

HCR-71

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 5:44:05 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.	Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Although I do not have Japanese ancestry, I honor the memory of the 132 fallen U.S. soldiers, mostly of Japanese ancestry, who had been students at President McKinley High School, who died in World War 2 in service to our country; and I honor the name and statue of President McKinley which grace the school's beautiful campus. A gang of hate-America secessionists want to strip the McKinley name and statue because President McKinley worked hard to persuade Congress to agree to the Treaty of Annexation offered by the Republic of Hawaii. I am proud to be an American. Those soldiers were proud to be Americans and to carry the name of President McKinley into battle as part of their heritage. Shame on those members of the House Education Committee who want to trash the name and statue of President McKinley, and shame on the National Education Association which is their accomplice.

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Submitted on: 3/22/2022 1:49:35 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our fallen heros were of every race, ethnicity, and religion, including Hawaiian. Please pass this resolution.

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Submitted on: 3/22/2022 10:29:42 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikos Leverenz	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Committee Members:

I am writing to oppose HCR 71, which attempts to justify the continued use of the name McKinley High School by invoking fallen servicemembers who are alumni. It is quite a stretch to invoke their great sacrifice to retain the name of a high school. Due consideration must be given to the fact that, however passionate certain alumni may feel about this subject, Hawaii's public schools belong to all residents of Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:55:07 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Sanpei	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support House Resolution 64 that pays tribute to the soldiers who served during the second World War. We certainly appreciate their dedication and service to our country and the State of Hawaii. To honor them by safeguarding the name McKinley High School is befitting and well deserved.

HCR-71

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:58:28 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yoon Ok Won	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I very strongly support this Resolution. As a former war veteran as well as having a son who graduated from McKinley High School, we support this Resolution to honor McKinley High School's 132 fallen soldiers by safeguarding and preserving the name of McKinley High School. Thank you.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:00:07 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andy Ngo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Resolution that pays tribute to the Fallen Soldiers who served our nation and the State of Hawaii.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:01:42 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Pangilinan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the intent of the House Resolution as written.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:05:03 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scot Seo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe we need to honor our World War II soldiers from McKinley High School and what better way than this HCR tribute. By doing this, we would recognize the sacrifices these individuals made to honorably serve our country. Please pass this HCR. Thank you.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:07:26 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Takeba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this Resolution, one of my family members is included in the list of "Fallen Heroes" and this would be a great honor for him and our family.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:09:35 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aukai Pia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This Resolution to honor our fallensoldiers by preserving the name of McKinley High School is very befitting and a way for the State of Hawaii to pay tribute to these who valiantly served our country. I support this Resolution.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:11:29 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Low	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a graduate of William McKinley High School (class of 1967); and University of Hawai'i-Manoa (class of 1971).

I want you to know that I'm in opposition to renaming McKinley High School and removing of President McKinley's statue.

My opposition is not related to any agreement with the polices of President McKinley. Nor am I a supporter of his personal writings and his racial bias. I do believe that the greater criticism should be directed towards President Cleveland who was the incumbent when American plantation owners instigated the overthrow of the Monarchy.

In reality McKinley was a weak and ineffectual President but his actions, or inactions, in allowing the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy were not in and of themselves illegal (just examples of his poor political integrity).

The positive reputation of William McKinley High School is irrefutable. The education I received was exemplary. When I am home visiting the islands and conversations lead to my acknowledgment to being a McKinley grad the responses are always very positive.

We live in a society where "cancel culture" seems to be the reaction to unfavorable politics, culture, and history. In this case I would suggest that renaming all public references to DILLINGHAM, DOLE, CASTLE, COOKE, ALEXANDER, BALDWIN would be more on point than renaming President William McKinley High School. They were the instigators of an illegal coup. Like Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis they were traitors to the government and should not be honored.

Rather than upsetting the thousands of MHS graduates I would encourage the Department of Education to expand the history of our islands and to thoroughly discuss the manner in which the desires of a few resulted in the end of a historic government.

I urge you not to pursue this matter.

Respectfully,

Michael Low

University of Notre Dame

Happily Retired 😎

16818 Colony Drive

South Bend, IN 46635

HCR-71

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:15:05 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Peterson	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

In closing:

I mean no disrespect to those fallen, in fact,

*****The soldiers of the 442nd that attended Honolulu High School, Who fought in WWII, fought and died for the same thing we in Hawai'i and other countries are fighting for now...like Germany a bigger Nation, invaded Poland - a smaller nation and tried to bully their way through Europe. Like Russia invading Ukraine today, like the U.S. invaded Hawai'i and continue to bully Hawai'i's descendant till today. President William Mckinley played one of the largest part in that dark history.**

.It would be greater honor to the soldiers that fought and died for the liberation of those smaller countries by removing this statue and changing the name back to:

"HONOLULU HIGH SCHOOL" - THE SCHOOL THAT SPEAKS TRUTH, LIVES TRUTH, AND HONORS ITS PEOPLE IN TRUTH

The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
House of Representatives
Committee on Education

Re: In FAVOR of HB64 and House Concurrent Resolution HCR71

Dear Chair Woodson and Members of the House Committee on Education:

My name is Chieko Higuchi, MHS Class of 1966, and I am testifying in favor of HB64 and HCR71. I am in favor of these 2 resolutions to urge the Superintendent of Education to request the Board of Education to honor McKinley High School's 132 fallen soldiers by safeguarding and preserving the name of McKinley High School.

