



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Monday, March 28, 2022
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

in consideration of
SCR 72
**ESTABLISHING A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF
HAWAII, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND THE AUTONOMOUS REGION OF
MADEIRA, PORTUGAL.**

Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Ihara and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports SCR 72**, which establishes a sister-state relationship between the State of Hawaii, United States of America, and the Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal.

In 2006, the Legislature established the Hawaii Sister-State Committee. Its responsibility includes providing recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on proposed sister-state relationships. Accordingly, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has developed an application and process for entities seeking to establish a sister-state relationship with the State of Hawaii. After submitting a very comprehensive application for this new sister-state relationship which included extensive community support in both countries, the Sister-State Committee met on November 16, 2021, and recommended approval to the Legislature and the Governor.

The State of Hawaii already has one sister-state relationship with the Azores Islands, Portugal signed in 1982, which has not been very active in recent years. It is hoped that this Azores Islands sister-state relationship will be re-invigorated as a result of this new relationship with the Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



TYLER DOS SANTOS-TAM

Honorary Consul of Portugal in Hawaii
Cônsul Honorário de Portugal no Havai
PO Box 1661, Honolulu, HI 96813 USA
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Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts
Hawai'i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Strong Support for SCR72, Establishing a Sister-State Relationship between the State of Hawai'i, United States of America, and the Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal.

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members,

I am pleased to support SCR72, which is the culmination of an effort by members of our local Portuguese community throughout the islands as well as supporters in Madeira, Portugal.

Please find enclosed a number of letters of support which were submitted to the DBEDT Hawai'i Sister-State Committee when they came out with their favorable recommendation in support of establishing this relationship.

Mahalo & Muito Obrigado,

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam

FLAD

LUSO-AMERICAN
DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Having been informed of the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i willingness to propose the establishment of a Sister State relationship between the state of Hawaii (United States) and Madeira Archipelago (Portugal), I hereby express my support for this initiative.

The over-one-century-old relationship between Madeira and Hawaii has been greatly influential in Hawaiian culture as many Hawaiians have been shaped by the traditions of Madeira.

FLAD has had the opportunity to witness the enthusiasm of some members of the Portuguese-Hawaiian community (some of them with ancestors from Madeira) and we are aware of the necessity of initiatives, such as this, that bind together members of that community and encourage them to strengthen their relationship with the country of their ancestors.

Namely, FLAD has been in touch with local and state-level Hawaiian elected officials of Portuguese ancestry and we are certain that furthering such ties will promote an enriching sharing of political and legislative experience.

A commitment to further cooperation and exchange between Hawaii and Madeira will be mutually beneficial, contributing to the social, cultural, economic, and political development of both regions.

October 14th, 2021

Rita Faden



President of the Executive Council

**Hawai'i Sister-State Committee
Department of Business, Economic
Development and Tourism
250 South Hotel Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
United States**

Ref.: 2021 / 13043 Data: 2021/09/24

Subject: Hawai'i-Madeira Sister State Relationship

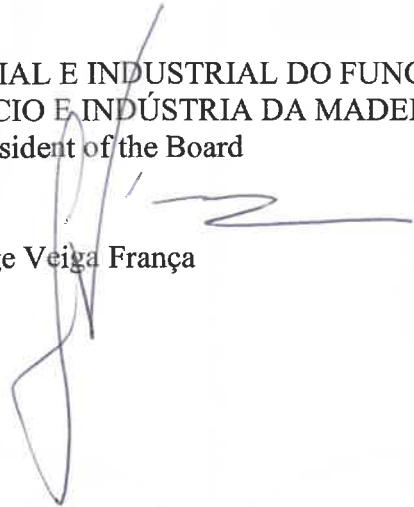
To Whom It May Concern,

With regard to the connection between Hawai'i and Madeira since 1878, when the first immigrants from Madeira arrived in Hawai'i influencing its culture by integrating themselves into the local society and taking their traditions, food and typical objects from their homeland, Funchal Commercial and Industrial Association – Madeira Chamber of Commerce and Industry comes to express its support for the establishment of a Sister State relationship between Madeira and Hawai'i.

Yours sincerely,

**ASSOCIAÇÃO COMERCIAL E INDUSTRIAL DO FUNCHAL
- CÂMARA DE COMÉRCIO E INDÚSTRIA DA MADEIRA -
The President of the Board**

Jorge Veiga França



IA

October 26, 2021

Hawai'i Sister-State Committee
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
250 South Hotel Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Sister-State Committee Members,

My name is André Caldeira, and I am a businessman and entrepreneur based in Madeira, Portugal. I am part of the "Engenho Novo da Madeira," a rum distillery that produces the William Hinton Rum brand that is located in the town of Calheta, Madeira. I write to express my support for the Sister State initiative between Hawaii and Madeira.

