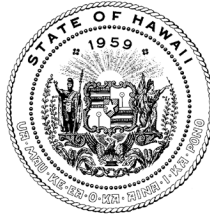


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Thursday, April 14, 2022
8:30 am**

State Capitol, Conference Room 430, Via Videoconference

**IN CONSIDERATION OF
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 119
URGING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO RENAME THE
RUSSIAN FORT ELISABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN
WAIMEA, KAUA'I AS PĀ'ULA'ULA**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1119 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to rename Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua'i to Pā'ula'ula. **The Department supports this measure based on historical research that has created a better understanding and awareness of the multi-cultural history of the site.**

The Department's Division of State Parks (State Parks) created a working group in 2018 to address the planning for Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park after the forum held on Kaua'i in 2017 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Fort's construction. Park improvements with the installation of interpretive signs were last done in 1989 and it was recognized that new information gathered about the history of the site over the past 30 years warranted updating and revisions to the park interpretive signs. In addition, the forum highlighted that the Hawaiian story associated with the site had been largely overlooked and needed to be more accurately shared with residents and visitors.

The Working Group began with 16 members representing Native Hawaiian organizations on Kaua'i, the Russian-American community on Kaua'i and the continental United States, the Waimea community, and researchers knowledgeable about the site and its history. From the beginning, the discussion focused on the need to more accurately reflect the multi-cultural history and recognize the importance of this site in Waimea as a royal center and residential compound of Kaua'i ali'i spanning the period before and after Western Contact.

Ongoing research into the written literature located in Hawai‘i, the continental United States, and Russia has shed new light on the brief, one-year history of the Russian-American Company on Kaua‘i and the limited role that George Anton Schäffer and the Russian-American Company played at the site in Waimea. Kaua‘i King Kaumuali‘i was instrumental in the decision to proceed with the construction of the fort using the design provided by Schaffer. Kaumuali‘i’s role is now recognized as being paramount to this history as he retained his sovereign control of the site as well as the island while interacting with foreign interests. He directed the construction of the Fort with Hawaiian labor and garrisoned the fort with Hawaiian soldiers. Once Schäffer and the employees of the RAC were expelled from Kaua‘i in 1817, the fort remained in Hawaiian control under the Monarchy until it was dismantled in 1864.

There was consensus in the working group to include Pā‘ula‘ula in the park name as the traditional Hawaiian place name for both the Fort and the area at the eastern rivermouth. This name is prominent in the land claims around the Fort by the Hawaiian soldiers during the Māhele of 1848. The controversy has focused on whether to retain “Russian” in the name. While the Fort may not have been built without the influence of Schäffer and the Russian-American Company, the fort was not built or garrisoned by the Russian-American Company or sanctioned by the Russian government. Therefore, referring to it as a Russian fort is historically inaccurate and misleading.

In the last month, State Parks has installed interim interpretive signs at the site which incorporate the traditional name of Pā‘ula‘ula and which share more of the Hawaiian story, offer a more accurate history of the Fort, and introduce new renderings of the site over time. The hope is that these signs will promote further dialogue before finalizing the permanent signs that will be part of a larger park improvements project at the site in 2023.

In addition to the name change, the Department supports updating and revising the nomination form for the National Register of Historic Places and the site’s designation as a National Historic Landmark. Again, these revisions will focus on a more balanced and accurate interpretation of the multi-cultural history and the role of both the Hawaiian and Russian personages that are critical to understanding this history.

The process to initiate a formal name change requires the approval of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, which will be scheduled.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SCR-119

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 12:53:00 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/14/2022 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Carpenter	DLNR	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am available for questions to DLNR. Please allow me Zoom access.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Hawaii State Aha Moku
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the House Committees of
Water and Land
Corrections, Military & Veterans

Thursday, April 14, 2022
8:30 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 430 &
Videoconference

In SUPPORT
of SCR 119

SCR 119 urges the Board of Land and Natural Resources to rename the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua'i as "Pa'ula'ula".

The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) strongly supports this measure.

On behalf of the Hawaii State Aha Moku, Manokalanipo (Island of Kaua'i), Moku O Waimea, we represent native Hawaiians and members of the Public Trust who are part of the Aha Moku process, particularly in the Ahupua'a of Waimea, Kapena, Kekaha, Waiawa, Opelu, Kaawaloa, Nonomahiki, Kahelunui and Kolo.

Many of the people of these Ahupua'a are those with generational knowledge of the natural and cultural resources of the entire lands of Waimea. They are the people who have strived over the years to perpetuate and sustain the precious natural and cultural resources, particularly the native Hawaiian history that is so prevalent in Waimea.

Kane Turalde is a Kupuna of Waimea who learned his genealogy and lineage from his aunt, Alita Kauohi who is now in her 90's, and still active. They both are direct descendants of Ali'i Ai Moku Kaumuali'i. This is the 'Ohana who is responsible for the statue of Kaumuali'i that

today overlooks Waimea. In their life-long service to their people, their deepest wish is to restore the original name of the site to Pa'ula'ula so that the mo'olelo of this wahi pana is

shared and the 'aina that cares for the iwi kupuna is honored.