McKinley High School is one oldest secondary school in the Hawaiian Islands, founded in 1865, known then as Fort Street English Day School. It was known as McKinley High School since 1905 and is now going on it's 117th year being known as President McKinley High School, known as McKinley High School (MHS). Several of the buildings on McKinley High School's campus are listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1980. The architect most involved in the design of its Spanish Colonial Revival buildings was Louis E. Davis. The buildings of McKinley High School were chosen as being historically significant by contributing to a major part of American History; with a "person" (Pres. William McKinley) associated with America's history; and design and construction of the buildings having great artistic value and the work of a master designer, Louis Davis.

The history of the students at McKinley High School is admirable and really depicts their sense of "Pride" and "Code of Honor" which was written in 1927 by student: Mun Chee Chun which MHS students have tried to display and maintain. During World War II the MHS students volunteered at Red Cross Stations, supported selling war bond drives, and raised enough funds to purchase a B-24 Liberator bomber, named Madame Pele for the United States Air Force.

During World War II, there were 132 fallen U.S. soldiers who attended McKinley High School who valiantly fought for our country, the United States of America. Their valor and commitment to our country will never be forgotten, and I'm sure that they were proud to be alumni of McKinley High School. Wah Kau Kong, attended McKinley High School and he is listed on McKinley High School's "Hall of Honor", as he was the first Chinese American fighter pilot in World War II. One of members who graduated from McKinley High School and served in World War II was late Senator Daniel Inouye (1924-2012), who was part of the U.S. Army's 442nd Combat Team; Medal of Honor Recipient; U.S. Representative (1959-1962); U.S. Senator (1962-2012); President pro tempore of the United States Senate, 4th highest-ranking member of the U.S. government. He is one of many of those outstanding citizens from McKinley High School who are listed in MHS's "Hall of Honor".

There are other noteworthy people who have graduated from McKinley High School who have valiantly fought for our Country. Tammy Duckworth, Class of MHS 1985, was a U.S. Army Major, and Iraq War Veteran. She was a Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives from the eight districts of Illinois from 2013-2017 and is the U.S. Senator from the State of Illinois since 2017. She is one of the many people listed in McKinley High School's "Hall of Honor". McKinley High School has a long history of producing leaders in reputable and a variety of vocations that have contributed to the success of our State and of our nation. If you visit McKinley High School, their pictures are hung in the Administration Building as our "Hall of Honor" awardee recipients.

In conclusion, all the above examples of valor and honor that McKinley High School students who have fought in World War II or in other fields of battle for the United States of America, has brought pride and gratitude to McKinley High School, our community, and to our State of Hawaii. I am urging the Superintendent of Education to request the Board of Education to honor McKinley High School's 132 fallen soldiers by safeguarding and preserving the name of McKinley High School.

Sincerely,
Chieko Higuchi
Resident of Mililani, Hawaii
McKinley High School Class of 1966

The Honorable Justin Woodson, Chair
House of Representatives
Committee on Education

Dear Chair Woodson and Members of the House Committee on Education:

I am testifying in **support** of HR 64 and HCR 71 urging the Superintendent to request that the Board of Education not change the name of McKinley High School to Honolulu High School and remove the statue of President William McKinley from the premises.

I come from a long line of McKinley graduates. Both sets of grandparents and most of their siblings, my parents' cousins, my sisters, my late husband and I are all proud graduates of McKinley. Ever since I moved back from California, I have been hoping my twins will have a chance to graduate from McKinley to continue that legacy.

McKinley High School has been steeped in tradition. As students, we learn about the history of the school, what students and graduates before us have accomplished with limited means and that anything is possible after graduating from McKinley. Our alumni include a Governor, US Congress Members, Olympians, Educators, Decorated Veterans, Scientists and Entrepreneurs, to name a few.

This school has been in existence for over 150 years. It has been known longer as McKinley High School than any other name. It would be a disservice to change the now. There are more important issues to be addressed in the Hawaii public school system, than changing school names to satisfy those who want to rewrite history.

Sincerely,

Lisa-Anne Mitsuka Chan
McKinley High School Class of 1991
McKinley Alumni Association Recording Secretary
Editor, *The Alumni Pinion*

HCR-71

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 1:52:20 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shane Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

My name is Shane Kaneshiro, and I am in my second year at McKinley High school. I support this resolution. This name of McKinley High School is over 100 years old and has been through historical events. The reason I support this resolution is that the soldiers that where alumni had layed down their lives for this country's freedom. Thats why this resolution matters.

Please support this resolution. Thank you.

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Submitted on: 3/23/2022 1:53:58 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please honor the McKinley High School's 132 fallen soldiers who had fought for our freedom.

Thank you.

HCR-71

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 3:31:27 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manuel Pulido	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support keeping the name of McKinley High School. For more than 150 years, McKinley High School has stood strong and held itself up on two main pillars: Pride and Tradition. A name change would cause great disturbances to the traditions and practices students look forward to every year, and slight the alumni who have graduated as “McKinley Tigers”. We would like to preserve the history, pride, and tradition of McKinley High School and its alumni as it currently is without a name change. Furthermore, the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at McKinley High school is celebrating its 100 Year Anniversary this year. In the past ROTC was mandatory for students until the late 1960s. The Pride and Tradition of many of the McKinley High School students who learned these time-honored values taught by the ROTC: Duty, Respect, Honor, Integrity, and Service - has served Hawaii and the global community with many McKinley graduates making a positive influence on our society. I highly recommend that we keep the McKinley name on the high school to honor all of those, including myself, a 1990 McKinley High graduate and former ROTC Cadet at the school.

Manuel Pulido

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Retired

HCR-71

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 4:34:28 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/24/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heather Graeber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose