



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

**LATE**

Testimony of Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the House Committee on  
 Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Thursday, April 21, 2022  
 1:30 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 325 &  
 Videoconference

In  
OPPOSITION  
of SCR 121

SCR 121 is urging the counties and the state to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to establish policies protecting hula.

**The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) strongly opposes this measure.**

On behalf of the Hawaii State Aha Moku, Pae Aina, we represent native Hawaiians and members of the native Hawaiian Kupuna Kumu Hula of the eight islands of Hawaii, with deep respect to the Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula that supports this resolution, we strongly oppose this measure for the following reasons:

1. All Kumu Hula, particularly Kupuna Kumu Hula were not advised of, nor consulted in this measure;
2. This resolution does not state who the Kumu Hula are. This is particularly disturbing because as the SCR reads, one cannot know if a Kumu Hula received their knowledge from their Kupuna. There is no distinction between a Kumu Hula who was raised in the practice and trained specifically by their family and district.

Most importantly, Hula is a sacred traditional practice steeped in religious and cultural

knowledge. This practice cannot be under a policy that has oversight by western government agencies, entities or practices.

We deeply respect the writers of this resolution and understand their fears about misrepresentation of the practice of hula, but this is also a misrepresentation of Kumu Hula.

We ask that SCR be deferred until next session to give the writers of this resolution time to consult with the Kupuna Kumu Hula of each island.

Respectfully yours,

Kawaikapuokalani Hewett, Ka Mea Ho'okumu  
Kumu Hula, Kuhai Halau O Kawaikapuokalani Pa Olapa Kahiko  
Hawaii State Aha Moku  
808-382-6043  
kahalelehua@outlook.com

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



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 7:31:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pueo Pata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 20, 2022

**RE: Testimony in Strong Support of Mearsure SCR121.**

Aloha mai, e Luna Matayoshi a me nā Lālā o ka ‘Aha ‘Ōlelo o Hawai‘i Moku‘āina,

I am a Member of Huamakahikina, a coalition of Kumu Hula, open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of Hula Lineages, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the ‘oihana of Hula itself. Huamakahikina formed and ratified the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” on August 21-22, 2021, at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention, which brought together 201 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the Pae‘āina o Hawai‘i, 10 states of the United States of America, and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain. The Huamakahikina Declaration has already been adopted by the Maui County Council through resolution CC 21-484, in November, 2021.

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicate themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; we educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; we tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; we bring both joy and pride to our larger community; and, Hula events and pursuits are important contributors to the State’s economy.

On page 3 of the Huamakahikina Declaration, the 201 ratifiers delineate historic challenges to Hula – specifically those regarding its abuse, ignorance about it, its lack of protections, lack of equity for its masters and practitioners, and deficits of government-sourced resourcing and funding.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono

and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakāhikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakāhikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

Me ka ‘ōia‘io,

Kumu Hula Cody Pueo Pata

**LATE**

Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair  
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Kū Koanui-Souza  
Hālau Hula 'O Kawaiho'omalu  
3414 George Street  
Honolulu, HI 96815

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Support for SCR 121

My name is Kū Koanui-Souza and I am the kumu hula of Hālau Hula 'O Kawaiho'omalu and a member of the Huamakahikina Kumu Hula Coalition. I have dedicated my life to the preservation and perpetuation of the hula. I strongly support SCR 121 as this resolution urges the counties and the state to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to establish policies to protect hula.

Hula is passed from one generation to the next via a Kumu Hula. These Kumu Hula ensure that their students perform what they have been taught to the same standard that they themselves were taught. This is inclusive of all of the cultural practices, protocols and traditions that have been established by the genealogy of hula that they descend from. We need to establish policies that will preserve and protect the integrity and sanctity of the hula so that it will not be prey to bastardization, misrepresentation and cultural misappropriation.

In working with Kumu Hula the counties and the state will find that hula will be better represented as a precious Hawaiian cultural art of our island home and will ensure its proper stewardship. I strongly urge the committee to pass SCR 121. Mahalo nui for this opportunity to share my mana'o.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:49:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bernadette Pelena Keeling	Kaulana Na Pua, Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai Kākou,

I strongly support SCR 12.

Mahalo,

Kumu Hula Pelena Keeling.

PO Box 723  
Waimānalo, HI 96795  
godscountrywaimanalo@gmail.com



Ho'oulu a me ho'ōla lāhui.  
Propagate and perpetuate the race

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 S Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**LATE**

April 20, 2022

Re: Strong Support for SCR 121 - Urging the Counties and the State to Work with  
Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to Establish Policies Protecting Hula

Aloha e Chair Nakashima a me Vice Chair Matayoshi.

The Board of Directors (Board) of God's Country Waimānalo (GCW) have voted to Strongly Support Senate Concurrent Resolution 121 (Resolution), which brings about a list of policies to protect hula. GCW's mission is ho'oulu a me ho'ōla lāhui, which means to propagate and perpetuate the race. Each of Kānaka 'Ōiwi ancestry, our Board members feel strongly that this Resolution does just that: propagates and perpetuates our lāhui.

In the context of Kānaka 'Ōiwi, when Capt. James Cook and his crews arrived in 1778, we had adapted so well to these islands that some of Cook's own men estimated that the population was enumerated to one million. The introduction of epidemics, including gonorrhoea, influenza, measles, pneumonia, smallpox, syphilis, tuberculosis, and typhoid, started the population's initial decline. Followed by economic and political exploitation; private ownership of lands and accompanying loss of land for Kānaka; economic dependence; suppression of indigenous culture, education, language, and spirituality; and influx of western religion, education, and economic and social racism, the native population plummeted to approximately 40,000 by 1893. These facts highlight the initial onset of the historical traumas that have led to the destruction of an empowered cultural identity among Kānaka, especially our beloved practice, hula. Thus, we wholeheartedly offer our Strong Support for this Resolution.