Our company was founded by the heirs of the Hinton Sugar and Rum Mill in Funchal using the equipment that came from the original factory, including the over 100 year old distillery tower, before the original factory was turned into a public garden and park.

The Hinton Mill was founded in 1845 and since the main emigration from Madeira to Hawaii was between 1878 and 1913, I am almost sure that some of those Madeiran emigrants took some experience from our original factory and sugar cane production to Hawaii.

To commemorate this connection, we have created a new product called 'Ukulele Rum that will be launched soon by Rocim Wine in continental Portugal and throughout Europe.

Beyond the 'Ukulele Rum initiative, we have been in discussions with a rum producer in Hawaii about potential collaborations between our company and theirs, and are hopeful that these discussions will result in something wonderful that both our islands can be proud of.

I am confident that a Sister-State relationship would help to foster even more connections and collaboration between Hawaii and Madeira.

Thank you,



André Caldeira
Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

Hawaii Sister-State Committee

Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

250 South Hotel Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

September 6, 2021

Re: A letter of support with an added historical context for a Hawaii-Sister State Relationship with Madeira

Dear Members of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee,

My name is Gerald De Mello, born on Hawaii Island. And also raised on this island and part of a 6-generation family living in Hilo and throughout Hawaii Island. Initially our family began with patriarch Lucio Ferreira, great grandfather, and his wife Maria Ferreira, my great grandmother, who came to Hawaii (then the Sandwich Islands) from Madeira on the ship, the Hankow in 1883, to work in the sugar industry. From this marriage they had 12 children that brought about the many generations of our family in Hawaii. We make up a single family. There were thousands of families that sailed on one of the 24 ships that over a period of 31 years that brought families to Hawaii. To this past, Hawaii having a Sister-State relationship with Madeira is one way to recognize the significant past contributions of the early pioneer families. And now with the establishment of the proposed Sister-State relationship with Madeira, it is a move forward that will put in place a future for sharing between Hawaii and Madeira.

Historical census data evidences that as early as 1794 there were Portuguese residents in Honolulu. They were sailors that came to Hawaii as crews in the whaling industry. Some chose to stay in Hawaii and married Hawaiian women. Fast forward 80+ years others from Madeira and the Azores came because of abject poverty. In short, historical oral histories affirm that they came to Hawaii seek to seek providence and prosperity. They were part of a major immigration of roughly 16,000 Portuguese who came to Hawaii to work in the sugar industry. This took place was from 1878 to 1909. Crossing two oceans and over 20,000 miles. For some it was a long 5 months and 3 days voyage. What did they find after such long voyages? They found that Hawaii 's geography and weather was very much like Madeira—hilly, mountainous, lush and green, high cliffs (i.e., Hamakua Coast) sub-topical weather and the surround of the ocean. To this point, having traveled to Madeira, I saw the likeness of Hawaii's geographic and climate likeness to Madeira, in my mind, this was appealing to them and historically another reason that made Hawaii their home. This said, today, given the likeness of both environments and the probability of similar challenges as Islands, a Sister State relationship, will position an exchange of perspectives along with research initiatives and over time on sustainability challenges. Accordingly, to begin a Sister-State with Madeira is potentially timely and beneficial to both Hawaii and Madeira.

Added historical messaging that profile the times during the period of Portuguese immigration to Hawaii is by "His Majesty's (King Kalakaua) Speech At The Opening of the Legislative Assembly (House of Nobles and Representative) Assembly, April 29TH, 1882" The King says, "What this Kingdom seems most to require to ensure a continuance of its present prosperity is a thoroughly organized system of Immigration of families from some Country whose inhabitants will be congenial to our soil, to our sub-tropical climate, to our institutions, and above all to our own people. Whilst we welcome industrious

families for all parts of the world, experience so far seems to point to the Portuguese...as those most readily available and likely to meet our requirements..." the King's statements provide a context that is equally relevant to our time, a continuum of sentiment that captures the dynamic contributions of the Portuguese to Hawaii, its history and culture.

Since 1878, the Portuguese have made many contributions to Hawaii. It has been a shared history of integration, assimilation and amalgamation. Historically and sociologically the Portuguese has contributed much to the fabric of Hawaii becoming leaders in business, politics, education, construction, masonry (stone work), ranching and agricultural practices, music, culture, humor and other fields. Thus, with a Sister-State relationship there are opportunities to establish relationships to foster educational, economic, cultural and scientific exchange, we are both islands, therefore, ocean sciences and research on fisheries are areas of collaboration. And finally, the long-term value of student exchange. In effect, the framework of opportunities for having Madeiran students do student exchange in our University System and vice versa the possibilities of arrangement for Hawaii students to have a semester studying abroad at their University in Madeira.