We support this resolution in its entirety and ask that enough funds to be allotted to State Parks, Department of Land and Natural Resources so they can fulfill its mandates of developing new interpretive signs, brochures and websites that primarily reflect the 'aina of Kauai's ali'i nui.

Respectfully yours,

Kane Turalde, Kahu Moku O Waimea
Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-651-5984
kaneswahine@aol.com

Llewellyn Kaohelauii, Kahu Nui O Manokalanipo
Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-742-9575
terriehayes@gmail.com

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director
Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-640-1214
Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

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
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
And SENATE COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS, MILITARY, & VETERANS

For hearing Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Re: SCR119
URGING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO RENAME THE
RUSSIAN FORT ELISABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN WAIMEA, KAUA'I, AS
"PA'ULA'ULA"

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

The Russian-ness of Russian Fort is an essential part of Kaua'i's history. Everyone knows the ruthless warrior Kamehameha, who treated all the Hawaiian islands like Russia is now treating Ukraine, repeatedly tried but failed to invade Kaua'i until he intimidated King Kaumuali'i into ceding power and becoming a puppet vassal in 1810. But Kaumuali'i never gave up in his heart. In 1817 he conspired with a Russian trading company to build Russian Fort as a tactic to begin reasserting power. Even as late as 1824 his son Humehume engaged in battle against Kamehameha's successor-son Liholiho resulting in the deaths of 10 rebels and 8 Liholiho soldiers.

The current attempt to rename Russian Fort by giving it an obscure Hawaiian-language name is typical of the ethnic cleansing and homogenization of Hawaiian history which Hawaiian race-partisans have been doing for several decades. For example Rev. Dr. Gerrit Judd, hero of 1843 sovereignty restoration, is never mentioned at annual celebrations of Ka La Ho'ihō'i Ea, and activists would like to re-name Thomas Square.

In all cultures, including Hawaiian, the name of a place has changed when a major event takes place there. For many generations local residents might name a piece of land based on what it looks like or how it is used: for example Big Bend or Grand Rapids. Pa'ula'ula is a name like that, identifying a river bank that resembles a red wall. Big deal! But when an important event happens at a place or when a historically significant building is constructed there, then local residents begin calling that place by a new name referring to the event or building; and that new name reflecting human activity eventually replaces the old name that merely described the general appearance of the land. That's what happened at Russian Fort.

Consider the place now known as Mauna Ala [the Royal Mausoleum in Nu'uānu, Honolulu]. But there's no mountain there! There's not even a hill, as some suggest by translating its name to "Fragrant Hill" which would more correctly be called Pu'u 'A'ala. One writer suggested the name is kaona for "Eternal Paths" [Mau Na Ala]. In any case, why not "return" the place-name to what it was before the mausoleum was created there -- Pohukaina. Or how about the even more-general place-name Nu'uānu.

Don't disrespect Kaumuali'i's attempted restoration of Kaua'i's sovereignty by suppressing the Russian essence and intended military purpose of Russian Fort. Do not try to remove Russian Fort from the history of Hawaii by removing its name from signs and books, like politicians in the Soviet Union turned their ideological enemies into non-persons by removing their names from history books.



Hawai'i House of Representatives
Committee on Water & Land

Pō'aha, 'Apelia 14, 2022
Lumi 'Aha Kūkā 430
Ke Kapikala Moku 'āina
415 South Beretānia Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i. 96813

Re: SCR119 - Renaming the Russian Fort Elisabeth State Historical Park to Pa'ula'ula

Aloha Luna Ho'omalu Tarnas, Hope Luna Ho'omalu Bronco, and members of the House Committee on Water and Land:

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs **SUPPORTS** SCR119. These resolutions would urge the Board of Land and Natural Resources to rename the Russian Fort Elisabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua'i as Pa'ula'ula. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Club adopted Resolution 2018-49 at its 59th Annual Convention supporting the name change to Pa'ula'ula. Thus, the Association respectfully urges your committee to **PASS SCR119**

The civic club movement was founded in 1918 by Congressional Delegate Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole with the creation of the Hawaiian Civic Club; the Association was formally organized in 1959 and has grown to a confederation of over sixty (60) Hawaiian Civic Clubs located throughout the State of Hawai'i and the United States. The Association is the oldest Hawaiian community-based grassroots organization. The Association is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors; advocates for improved welfare of Native Hawaiians in culture, health, economic development, education, social welfare, and nationhood; and perpetuates and preserves language, history, music, dance and other Native Hawaiian cultural traditions.

Mahalo for allowing us to share our *mana'o*.

Me ka 'oia 'i'o,

Hailama Farden
Pelekikena

SCR-119

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 10:47:06 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/14/2022 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maunakea Trask	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Committee Chair and Members,

I support the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution SCR119. Paulaula is the correct name for this place and it should be reflected as such. The full history of this place will be accurately told within the park. In this era of disinformation, accurate history is more important than ever.

Mahalo,

Mauna Kea Trask