It is not lost on us that this Resolution is being heard as many of our kumu hula are in Hilo for Merrie Monarch, making it near impossible for their voices to be heard on this issue, which is also the foundation of the second clause: to "amplify the voices of Kumu Hula..." In their stead, GCW's Board stands and offers our voice. Support and vote to pass this resolution!

**Board of Directors**

H. Ilima Ho-Lastimosa, Bob Lastimosa, Kenneth Ho, Jr.



Re: Strong Support for SCR 121 - Urging the Counties and the State to Work with  
Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to Establish Policies Protecting Hula

Page 2

GCW offers its Strong Support for this Resolution and would like to close by stating one last time, PASS SCR 121! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via any of the contact information available in the letterhead above.

Mahalo.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenneth Ho, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kenneth K. L. Ho, Jr., EdD  
Secretary

**Board of Directors**

H. Ilima Ho-Lastimoso, Bob Lastimoso, Kenneth Ho, Jr.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 12:35:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nicholas Tanaka	Na Kupuna a me Na Kako'o o Halawa Inc	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a cultural practitioner is is important to keep the credibility of our cultural practices within those trained to do so. Huamakahikina is one step in the right direction for one of our most prominent cultural displays that is recognized around the world.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 7:15:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Deanie Lum-Villiados	KUMU HULA ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly SUPPORT SCR 121.

Mahalo, Kumu Hula Deanie Wailani Lum-Villiados

**MOKU O MANOKALANIPO**  
**KAUA'I COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS**

**LATE**

Date: April 21, 2022

To: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Moku o Manokalanipō, Kaua'i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs  
Malia Nobrega-Olivera, President  
malianob@gmail.com

Re: SCR121 - URGING THE COUNTIES AND THE STATE TO WORK WITH HUAMAKAHIKINA AND KUMU HULA TO ESTABLISH POLICIES PROTECTING HULA

Aloha:

Moku o Manokalanipō SUPPORTS SCR21.

Members of Moku o Manokalanipō are kumu hula and participated in the discussions that led to the development of the Huamakahikina declaration. In addition our members actively participated in the 62nd annual convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and the Association adopted resolution 2021-59, Supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration and the Efforts to Protect and Advance the Practice of Hula, and to Prevent its continued Economic Exploitation and Appropriation.

Therefore, Moku o Manokalanipō respectfully urges the Committee to SUPPORT all of the actions in SCR 119/SR 106.

The Hawaiian 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 in 1968, the Hawaiian Civic Clubs on the island of Kaua'i organized Moku o Manokalanipō, the Kaua'i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

# ***ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS***

## ***A RESOLUTION***

NO. 2021 - 59

### **SUPPORTING THE HUAMAKAHIKINA DECLARATION AND THE EFFORTS TO PROTECT AND ADVANCE THE PRACTICE OF HULA, AND TO PREVENT ITS CONTINUED ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION AND APPROPRIATION**

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is a coalition of Kumu Hula, open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of hula lineages, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the practice of Hula itself; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina was first convened on August 17, 2020, to develop a proactive cultural approach to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Kumu Hula organized to bring the collective intellectual, spiritual, and physical practices of their lineages together, in consultation with other cultural and medical practitioners, to establish the Lāhui Kānaka Declaration and related support systems; and

WHEREAS, through these efforts, Kumu Hula promoted, strengthened, and maintained maui ola amongst themselves, their haumāna, and their ‘ohana to minimize the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Kumu Hula further adapted Lāhui Kānaka support systems for use by the public, broadcasting across social media networks and reaching tens of thousands of viewers from around the world; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina persists and expands beyond its initial charge, in recognition of the unique kuleana that Kumu Hula have to the integrity, stewardship, and protection of hula, hula communities, and kanaka maoli culture; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is now an inclusive forum for Kumu Hula to discuss and collaborate on issues relevant to hula; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina exists and hula thrives despite historical challenges; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is a contemporary manifestation of hula community and advocacy, where Kumu Hula come together around all issues regarding hula, the well-being of ‘āina, and other kanaka maoli cultural activities in a manner and scale that is unprecedented; and

WHEREAS, on August 21-22, 2021, Huamakahikina assembled virtually at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention, bringing together 200 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the pae‘āina o Hawai‘i; ten states of the United States of America; and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain in order to discuss and ratify this declaration to be a living expression of the views of the body thereby convened; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina unifies and amplifies the voices of Kumu Hula to address challenges, both old and new, that impact Kumu Hula and that threaten the integrity of hula, including:

- Abuse, misrepresentation, cultural misappropriation, and exploitation;
- Widespread ignorance of hula’s significance and role;
- Insufficient protection of intellectual property rights;
- Lack of recognition; and
- Lack of access and resourcing; and

WHEREAS, it is through pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula that Huamakahikina proclaims the Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula (<http://bit.ly/huamakahikina>); and

WHEREAS, recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina calls upon hula practitioners, hula communities worldwide, kānaka maoli, and all of Hawai‘i to embrace this declaration and to support actions by Huamakahikina to protect and advance hula; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is determined to take action to uphold the integrity of hula; to build strategic relationships and networks for the advancement of hula, Kumu Hula, and Huamakahikina; to organize and advocate for the pono stewardship and protection of hula within public, professional, and commercial spheres; to support the intellectual property rights of Kumu Hula; to organize and advocate for access, recognition, public funding, facilities, and other resources in support of hula; to cultivate hula as a source of well-being; and to ensure that hula flourishes for countless generations to come; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2021, the Maui County Council adopted Resolution 21-161, substantially similar to this resolution, officially supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration and its recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 62nd Annual Convention held online, in the malama of Kā‘elo and the rising of Hoku, this 16th day of January 2022, supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration and the efforts to protect and advance the practice of hula, and to prevent its continued economic exploitation and appropriation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Jonathan Johnson (Executive Director of Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts), Councilmember Keani Rawlins, Kumu Hula Kathy Holoaumoku Ralar (Leo Kāhoa Steering Committee of Huamakahikina), as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.



The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Kā'elo and the rising of Hoku, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022, at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs held online.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hailama V.K.K. Fardo", written over a horizontal line.

Hailama V.K.K. Fardo, President

**LATE**



Hawai'i House of Representatives  
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

*Pō'aha, 'Apelia 21, 2022*  
*Lumi 'Aha Kūkā 325*  
*Ke Kapikala Moku 'āina*  
415 South Beretānia Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i. 96813

Re: SCR121 - URGING THE COUNTIES AND THE STATE TO WORK WITH HUAMAKAHIKINA AND KUMU HULA TO ESTABLISH POLICIES PROTECTING HULA

*Aloha Luna Ho 'omalua Nakashima, Hope Luna Ho 'omalua Matayoshi, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:*

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs **SUPPORTS** SCR121. The purpose of this resolution is to urge the counties and the State to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to establish policies protecting hula. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Club adopted Resolution 2021-59 Supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration and the Efforts to Protect and Advance the Practice of Hula, and to Prevent its continued Economic Exploitation and Appropriation at its 62nd Annual Convention. Thus, the Association respectfully urges your committee to **PASS SCR121**.

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*

# ***ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS***

## ***A RESOLUTION***

NO. 2021 - 59

### **SUPPORTING THE HUAMAKAHIKINA DECLARATION AND THE EFFORTS TO PROTECT AND ADVANCE THE PRACTICE OF HULA, AND TO PREVENT ITS CONTINUED ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION AND APPROPRIATION**

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is a coalition of Kumu Hula, open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of hula lineages, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the practice of Hula itself; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina was first convened on August 17, 2020, to develop a proactive cultural approach to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Kumu Hula organized to bring the collective intellectual, spiritual, and physical practices of their lineages together, in consultation with other cultural and medical practitioners, to establish the Lāhui Kānaka Declaration and related support systems; and

WHEREAS, through these efforts, Kumu Hula promoted, strengthened, and maintained maui ola amongst themselves, their haumāna, and their ‘ohana to minimize the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Kumu Hula further adapted Lāhui Kānaka support systems for use by the public, broadcasting across social media networks and reaching tens of thousands of viewers from around the world; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina persists and expands beyond its initial charge, in recognition of the unique kuleana that Kumu Hula have to the integrity, stewardship, and protection of hula, hula communities, and kanaka maoli culture; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is now an inclusive forum for Kumu Hula to discuss and collaborate on issues relevant to hula; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina exists and hula thrives despite historical challenges; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is a contemporary manifestation of hula community and advocacy, where Kumu Hula come together around all issues regarding hula, the well-being of ‘āina, and other kanaka maoli cultural activities in a manner and scale that is unprecedented; and

WHEREAS, on August 21-22, 2021, Huamakahikina assembled virtually at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention, bringing together 200 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the pae‘āina o Hawai‘i; ten states of the United States of America; and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain in order to discuss and ratify this declaration to be a living expression of the views of the body thereby convened; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina unifies and amplifies the voices of Kumu Hula to address challenges, both old and new, that impact Kumu Hula and that threaten the integrity of hula, including:

- Abuse, misrepresentation, cultural misappropriation, and exploitation;
- Widespread ignorance of hula’s significance and role;
- Insufficient protection of intellectual property rights;
- Lack of recognition; and
- Lack of access and resourcing; and

WHEREAS, it is through pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula that Huamakahikina proclaims the Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula (<http://bit.ly/huamakahikina>); and

WHEREAS, recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina calls upon hula practitioners, hula communities worldwide, kānaka maoli, and all of Hawai‘i to embrace this declaration and to support actions by Huamakahikina to protect and advance hula; and

WHEREAS, Huamakahikina is determined to take action to uphold the integrity of hula; to build strategic relationships and networks for the advancement of hula, Kumu Hula, and Huamakahikina; to organize and advocate for the pono stewardship and protection of hula within public, professional, and commercial spheres; to support the intellectual property rights of Kumu Hula; to organize and advocate for access, recognition, public funding, facilities, and other resources in support of hula; to cultivate hula as a source of well-being; and to ensure that hula flourishes for countless generations to come; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2021, the Maui County Council adopted Resolution 21-161, substantially similar to this resolution, officially supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration and its recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 62nd Annual Convention held online, in the malama of Kā‘elo and the rising of Hoku, this 16th day of January 2022, supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration and the efforts to protect and advance the practice of hula, and to prevent its continued economic exploitation and appropriation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Jonathan Johnson (Executive Director of Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts), Councilmember Keani Rawlins, Kumu Hula Kathy Holoaumoku Ralar (Leo Kāhoa Steering Committee of Huamakahikina), as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.



The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Kā'elo and the rising of Hoku, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022, at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs held online.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hailama V.K.K. Fardo", written over a horizontal line.

Hailama V.K.K. Fardo, President



**Legislative Testimony  
Senate Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs**

SCR121 - URGING THE COUNTIES AND THE STATE TO WORK WITH HUAMAKAHIKINA  
AND KUMU HULA TO ESTABLISH POLICIES PROTECTING HULA  
Thursday, April 21, 2022, 1:30pm, Rm 325 & Videoconference

The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) offers testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SCR121, which urges the counties and the state to work together with Huamakahikina and kumu hula to address problems faced by hula community such as misrepresentation, cultural appropriation, and exploitation.

As a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice, Hula is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but also to the broader community of all those who call Hawai'i, home. Hula has helped to preserve knowledge and traditions passed down for generations. And for decades now, hālau hula and kumu hula have told the beautiful stories of our home, bringing both pride and joy to us all.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation and as is consistent with the "HO'ĀLA: Call to Action" of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai'i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the "Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula" through SCR121.

Accordingly, the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement humbly asks the Committee to **PASS** SCR121.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Respectfully,

J. Kūhiō Lewis, CEO  
Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 1:01:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Naomi Lake-Farm	Huamakahikina	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR12. Mahalo Kumu Naomi "Sissy" Lake-Farm, Hālau Makana Aloha O Ka Laua`e (Wailuku, Maui)

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 1:07:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
D.J.U. Duhaylonsod	Ka'uikiokapo/Kiawekupono O Ka Ua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Ka'uikiokapo and Halau Kiawkeupono O Ka Ua strongly urge that the counties and the State work with Huamakahikina and support the Huamakahikina Declaration to help care for our hula traditions. Senate Concurrent Resolution 121 is a step in the right direction; please see it through.

Mahalo,  
Ulukoa Duhaylonsod

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 6:07:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehaulani Kaneholani-Santiago	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution.



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 6:35:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR121 and urge you to support this Resolution.

Mahalo,

Kumu Hula Lahela Spencer

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 6:35:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lilinoe Kaio	Huamakahikina	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 12.

Mahalo,

Kumu Hula Lilinoe Kaio

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 6:43:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaleo Trinidad	Ka Leo O Laka I Ka Hikina O Ka La	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of myself and my ohana, as a practitioner of native arts, as an aloha aina, as one who traces his genealogy to the first of these islands, as a Kumu Hula that who believes firmly that native tradition, knowledge and practice IS Hawaii, I firmly and resolutely support SCR121. Mahalo , Kumu Hula Kaleo Trinidad.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 6:48:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 12. Mahalo, Kumu Hula Honey Takaki

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 7:07:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Luana Rivera Palacio	Halau Napuaokamokihanaoha	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 12. Mahalo, Kumu Hula Luana Rivera Palacio

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 7:11:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Karey Kapoi, and I live in Waikapu, Maui.

I am testifying in strong support of SCR121 urging the counties and state to work with Kumu Hula to establish policies in support of Hula and Kumu Hula.

For too long, our state and counties have benefitted from the knowledge our Kumu Hula share with little to no support in return. I hope the state will lead in remedying this practice through formal recognition of Hula and the Kumu Hula who ensure the perpetuation and continuation of these practices as articulated through the Huamakahikina document.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support. Please feel free to reach out directly for any clarification.

Respectfully,

Karey Kapoi

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 7:14:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nani Dudoit	Kaleilehuaikaloonalani Hula Halau	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Nani Dudoit, strongly support SCR 121. This resolution urges the counties and the State of Hawai'i to work with the organization, Huamakahikina, and nā Kumu Hula to establish policies to protect hula today and for the future (forever). Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Mahalo, Kumu Hula Nani Dudoit

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 7:59:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121.



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:00:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

My name is Grant Keliwaanui and I submit this testimony in strong support of SCR121.

Mahalo

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:03:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai Kākou,

I Piilani Kaawaloa Strongly Support SCR 121 URGING THE COUNTIES AND THE STATE TO WORK WITH HUAMAKAHIKINA AND KUMU HULA TO ESTABLISH POLICIES PROTECTING HULA.

Kumu Hula and Hālau Hula play a key role within our community that foster and nurture Hula and therefore should be the voice that helps protect this important cultural practice and way of life.

Thank you for allowing me to provide Testimony on this subject.

Sincerely,

Piilani Kaawaloa

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:11:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dane K. U. Maxwell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Dane Uluwehiokalani Maxwell and I am in strong support of SCR121.

I trust and support those of Huamakahikina and the Kumu hula associated with this potential policy making initiative. I believe that this is a critical component to the preservation of hula and I hope it will empower those mentioned above with tools to maintain the integrity of hula for future generations.

Ola nā iwi,

Dane Uluwehiokalani Maxwell

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:12:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I, Anna Wailena Pu, strongly support SCR121. Mahalo.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:15:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR121.

Mahalo,

Mitchell Yano

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:16:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am writing in full support of SCR121.

Mahalo, Kyle Atabay

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:19:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

I am a lifelong lover of hula and a haumana for most of my life. Hula is what connected me to my culture and my past. It has helped to save me through some of the darkest moments of my life. My kumu is who continue to inspire me and keep me grounded. I urge you to pass RSCR 121.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

Mahalo for your time  
Tiare Lawrence

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:23:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marlene Kuraoka	Halau Hula 'O Nawahine	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill SCR121

Mahalo nui loa.

Kumu Hula Marlene Nawahine Kuraoka

Kaneohe, HI 96744



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:28:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bradford Lum	Hula Halau O Ikemanu	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Representatives, Keohokalole, Chang, Keith-Agran, Misalucha, Shimabukuro, Gabbard, Nishihara, San Buenaventura, Wakai.

Mahalo for giving me the time in Support of SCR 121.

I'm urging this legislative body urging the counties of the State of Hawaii with Humakahikina and kumu Hula, to establish policies protecting the sanctity of Hula.

Since 8/17/2020 we Kumu Hula have organized and checked our commitment to keep hula as intellectual, spiritual, and physical practices that brings us together as one. It gives us the opportunity to protect hula linages together. We have come to gether to originize ,advocate in a scal unprecedented to collaborate on issues related to hula.

Please consider passing this measure.

Mahalo Piha,

Kumu Hula Bradford Ikemanu Tin Cheong Lum

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:36:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheri LAUA'E Yamasaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 20, 2022

**RE: Testimony in Strong Support of Measure SCR121.**

Aloha mai, e Luna Matayoshi a me nā Lālā o ka ‘Aha ‘Ōlelo o Hawai‘i Moku‘āina,

I am a Member of Huamakāhikina, a coalition of Kumu Hula open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of Hula Lineages, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the ‘oihana of Hula itself. Huamakāhikina formed and ratified the “Huamakāhikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” on August 21-22, 2021, at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention, which brought together 201 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the Pae‘āina o Hawai‘i, 10 states of the United States of America, and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain. The Huamakāhikina Declaration has already been adopted by the Maui County Council through resolution CC 21-484, in November, 2021.

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicate themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; we educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; we tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; we bring both joy and pride to our larger community; and, Hula events and pursuits are important contributors to the State’s economy.

On page 3 of the Huamakāhikina Declaration, the 201 ratifiers delineate historic challenges to Hula – specifically those regarding its abuse, ignorance about it, its lack of protections, lack of equity for its masters and practitioners, and deficits of government-sourced resourcing and funding.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policy makers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, as a Member of Huamakahikina, I call upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

**It is vital to our lāhui that we stand up and protect the sanctity of hula, hālau and the title of Kumu Hula for the generations to come. Too many times hula is projected to the world incorrectly and done by people who are not qualified to teach. I completely and humbly support measure SCR121 and hope that you will follow through and do what is best for Hawai'i and our culture.**

Me ka ‘oia‘io,

Sheri Laua'e Yamasaki

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:41:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Eva Elizabeth Eli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, We Support Huamakahikina as they calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

Mahalo for your commitment to upholding Hawai'i most treasured practices.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:45:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly urge support of SCR121. From keiki to kupuna, hula is life...an integral part of the culture of Hawaii and its Native People. It is critical that the legislature support the Kumu Hula in their quest to assure that the cultural integrity and protocol of hula remains intact. Please pass this resolution as a step to begin the discussions and to formulate necessary laws to assure that this cultural treasure of Hawaii is not abused or misappropriated.

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:45:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rick No`eau Smith	Halau Hula Na Mamo No`eau	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Hula is a foundation to all things Hawaiian. It's protection and continuation is key to Hawai'i's spiritual, emotional and financial well being. E mālama ka hula!

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:49:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:51:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patrick Choy	Halau Hula Kalehua?apapaneoka?au	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo,

Kumu Hula Patrick Kapuawehi Choy



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:51:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hula is not just hawaiian dance. Hula is not just our mo'olelo or stories. Hula is Hawai'i and Hawai'i is hula. To not work with and give voice to Kumu hula, those who are regarded as top experts in mele, oli, mo'olelo, and hula, is a grave injustice for Hawai'i and the people who continue to live here. Our language, dance and stories breath life to this place and hold in them the keys to a regenerative and sustainable future in this place for all. I strongly urge you to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula in regards to establishing laws and legislation to protect and perpetuate hula. Mahalo

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:53:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 12.  
Mahalo nui loa,

Stacy

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 8:59:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Support

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:02:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Welina mai kākou!

I strongly SUPPORT SCR121.

Mahalo,

Skye Wong

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:06:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I, Michael Lāola Tamāli'i, strongly support SCR 121. In a world where information is given freely and misconstrued, hula traditions need to be protected by law to prevent the dilution and erasure of its intellectual, cultural, and historical significance.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:14:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121 in perpetuation of Hawaiian cultural practices. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:16:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo,

Nicholas Harders

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:17:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am in support of SCR121.

Mahalo,

Aimee Rice



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:18:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121.

Mahalo,

Lea Sabagala

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:21:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Mahalo, Kumu Māhealani Uchiyama

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:23:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kamanu?ena Maunupau Hermosura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:27:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I strongly support SCR 12. Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire state. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

Me ke aloha,

Keiko

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:30:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo,

Nicholas Kalanakilaokalāhui Palupe

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:38:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai....I support strongly this resolution, mahalo Kumu Hula Mapuana (Francine) Aarona

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:40:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tatiana Tseu Fox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

E nā ‘elele o kēia pae ‘āina... e maliu mai...

‘O wau ‘o Tatiana Tseu Fox, a kumu hula and the daughter of Kumu Hula ‘Iwalani Tseu, whose kumu hula was the late hula master, Uncle George Naope, and I strongly support SCR 121!

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

me ka ‘oia‘i‘o,

Tatiana Tseu Fox

Kumu Hula - Nā Lei O Ka ‘Iwa Ha‘a I Ka Lani

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:45:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am in support of SCR121 for the protection and perpetuation of hula. Please consider this thoughtful resolution as the impetus for hula preservation and continuance.



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 9:53:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121.

The value and importance of this resolution is very clear to me. As a resident of Hawaii for the past 21 years, as a community member, as an educator, as the mother of Hawaiian children, as a formal Hawaiian language student, I strongly urge you to support, hear, pass, and enact this resolution. Hula, as a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice, needs to be supported and protected. Seeing as the existing laws and policies are inadequate, there is a pressing need to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula.

Mahalo,  
Katrina Ahia

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:00:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR 121, urging the State to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to establish policies protecting Hula.

Aloha,

My name is Mariah Mossman, and I am a resident of Pukalani, Maui. I am offering my testimony in strong support of SCR 121, the Huamakahikina Declaration. For many years Hula has been recognized around the world as being unique to our islands and culture. It deserves to be protected, preserved, and its integrity maintained. This declaration is important in supporting Kumu Hula to continue to do this work. As a Hula Practitioner, my life has been shaped by the knowledge I've gained from Hula and my Kumu in this field. Now I see the importance it plays in the lives of my own children and generations to come. I wish to continue to see the perpetuation of Hula and strongly believe that Huamakahikina will benefit and support our not only our Hula Community but our community as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Mariah Mossman, RN

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:03:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SCR121 and the call to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to establish policies to protect hula.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:07:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support Scr 121. Mahalo,Alexa Panabaker

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:11:03 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Donnie Almazan	Halau Kealaokamaile	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121

Hula-a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice- is not only integral to Kanaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire state. Although hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kanaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in the its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicate themselves to it. Halau Hula and Kume Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kume hula uphold and instill the importance of the environmental stewardship: they educate 'ohana from keiki to kupuna: they tell and celebrate the stories of our homes and they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Mahalo,

Donnie Almazan

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:14:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Mahalo, Megumi Allen

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:30:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hiilei Maxwell-Juan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Hiilei Maxwell-Juan from Wailuku Maui, strongly support SCR 121 and would want you to consider the same. This is progress for the State and you all would be contributing in making history by passing this to perpetuate the Hula and all that is stands for.

Mahalo a nui,

Hiilei Maxwell-Juan

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:44:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

protection of ALL cultural practices is imperative for the survival of the rightful inhabitants of this 'āina - no Hawaiians - no Hawai'i - please help to save the little that is left. mahalo nui loa.

mary drayer

wailuku, maui



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:46:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR12.

Mahalo,

June Stacey Eaton

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:48:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair & Committee,

My name is Hi'iaka Jardine and I strongly support this bill. I urge you all to consider passing this bill for the preservation of hula and Hawaiian culture for future generation.

Mahalo,

Hi'iaka

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:50:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elaine Nelson	Halau Ke?alaokamaile	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:50:14 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catherine Redmond	Halau Ke'alaokamaile	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 11:08:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121. Many aspects of Hawaiian culture have been taken and commercialized. Establishing protections fro Hula from Hula practitioners is essential.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 11:33:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Hula is Life!

Mahalo, Kiana Mathias

SCR121 Submitted on: 4/20/2022

Individual Written Testimony

Aloha mai!

**RE: Testimony in Strong Support of Mearsure SCR121.**

Hula Matters! It is knowledge from my ancestors, my kupuna that have been passed on to my lahui generation after generation. As a Kanaka Maoli, it is my kuleana to do the same and protect and perpetuate my culture. Therefore, I urge this resolution be heard.

Mahalo no!

Alisha Pua Mai Oli Kaluhiokalani

**LATE**

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 11:39:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am Cherissa Henohea Kāne, I have been a learner and practioner of hula since 1989. In the year 2020, through ‘ūniki ‘ailolo, rites and rituals particular to hula, I became a kumu hula of Hālau Ke‘alaokamaile. It is my responsibility to continue to build upon the familial legacy that came before me.

It is important to me that hula remain recognizable. Mis-appropriation of hula and our culture occurs daily on different levels and in many spaces. It is our kuleana as hula people and native Hawaiians to advocate for the integrity of hula so that the generations not yet born can recognize authentic hula deeply rooted in legacy and lineage.

It is also important to me that lineage based kumu hula are recognized as highly valuable sources of knowledge. Through oli and mele, kumu hula become exceptionally proficient in many different subjects. The understanding of a lineage based kumu hula could be very valuable in many spaces and should be commensurate to the highest univervity degree.

By supporting the Huamakahikina Declaration you also support the vibrancy of native Hawaiians and our history.

Na‘u me ka mahalo,

C. Henohea Kāne, Kumu Hula, Hālau Ke‘alaokamaile



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 11:46:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

To whom it may concern:

I fully support Bill SCR 121.

Mahalo,

Leicey Bickford

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 11:49:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Mahalo, Robyn Williams

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 12:44:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nicolas K. Los Banos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo nui loa,

Nicolas Kale Los Banos

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 1:06:28 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

HULA is the Hawaiian language in motion.

Please support SCR121.

Saving and supporting the Hawaiian language, hula and all things Hawaiian

is finally helping Hawaii to become Hawaiian.

Mahalo,

Darcel Gilbert, haumana (student)

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 1:19:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Manulani Birkmire	Ka Pa Hula O Manulani	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. It is vital to the hula lineages I perpetuate and that all authentic Kumu Hulas follow to enact this important bill right away. Please, as the government for Hawai'i, which hula and culture and aloha calls it's home, pass the bill to help protect hula and all the sacred protocols.

Mahalo, Kumu Hula Manulani Birkmire

Ka Pa Hula O Manulani

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 1:26:56 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

Mahalo,

Torrey Hoching

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 3:16:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jared Kahikinaokala Ah Sing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. As a hula practitioner myself that comes from generations of cultural leaders, I understand the importance of protecting the authenticity of our arts. Our communities and families are affected immensely from a lack of connection to the culture and land upon which we all live. It is of utmost importance that kumu hula, along with the Huamakahikina Declaration, are supported in setting the guidelines/qualifications/policies concerning the future of hula - the most recognizable art form of our islands.  
Mahalo,

Jared Kahikinaokala Ah Sing

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 4:08:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121. Mahalo, Ashley Wendt.



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 4:34:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kapena Malulani Perez	Halau Hula O Malulani	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"I strongly support SCR 12. Mahalo, Kumu Hula Kapena Malulani Perez

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 5:10:10 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christina Nani Aiu-Quezada	Halau Hula Moani'a'ala Anuheia	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support SCR121

Christina Nani Aiu-Quezada

Kumu Hula

Halau Hula Moani'a'ala Anuheia

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 5:15:01 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
stevi dela Cuesta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121.  
Mahalo,

Stevi dela Cuesta

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 5:31:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo,

Kaleiopia Guth

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 5:45:15 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR 121. Mahalo, Kimo Brehm

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 5:58:37 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121 as it will benefit the Hawaiian community and culture.

Mahalo,

Erika Kaaa

Wailuku, Maui

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 5:58:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

As a Native Hawaiian, I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo nunui,

Iisha Lindsey

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 6:08:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pauls Pujats	Pujats	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Mahalo, Pauls Pujats



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 6:43:13 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Mahalo, Kumu Hula Pele Kaio.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 7:19:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wendi Paahana Roehrig	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SCR 121 for it is imperative this resloution be heard with the hope that hula may be preserved and protected with integrity and santity.

Mahalo,

Wendi Pa` ahana Roehrig, Kumu Hula

**LATE**

A. U'ilani Tanigawa Lum, Esq.  
[anelaulani@gmail.com](mailto:anelaulani@gmail.com)

April 21, 2022

**RE: Testimony in strong support of SCR 121**

Aloha mai kākou e Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi, and members of this committee,

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in **strong support of SCR 121, which would actualize important policies to support the monumental Huamakahikina Declaration.** My name is U'ilani Tanigawa Lum and I am an attorney and hula practitioner. I was born and raised in Makawao, Maui, where the communities that raised me also helped to shape my trajectory and passions as an adult. Last year, after over 20 years of training, I underwent formal 'ūniki ceremonies as a Ho'opa'a under the direction of my Kumu Hula, Nāpua Greig. As I write this, thousands are flocking to Hilo, Hawai'i in support of the Merrie Monarch Hula Festival.