To reiterate, geographically, Madeira and Hawaii have the shared likeness in that together both are islands. Also, Madeira and Hawaii both have tourism as the basic driver of their economies. For comparison Madeira is 286 square miles and Oahu is 597 square miles. In effect, Madeira is half the size of Oahu. And yet, Madeira manages (or copes with) 1.2 million visitors each year. We in Hawaii via the Hawaii Tourism Authority are seeking different ways to reset our visitor industry. With a Sister-State arrangement it will present an opportunity to learn how Madeira manages their tourism. This said, Hawaii and Madeira vice versa could benefit and learn valuable insights, on how each of us can better balance our respective visitor economies.

Although the sugar industry spurred the immigration of Portuguese labor and their families to Hawaii, there were those that upon completion of their labor contract; that knew carpentry, stone masonry and other kinds of backgrounds; they often opted go into business for themselves. Like Hawaii-Madeira and the Azores are volcanically formed islands. In effect, in Madeira and in the Azores, they had a history of constructing buildings with lava rock shaped into blocks. Historically, from about 1888-1924 a number of buildings were built by skilled Portuguese stone-masons that may have left the plantation. Some of these still stand today and are cultural vestiges. For example, buildings on Oahu, Lilikona School, Mid-Pacific Institute Rock Structure, Pauahi Hall Punahou School, Bishop Museum and the backyard Portuguese stone ovens (furnos) on the neighbor islands (Maui/Hawaii Island, Kauai). Unfortunately, many of these stone buildings and structures have been demolished. I am "out of my league" meaning I don't know the realities of building and construction with lava and stone nor the economics of the field, but perhaps with a Sister-State relationship; Hawaii could explore traditional Madeiran construction techniques to learn how to use our Hawaii lava and blue rock to build. We in Hawaii are being challenged more and more to get quality materials to build. Also, materials are shipped in from the mainland are becoming more costly. Our State could contract expertise to determine the feasibility of using lava for Hawaii building construction. Conceivably, if this were feasible, it will be a boon to the economy, industry and work force.

On a smaller scale related to stone masonry on Hawaii Island. Jose Gomes Serrao who was born in Funchal, Madeira; and came to Hawaii in 1883 and made famous the "Serrao's Kaumana Wines Winery, Hilo Hawaii." His wine was being made in Hilo, and was a favorite on Hawaii Island and was met with great success to the extent that it was exported to New York's Waldorf Astoria Hotel as a specialty wine. This was the only winery to be found in the Territory of Hawaii at the turn of the 20th century. Being from Madeira, Jose knew the potential for grapes and wine industry. He grew the Isabella grapes for his Hawaii wine and cultivated a vineyard of 80 acres of homestead land in Kaumana. Prohibition killed his business. However, after prohibition was repealed, the business resumed and was operated by other family members until 1942.

To add another feature to the story of Jose Serrao and stone masonry on Hawaii Island. In 1891, Jose built a stone building on Kukuau St, in Hilo that housed his distilling equipment. It was not as ornate and decorative as the buildings in Honolulu. Nonetheless, it was built by Portuguese stone builders and still stands. However, today it is no longer Serrao property, it is privately owned by another family yet one can drive by on Kukuau St. and appreciate the building as historical benchmark and thread that links Hawaii with Madeira.

Earlier in this narrative, I noted that a number of Portuguese immigrants, who upon completing their labor contracts began small business start-ups in Hawaii. They established farms and small homestead ranching. Today, on Hawaii Island there are small coffee farms and small ranches on Hawaii Island (Hamakua Coast) that can trace their roots to Madeira. To the point of doing business start-ups and developing a small business. A well-respected family on Hawaii Island transitioned from the sugar plantation era into small ranching then segued to business to become one of the most successful automotive dealerships on Hawaii Island today. Notably, it is a generational business and the family has a genealogical link back to Madeira.

Not as dynamic a story, as the highly successful dealership but on a smaller business scale. On Hawaii Island there are the Andrade, Ferreira, Souza and Botelho family buildings that are still in business and extant today. Their respective family names are on their buildings in Honokaa Town. Today, the families are assimilated and part of Hawaii's ethnic mix and melting pot but their family names are indicative of their generational roots going back generations to Madeira.

In terms of the Portuguese contribution that is best known to Hawaii and internationally is the ukulele. Three Madeirans (Augusto Dias, Jose de Espirito Santos and Manuel Nunes) set up shop in Honolulu to produce the ukulele. King Kalakaua liked the sound of the strum of the uke. Notably, King Kalakaua was instrumental in popularizing the Madeiran braguinha that became the ukulele, an instrument that has been incorporated and assimilated and become an integral part of Hawaiian music. Going forward a Hawaii Sister-State relationship with Madeira will further opportunities to collaborate in blending music and also participate in ukulele and music festivals in Hawaii and Madeira. The late Sonny Chillingworth, one of Hawaii's preeminent slack key guitarists, would at times add international flavor to his music, a traditional Filipino or a contemporary Portuguese tempo to his music. In effect, the templates are here. Through a Hawaii-Sister State arrangement encouraging music grants that exchange innovation, a special music blend could be introduced in Hawaiian music and, of course, congruently, the introduction and composition of Hawaiian tempo with the musicians and performers of Madeira.

In the area of food culture, the foods or dishes brought by the Portuguese from Madeira and the Azores are assimilated and part of Hawaii's culinary delights. The following is a listing of a number of the popular foods-- sweet bread (pao doce), milk bread (pao leche), malasadas, pickled onions, Portuguese sausage, Portuguese bean soup, (Piri-Piri-chili water in a bottle used in Portugal) perhaps, this is how Hawaii got chili pepper water. They are all part of Hawaii's menu that is enjoyed by Hawaii's people. These are examples of the food or dishes that had its genesis in the Hawaii's Plantation lifestyle and culture. That has been assimilated into Hawaii's culture.

It is a reality that nowhere else in the United States can we go to McDonald's and get Portuguese sausage and eggs. Clearly, indicative of how foods brought over to Hawaii that have been assimilated into Hawaii's contemporary palate has also reached out to influence the menu of this mainland fast food chain.

Today, in Hawaii we have moved forward and fostered an even greater range of cultural exchange to our foods. In essence, Hawaii's regional cuisine has become a movement that has great impact on the way Hawaii eats. It has great significance in that through our visitor industry we are sharing our culinary delights with the world. The movement in food culture in Hawaii has been guided by chefs like Allan Wong, Roy Yamaguchi, Peter Merriman etc. These 3 represent a long litany of chefs in Hawaii that have created a new culinary industry and a redefinition of "good food." Clearly, their approach has impacted our restaurants and our farming-specifically "from farm to table." The innovations of our chefs have brought Hawaii a celebrated food culture.

Modern Madeira and Portugal also have a rich history of food culture. Traveling to Madeira is a trip that often requires a flight to Lisbon. Then scheduling a connector flight to Madeira. In effect, this flight pattern through Lisbon is opportunity to experience serendipity and learn about Portugal and Madeira's modern cuisine. It is said, that they know how to make bacalhau (salted codfish) 365 different ways. In short, a different style for each day of the year. Personally, as an aside this would make a great add to our meal of poi and lomi salmon. Thus, the Hawaii Sister-State relationship between Hawaii and Madeira is yet another opportunity to further develop and expand our Hawaii regional cuisine into new horizons that made it possible for our chefs to win national culinary awards and appear of national network (T.V.) cooking shows on the mainland. A Hawaii-Madeira relationship exploring Madeiran culinary delights and flavors has the potential to further our celebrated regional cuisine and may also be a "menu" for economic development.

Throughout Hawaii's history with the arrival of many different ethnic groups we have been able to enjoy all kinds of food diversity. Through our Sister-State relationship with Madeira we could add and offer even more distinction and delight to our menus and meals. For they, too, have many flavors that are tasty and interesting. One very small example of food distinction and diversity is the preparation of Hawaii's treasured limpet, the ophii. Being raised in Hawaii. I enjoy my ophii with limu kohu, chili pepper and poi. Madeira also has the limpet. They call it lapas. In effect, an Atlantic ophii. Clearly, Hawaii and Madeira prepare them differently. Both ways of preparing them are delightful. Today's Hawaii's chefs through our Sister-State relationship could blend this and other Madeira dishes to our regional cooking delights. In fact, the preparation of ophii could be part an appetizing high-end meal much like the preparation of the Kumamoto oysters that are on restaurant menus in Hawaii.

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I have heard that UH is currently doing research on ways to grow the ophii to make them more accessible and less costly. So here, although small, is an overall message that is one example of possibilities.

It is limitless what exploring the many avenues of a Hawaii Sister-State could bring to Hawaii and Madeira in terms of business, economics, culture, education, research and clearly not to miss- the potentials of palate delight.

In closing we will add symmetry to the arch of history with the proposed relationship. One can envision a growing appreciation for the interwoven relationship of Hawaii's and Madeira's history, culture and shared past. And with this proposed arrangement a shared present along with a future of sharing possibilities and working on matters that are practical and sustaining.

Should the Hawaii Sister-State relationship with Madeira become a reality. In my view, when engaged well, the proposed partnership will continue to build relationships for many generations and toward limitless possibilities in this Sister-State arrangement.

I support the proposed Hawaii State-Sister State relationship with Madeira.

Mahalo for your time and this opportunity to share perspective in this letter of support.

With warm aloha,

Gerald DeMello

Hilo, Hawaii



ASSEMBLEIA MUNICIPAL DO FUNCHAL

Hawaii Sister-State Committee
Department of Business, Economic
Developmente and Tourism
250 South Hotel Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
United States

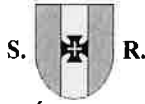
To whom It May Concern

It is with great pleasure that The Municipal Assembly of Funchal supports the twinning intention between the State of Hawaii and the Autonomous Region of Madeira.

