honesty and trust begins with truth. celebrating Hawaiian History not taught in schools most be  
acknowledged and shared... make this a state holiday.