Cultural practices, like hula, provide an important compass for kānaka. For me, hula taught me about our 'āina, our water systems, our history, our language, and perhaps most importantly, my kuleana to each of those aspects. This kuleana drove me to secure a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Hawaiian Studies, as well as a J.D. specializing in Native Hawaiian Law. This measure is an important step to directly supporting the cultural practitioners within our own community.

Aside from my role as a hula practitioner, my work as an attorney now largely seeks to perpetuate and actualize important protections around traditional and customary rights – including practices like hula. Aside from being an educational and cultural tool, hula often produces leaders in environmental stewardship, resource management, and more. This is because hula requires an intimate understanding of and relationship with our 'āina and its resources. Our laws in Hawai'i are unique because of its cultural underpinnings – our Ali'i recognized that in order to survive on an island with finite resources, caring for the land must be reciprocal and regenerative. Given climate change, food insecurity, and a global pandemic, these valuable lessons are readily available to us through hula and its exponents. This measure supports hula beyond entertainment – it would support and advance its role as a foundational cultural practice central to our identity and survival as Hawai'i.

As steadfast beacons within our community, the practice of hula and Kumu Hula have nonetheless ensured the perpetuation of this practice even without wide public or private support. Please vote to pass this measure today.

Mahalo for your hard work and this opportunity to testify today.

Me ka ha'aha'a,  
A. U'ilani Tanigawa Lum

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 7:41:38 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gaylene K. Menza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stongly support SCR121

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 7:46:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Oralani Koa	Halau Ke'alaokamaile	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Oralani Koa, strongly support SCR 121.

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 7:59:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marci Waialeale Sarsona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121. As a cultural practitioner, our practices continue to be exploited and misused to the advantages of others thereby deminishing its true value and place in our community. Please support and pass SCR121.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 8:29:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daryl Fujiwara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Daryl Fujiwara from Wailuku, Maui and I am in strong support of the Huamakahikina Declaration. Hula is not for everyone, but it doesn't discriminate against anyone either. All races, ages and sizes are encouraged to learn.

I have been dancing hula from the age of 7 and it has had a huge impact on my personal and professional trajectory. The life skills that came with these experiences imbued with cultural knowledge gave me a strong sense of place and made me the contributor to society that I am. Now 32 years later I am an alaka'i, a leader in my school of hula, we are the next wave of kumu hula candidates, we are leaders in our community.

It is the job of the kumu hula to ensure the passing of their lineal hula knowledge, along with that is the passing of debt - the cost of "dancing" as a small business and running a non-profit, juggling performances for meals and practicing in parks to bless corporations. We are the first people to be called to serve our community to celebrate new beginnings - birth, to honor achievements, to remember loved ones who have passed, yet we have no real place in our community. What is the value of this service?

It is the job of the dancer to be seen pristine in our beautiful dresses made up with lei and flowers in our hair and smiling, always smiling while presenting. What you don't see is the kuku we are dancing on, the car with no gas that got us to the performance, the hours of picking, gardening, making ti-leaf skirt and plumeria lei, pressing our costumes, the expensive sweat resistant make-up, the pain in our knees. It is the job of the dancer and kumu to show up and show well. We do not show our hardship and this has been the life work of so many — a perpetuation of servitude for our community, to perpetuate hula? We can't even afford to live here on Maui much less teach hula? It is sometimes the 3rd job. Who wants to take on this heavy burden? What can you do to help elevate and support hula?

As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate 'ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policy makers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

Please vote to support full funding of the Huamakahikina Declaration. Me ka ha`aha`a,

Daryl Fujiwara  
Life long hula dancer  
8082648779  
125 Poniu Circle, Wailuku, HI 96793



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 8:57:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Nojima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee,

***I strongly SUPPORT SCR 121.***

As a native Hawaiian I believe Hula is an essential part of my heritage, culture and being Hawaiian. If we loose sight of the Hawaiian Culture, Language, Dance (Hula) then WHAT do we have? There will be no ***A\*L\*O\*H\*A!***

Hula – a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice – is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicated themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate ‘ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, and sing of its beauty; and, they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the “HO‘ĀLA: Call to Action” of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai‘i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” through measure SCR121.

I humbly ask you vot in FAVOR of this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Cory Mailelani Chock Nojima

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 8:59:36 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121 in it's entirety. County and State needs to strengthen kinship to our 'āina, our people, our language and culture.

Mahalo,

Malu Dudoit

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 9:44:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support strongly this Resolution Kumu Hula Jory Scoville

**LATE**

April 20, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES \* THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE \* REGULAR SESSION OF 2022

To : COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Rep. Linda Ichiyama

Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura

Rep. Dale T. Kobayashi

Rep. Roy M. Takumi

Rep. Matthew S. LoPresti

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen

Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, April 21, 2022

TIME: 1:30 PM

PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

I strongly support SCR 121

As a Native Hawaiian Hula has been an art that my family has taken part in for many generations. Hula has rooted us in our culture. As a social worker Hula has been a great way for me to take part in my self-care by reaching into my inner being and bringing out the love, joy, and peace. Hula has been a way to also reach into my spiritual self and speak the words through dance. Hula should not be misrepresented, exploited, abused, or have any cultural misappropriation.

Hula is a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice it is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the local culture and identity of the entire State. Although Hula is a tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, it is nondiscriminatory in that its traditions and knowledge are available to all who would dedicate themselves to it. Hālau Hula and Kumu Hula have contributed to our communities for decades. As experts in traditional knowledge and leaders of our community, Kumu Hula uphold and instill the importance of environmental stewardship; they educate 'ohana from keiki to kūpuna; they tell and celebrate the stories of our home and sing of its beauty; and they bring both joy and pride to our larger community.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, through consensus and without reservation, and as is consistent with the "HO'ĀLA: Call to Action" of the Declaration, the Membership of Huamakahikina calls upon the State of Hawai'i, and all of its counties, to embrace the letter and intent of the "Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula."