The Board of the Municipal Assembly

Mário Rodrigues

President



REGIÃO AUTÓNOMA DA MADEIRA
GOVERNO REGIONAL
DIREÇÃO REGIONAL DAS COMUNIDADES E COOPERAÇÃO EXTERNA

Mr. Dennis T. Ling, Director
Business Development
& Support Division;
Department of Business,
Economic Development, and
Tourism;
250 South Hotel Street, 5th
Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813 USA

Dear Mr. Dennis T. Ling,

Director of Business Development & Support Division of Hawaii State Government.

At the suggestion of the Honorary Consul of Portugal in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii, Mr. Tyler dos Santos - Tam, I am writing you to demonstrate our pleasure and our support in establishing a "Sister State Relationship" between the Autonomous Region of Madeira (RAM) and the North American State of Hawaii, given the heritage of our common history and social sharing. This intention is even more pertinent if we measure the value of the centuries-old relations between these two archipelagos. It should be remembered that 140 years ago the portuguese became integrated and passed on traditions to the Hawaiian people, having distinguished themselves in several areas such as the economic, social and political spheres.

We can use many examples of portuguese descendants that are business leaders, politicians or people that play roles in education system.

One can take the example of João Elliot de Castro, that began the adventure that transported so many people to work in the sugar cane plantations. Nowadays, their great-grandchildren are successful businessman but remain proud of their ancestry. We also have the example of Audrey Rocha Reed, which works in the only portuguese cultural center in Hawaii, guiding the younger descendants through the discovery of their history and heritage.

Inescapable is also Robert Kalley's journey, a Scotland born presbyterian pastor, that lived in Madeira for a few years. In this region he built a significant legacy such as schools and a hospital, since he was known to be in favor of the poor and illiterate people. However, he was expelled from the region due to his work of Protestant evangelization, being able to influence two thousand Madeira born people. These Protestants flee Madeira and took refuge in various regions, one of which was Hawaii, where Kalley evangelized the numerous portuguese colony (Madeirans and Azoreans) who had gone to work in the sugar fields.



REGIÃO AUTÓNOMA DA MADEIRA
GOVERNO REGIONAL
DIREÇÃO REGIONAL DAS COMUNIDADES E COOPERAÇÃO EXTERNA

Besides these examples, Madeiran people brought with them many typical things that are nowadays part of the Hawaiian culture, such as “braguinha”, known as “ukulele”, or “linguiça”, known as “Portuguese Sausage”, that is very present in the Hawaiian gastronomy.

It is our knowledge that Director Dennis T. Ling is responsible for transmitting these agreements within the Hawaii State Government, of which we aim to have the legal procedures approved so that we can enshrine the “Sister State Relationship” agreement.

We’re sure that our Atlantic and Pacific Islands would benefit each other with this “Sister State Relationship”, mainly with the increasing of tourism both ways, as well as publicize and exporting our products to new markets.

We have another thing common: sometimes people say that Madeira is the “Atlantic Hawaii”, because of our fab surf spots and big waves.

We also have in common efforts to make our archipelagos environmentally sustainable and energetically independent. In the case of Madeira region with the project *Porto Santo – Free Fossil Island*.

In other way, it would be wonderful if portuguese language and Madeira traditions could be taught in Hawaii, at the same time that we could learn more about your culture.

We believe that nowadays and regarding the future, the best way to honor the history between Madeira and Hawaii is by establishing a relationship between the two regions, because we consider that today, there is still a significative presence of people from Madeira in your archipelago.

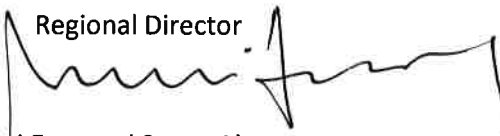
Therefore, we express our desire to gather the communities, starting by giving some products derived from sugar cane, as well as we were happy to know Hawaiian products from sugar cane during the “Regional Sugar Cane Fair”, an event that we use to promote here in Madeira.

We believe that would be very important to start an exchange in order to know the traditions of our peoples, and regarding that, we would like to invite your Governor Mr. David Y. Ige to visit Madeira in order to know a little more about our landscapes, gastronomy activities and sheer nature “poetry”. We would also appreciate, if possible, visiting Hawaii with a view to establishing a better relationship between islands.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Looking forward to hear from you.

Kindest Regards,

Regional Director

Rui Emanuel Sousa Abreu

Carla Marques
Pukiki Bar
Rua das Furnas, n 77
Estreito da Calheta
9370-261 Calheta
Madeira - Portugal

Hawai'i Sister-State Committee
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
250 South Hotel Street
Honolulu
Hawai'i 96813 USA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Pukikī Bar regarding the establishment of a sister-state relationship between Madeira and Hawai'i.