Mahalo

Sherry Kupau

Social Work Student

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 9:48:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SCR121 that aims to protect and properly preserve the art of hula via policies that are created by Huamakahikina and Kumu hula. Hula is not only an art but a lifestyle and spiritual foundation for many Hawaiian and non Hawaiian people here and abroad. It is a continuum holding the ancestral lineages of the natural and human world since the beginning of time. As a hula dancer I urge you to turn to our practitioners, experts and teachers of hula and trust them in the craft they dedicate their lives to, when creating these policies.

Mahalo,

Waikeola Needham

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 9:54:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo,

Brenna Hamman

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 10:03:23 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

As the descendant of Kanaka Oiwī practitioners, please PROTECT Hula principles, practices and protocols.



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 10:08:05 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121

mahalo, Hau'oli Castro

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 10:17:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

My name is Michael Laemmlein and I support SCR121

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 10:30:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121.

Mahalo, Kumu Hula 'Ālika Guerrero

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 10:36:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Hula provides a variety of resources that allows, not only the native Hawaiian community, but those interested in Hawaiian culture to participate on our culture, which provides a look into our history and encourages a plethora of community benefits (including, but not limited to: reforestation, education of Hawaiian language/culture/history, and physical/mental well-being as well)

with easy-access to such a valuable source, it is pertinent that we provide guidelines that will ensure that the integrity of our culture

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 10:51:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR121.

Mahalo,

Amber Kalua

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:04:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I have been training to be a Kumu hula my entire life and am set to 'uniki (graduate) this winter solstice 2022. It is my sincere hope that hula will be protected at all costs and huamakahikina will be looked upon as a key resource in doing so. People have taken so much from our culture with little to no replenishment. It is my kuleana to continue to feed my community through hula and this bill protects my doing so. From my grandmother, Ellen Kaalo Haili of Lā'ie who was a Kumu hula under pua ha'aheo to myself and my daughter Kelikoa'elakauaikekaianoanauikalehua e ola ka hula!

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:06:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support Bill SCR121.

mahalo nui, Kāhili L.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:08:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
King Van Nostrand	Na Hoaloha Maui Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SUPPORT SCR121: THE COUNTIES AND THE STATE TO WORK WITH HUAMAKAHIKINA AND KUMU HULA TO ESTABLISH POLICIES PROTECTING HULA.**

**We need to preserve and showcase hula as Hawaii's true treasure for the future.**

**Thank You for your consideration**



**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:08:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Charles E Mitchell "Aulii"	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"I strongly support SCR 12. Mahalo, Kumu Hula Charles E "Aulii" Mitchell

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:12:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Kākou,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of SCR121.

Hula is the embodiment of Hawai‘i. The long tradition is extraordinary and holds the ability for traditional, sacred, and protocol teachings. Passing SCR121 displays the acknowledgement of the importance of Hula is to our Hawaiian people and the seriousness to protect and value this traditional practice.

Mahalo nui for your time and support,

Lehua Itokazu

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:13:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR121!!!

Hula is Hawaii!!! Hula is the strongest medium, the strongest form in communicating everything about Hawaii- past, present and future. The heart and soul of Hawaii is spoken through hula. The very existence of Hawaii and all that encompasses Hawaii- the aina; the wai; the mana is expressed through hula.

**HULA IS SACRED TO HAWAII, NOW AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN AND ALWAYS WILL BE!!!**

Mahalo.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:24:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support Hula and SCR 121.

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 11:26:48 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dino-John Iokepa-Guerrero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR 121. I believe that the Counties and State should work with our kumu hula to set policies to protect hula, our culture and our traditions. All of which have been passed down from our kupuna who were first upon these islands. Who better to make policies with but with the people who carry these traditions and their kupuna who have passed these traditions down from one generation to the next for thousands of years, if not more.

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 12:34:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

I am in support of bill SCR121. I was a dancer of hula and am 100% in support of this bill.

Mahalo,

Ramona Oliveira

**LATE**

**SCR-121**

Submitted on: 4/21/2022 12:44:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 121. Hula must be preserved.

**LATE**

Kumu Hula Mehanaokala Hind  
Aliamanu, O'ahu

Hawai'i State Senate  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

**Support for SCR 121** Urging the Counties and the State to work with Huamakahikina and Kumu Hula to Establish Policies Protecting Hula  
Thursday April 21 2022 at 1:30pm

As a Kumu Hula descending from the lineage of Master Kumu Hula Leina'ala Kalama Heine and all her Kumu before her, I urge you to support SCR 121. As we are celebrating the olympics of hula in Hilo Hawai'i this week and inspiring millions of viewers across the world with Hawaiian culture at its finest, I ask you all to take a moment and reflect on the role of hula within our 'ohana, our communities, our island way of life, and its impact on teaching values, history, language, music, and yes, dance, to hundreds of thousands of practitioners across the globe.

Now, I ask you to reflect on the cultural misappropriation, the lack of County, State and Federal support, the exploitation, the disparities in recognizing Kumu Hula as the experts trained with rigor and the highest expectation of discipline, the lack of access and resources. The Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship and Protection of Hula helps address these issues and more. The 200+ Kumu Hula that gathered in August of 2021 and the many others that helped ratify the Declaration following the gathering, seek the support of those of you who represent us in these law and policy making bodies. We, the Kumu Hula, have took the time, done our homework, grappled with the complexities of our cultural practice, asked ourselves the tough questions and have agreed to continue to put in the time and energy necessary for hula to thrive for the following generations. We are asking you to help us, lawmakers and citizens, to work together to perpetuate and protect this cultural practice.

As a constitutionally protected traditional and customary practice, Hula is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but also to the broader community of all those who call Hawai'i, home. Hula has helped to preserve knowledge and traditions passed down for generations. And for decades now, hālau hula and kumu hula have told the beautiful stories of our home, bringing both pride and joy to us all.

Mahalo iā 'oukou for your time and consideration of this testimony. We look forward to working with all of you in the near future to assure that this uniquely Hawai'i art form is treated with the respect, dignity, and aloha for all of Hawai'i and hula practitioners everywhere.

Me ke aloha no ka lāhui,  
Mehanaokala Hind