We are delighted to hear about the plans that are being made to strengthen the significant cultural ties between the islands. This initiative will greatly compliment our existing efforts, which include: raising awareness of cultural traditions/educational aims/folklore/anthropological studies/music/dance/cookery traditions.

Our organisation has been established for five years, celebrating the cultural connection between Madeira and Hawai'i. We have spent a lot of time researching and collecting items that we have on display to the public at Pukikī. When our Madeiran guests learn about the meaning of Pukikī and the cultural link, they are always surprised and proud of this connection and want to learn more. The interest has been growing a lot since we opened, both with local people but also with tourism.

We have had lots of Hawaiian people of Portuguese ancestry visit our space as well as getting in touch with us for help with finding more about their ancestry. We have, on several occasions, gone to the regional archives, on people's request to find out more about their Madeiran families and got hold of documentation that they would have otherwise not been able to access. We also get many visits from musicians, ukulele players and makers from around the world as we have many original artefacts including an original Manuel Nunes ukulele.

In May 2018 we invited Kumu Paul Neves to host a Hawaiian cultural workshop where people learnt the origins of Hula and Hawaiian culture.

This event was very successful and was a real highlight for us since we opened Pukiki. We hope to build on this events 'success and make it larger and more frequent in order to bring it to more people. We have spoken to the Madeira Tourism entity and they were also very interested.

It is our main goal to establish a permanent link between Madeira and Hawai'i so that more people can learn about this connection and we believe that if both islands work together we would be able to create an annual event and potentially a permanent base for exchanging culture. We strongly believe that this relationship will be positive and beneficial to all those involved.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla Marques". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

Carla Marques



REGIÃO AUTÓNOMA DA MADEIRA
GOVERNO REGIONAL
SECRETARIA REGIONAL DE TURISMO E CULTURA
GABINETE DO SECRETÁRIO REGIONAL

Sent by:
EMAIL

Hawaii Sister-State Committee
Department of Business, Economic Development
and Tourism
250 South Hotel Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
United States

Secretaria Regional do Turismo e
Cultura

Direção de Serv. de Apoio à Gestão

SAÍDA

N.º : 1 951
GERAL

24/08/2021
Proc.: 6.1 4.0

To Whom It May Concern,

I am taking the liberty of writing to you, following Mr. Tyler Dos Santos-Tam's visit to Madeira this past July.

During his visit, I had the pleasure of meeting with Mr. Dos Santos-Tam and we were able to confer, together, the current situation and the historical ties that unite our Islands.

The cultural bonds between the two archipelagos, particularly the migration of Madeirans to the Hawaiian Islands in the late nineteenth/early twentieth centuries, their establishment there, the cultural transfers occurred and the present interest of their descendants in their Madeiran roots are undeniably realities that can enrich our common future History.

Therefore, it was with great satisfaction that I learned that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism of the Hawaiian government is willing to assess the possibility of a Sister-State agreement between the State of Hawaii and the Autonomous Region of Madeira, as such an agreement would also be an appropriate way to honor Our ancestors by reconnecting Our descendants.

Given the characteristics of the two Archipelagos, reinforced by the aforementioned cultural and migratory bonds, it is my firm belief that there is common ground for fruitful exchange and cooperation to take place in the areas I oversee, namely both tourism and culture.



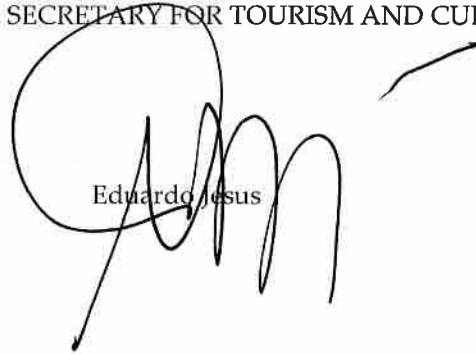


REGIÃO AUTÓNOMA DA MADEIRA
GOVERNO REGIONAL
SECRETARIA REGIONAL DE TURISMO E CULTURA
GABINETE DO SECRETÁRIO REGIONAL

Hence, it is with great pleasure that I reaffirm my full support towards the Sister-State initiative between the State of Hawaii, United States of America, and the Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal, and respectfully reiterate that I am willing to work together, alongside with the State of Hawaii, in all things necessary to achieve this desirous goal.

Yours faithfully

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE



Eduardo Jesus



Willetta Martin Centeio
84 -979 Moaelehua St
Waianae, HI 96792

September 30, 2021

It is with heartfelt honor to have the opportunity to be a part of the Hawaii-Madeira Sister State input.

Being very proud of my Madeira heritage, it is wonderful to be connected on this next level with Madeira. This will bring many opportunities from both Hawaii and Madeira to share our experiences with our families and communities in tourism and history.

Sincerely,

Willetta Martin Centeio



March 28, 2022

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Committee on Labor, Culture, and the Arts
Hawai‘i State Senate
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

Dear Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members,

As leaders, representatives, supporters, allies, and friends of Hawai‘i’s Portuguese community, we write to express our strong support for the establishment of a Sister State relationship between the State of Hawai‘i and the Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal. We also pledge to do our part to sustain and cultivate such a relationship in future years.

The connection between Hawai‘i and Madeira dates back to 1878, when the first immigrants from Madeira arrived on our shores to work in the sugar cane plantations. Over the next thirty years, thousands more Portuguese would arrive, of whom approximately half came from Madeira.

Along with their honest, hardworking, and family-oriented attitude, the Portuguese immigrants to Hawai‘i brought many reminders of their homeland which would eventually become integral parts of local culture: the braguinha which became the ‘ukulele, linguça which became better known as Portuguese sausage, and the cattlemen whose traditions shaped our local paniolo, among others.

Over the past 140 years, the Portuguese in Hawai‘i integrated themselves into the fabric of local society, becoming leaders in business, politics, education, and many other fields. We strongly believe that a proper way to honor their contributions now and in the future is to establish a Sister State relationship with the islands of their homeland.

Therefore, it is our pleasure to submit the following application to establish a Sister State relationship between the State of Hawai‘i and the Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal. We respectfully request your favorable action on the application and look forward to sustaining the relationship long into the future.

Mahalo & Muito Obrigado,

Adrian Kamali‘i	
Alberto Jardim	I’m very happy to see the two islands share business & have an agreement between each other.
Alcides Niceas Pires	
Anne M. Feiteira-Watanabe	
Ashley Chinen	
Audrey Rocha Reed <i>Portuguese Association of Maui, Secretary</i>	At our meeting of September 5, 2021, the Portuguese Association of Maui endorsed the establishment of a Sister-State relationship with the Island of Madeira. Many of our members trace their lineage to Madeira and Porto Santo.
Augie Tulba Honolulu City Councilman District 9	I strongly support the establishment of a sister State relationship.
Beatrice Souza <i>Portuguese Cultural & Historical Society - Member</i>	
Brad Asuncion	
Caroline Braga Lopes Zerbe	
Charold (Goeas) Rivera	
Cherese Shelton	
Crystal Rose	I have traveled to both Maderia and the Azores. Felt like I saw my grandmother on every corner. Beautiful Country; beautiful people.
Cyrus Johnasen <i>Hawai‘i County, Director of Communications</i>	
D.C. Martin	
Dan Nelson <i>Portuguese Genealogical & Historical Society of Hawai‘i, president</i>	
Danny W. Abreu DMA Services LLC, President	Danny W. Abreu, Co-Producer of the Portuguese In Hawai‘i Documentary and Executive Producer of the Portuguese IN Hawai‘i Book soon to be released. President, DMA Services LLC, a Real Estate Investment Company.
Dawn Shirota	Mahalo for this!
Deborah Lynn (Soares) Enay	Excited to sign this relationship
Debra A. Nahinu	
Dianna Fernandez Nichols	
Dolores Dos Santos	
Donald Keliinoi <i>Director, Portuguese Culture & Historical Center</i>	Nice Effort
Donna Mercado Kim, <i>Hawai‘i State Senate</i>	

Dr. Marlene Hapai <i>Hawai'i Island Portuguese Chamber of Commerce Cultural & Educational Center, President/Executive Director</i>	This is the perfect time to reawaken a common history and culture through a Sister State relationship to determine what has survived this long period of time, what has changed, and what has been forgotten and needs to be brought back. There is much to learn from each other and this will provide the opportunity to do so.
Dr. Paul M Chandler <i>Professor of Spanish & Portuguese, UH Mānoa</i>	Thanks for supporting this initiative!
Erynn Fernandez	
Frederick Baier	
Georgette Gomes	
Georgianna DeCosta	
Henry Dolim	
Jamee Vasconcellos Miller	Be happy to help in anyway. Visited Funchal several years ago and found our family
Jocelyn Doane	
John M. DeCosta, Jr.	
Kahealani Martins, Psy.D. <i>Portuguese Family History Collections of Hawai'i</i>	
Kalani L. Kaanaana	
Kande (Souza) Lopes	
Karen Chang Barr	The Portuguese have made some significant impacts on Hawai'i's history and it would be meaningful to establish a Sister City relationship with Madeira, the city of origin of our ancestors. Since learning of my Portuguese roots, I would like to learn more of their traditions, food and culture to share with my ohana.
Keala Awana	
Keith Anthony DeMello	
Kekoa Cuban	
Kevin Sledge	
Kilin Reece <i>Kealakai Center for Pacific Strings</i>	
Lawrence Hudson	I would like to support this measure.
Leanne Arciero	
Leilani Maguire	My great grandfather came here in 1879 on the Ravenscrag, from Camacha, Madeira and I am proud to say that he worked very hard as a dairyman, married a girl who came a few years later and had 13 children, 11 of whom lived to adulthood and were very successful.
Lenilson Costa	
Linda Teves Ruddle	
Lori Gomes	
Melvin P. Silva, Jr. <i>Business Manager, Local 1 – Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union of Hawai'i</i>	I am proud to be of Portuguese decent
Micah Alameda	
Michael Oliver Springer <i>MOS Music Studio, LLC, Owner</i>	
Michael W. Freitas	
Michelle Chow	

Miguel Nunes <i>Hawai'i Space Flight Lab, Deputy Director</i>	I am a Portuguese citizen living and working in Hawai'i and I am very supportive of this initiative.
Monica Hammers	
Monica Kurtz	So happy to see more Portuguese presence in Hawai'i!
Múcio Novaes	
Patricia L. Shimomoto	Family roots in both Madeira & the Azores; if not for COVID, we would have visited in 2020.
Rachel Mamiya Hernandez <i>Languages and Literatures of Europe and the Americas, Spanish & Portuguese Division, Assistant Professor/ American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP), President-Elect</i>	Dou meu apoio a esta iniciativa, qualquer coisa estou à disposição. (I give my support for this initiative, I am available to help in any way).
Raymond Miyashiro, <i>Regal Travel</i>	
Rebecca Soon (Paresa), <i>Solutions Pacific, COO</i>	
Richard & Wilma Boudreau <i>Portuguese Cultural & Historical Society, Vice President (Wilma)</i>	
Robert G. Castro <i>Portuguese Genealogical & Historical Society of Hawai'i, Secretary</i>	I have Madeira ancestors on both my mother's and my father's side.
Robert J. Robello, <i>Portuguese Association of Maui</i>	Think this a good idea, I and my family has always been part of the culture since the days of The Brotherhood of Kewalo Holy Ghost in Kakaako.
Rod Antone	
Ronald J. Silva	Ancestor: Joao Pinto da Silva (1857-1902) was among the first to establish the Portuguese Colony in the Kawaihau, Kaua'i district's village of Kealia, Kingdom of Hawai'i in 1878-1879.
Ryan Hunt	
Sandy Park	
Saundra Wells	
Stephanie Ohigashi, <i>Hawai'i State Rep. to Sister Cities International</i>	
Stephanie Rogers-Welch	
Susana Poulin <i>Nominee as Vice Honorary Consul of Brazil in Hawai'i</i>	
Tenille Nakayama-Benavente	
Teresa M Kato	My Great-grandmother, Maria Mendonca, was from Machico, Madeira
Thomas G. Cabrinha <i>Portuguese Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i, Treasurer</i>	
Watters O. Martin, Jr.	
Willetta Martin Centeio <i>Hawai'i Council on Portuguese Heritage of Hawai'i, Vice President</i>	My great grandparents sailed to the Hawaiian Island in the 1880s on contract to work in the sugarcane and pineapple plantations as supervisors(lunas) on Maui and the Big Island. We have 8 generations here in Hawai'i and are proud of our ethnic background and try to keep connected with Madeira Island. Muito obrigada for this continued connection.



Additional Statements of Support from Our Website

“I support this 100 percent.”

Brad Asuncion

brad.asuncion@hawaiianair.com

1586 Ahihi St #A Honolulu, HI 96919

“Both my husband and I are PROUD to be the 100% Portuguese, the 5th generation of immigrants that came from Madeira and the Azores.”

Jennifer Silva

bnjsilva1978@hotmail.com

HCR2 Box 6202 Keaau, HI 96749

“My great , great grandfather came to Hawaii in 1879 from Madeira. His name was Manuel Nunes and he was one of the creators of the ukulele which was born from the brahguinha.”

Frank Suster

franksuster51@gmail.com

91-1146 Haiano place, Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

“I support the sister state effort because of the geographical and environmental similarities of the islands and the cultural bonds that have existed for over 40 years.”

Sue Ann Chun

sueannchun@yahoo.com

95-715 Lewanuu St. Mililani, HI 96789

“I totally support this. Both of my parents are from Madeira. I am the 1st generation here. I have traveled extensively back-and-forth to Hawaii doing various music for the different Portuguese organizations with my honor, over the years. Thank you for Connecting my parents beautiful island of Madeira to Hawaii it makes so much sense. “

Ramana Vieira

Fadodiva@gmail.com

473 Rosso Court, Vacaville, California

www.ramanavieira.net

“I support the project, and I'm a Member of the Portuguese Association of Maui.”

Carlos D. Hernandez

carloshernandez@mauigateway.com

111 Kahului Beach Rd. C-313, Kahului HI 96732

“This is a wonderful start especially for those of us who have been doing genealogy research for years. And I've been to Madeira. Love the island.”

Marie Shantz

shantzre@gmail.com

2524 Roop Road, Taneytown, MD 21787

“Would love to see this happen!”

Bree Peters

breemail@mac.com

64-5215 Puu Nohea St, Kamuela, HI 96743