



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

JOSEPH R. GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & ARTS

Friday, April 11, 2025
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
SCR 197 SD1

RECOGNIZING JUNE 21, 2025 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY, JULY 1, 2025, AS CANADA DAY, AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2025, AS TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY, IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE ENDURING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF CANADA AND HAWAII, THE INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGNTY AND SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE OF CANADA, AND A COMMITMENT TO NEVER AGAIN ALLOW THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF A PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION TO BE TAKEN AGAINST THEIR WILL.

Chair Kapela, Vice Chair Kong, and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports **SCR 197 SD1** recognizing June 21, 2025 as Indigenous People's Day, July 1, 2025, as Canada Day, and September 30, 2025, as Truth and Reconciliation Day, in acknowledgement of the enduring friendship between the people of Canada and Hawai'i, the independent sovereignty and self-determination of the people of Canada, and a commitment to never again allow the sovereign right of a people to self-determination to be taken against their will.

DBEDT supports this resolution in friendship and solidarity with our Canadian neighbors.

Hawai'i is home to many part-time residents from Canada and is one of our major overseas visitor markets. We share a history dating back to when Hawai'i was a

kingdom, and commonalities in recognizing the rights of its indigenous peoples and the importance of preserving its culture. And we recognize the sovereign right of a people to self-determination regarding the future of its country.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SCR-197-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:47:07 PM

Testimony for CAA on 4/11/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judy Ilar	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Canada is not a friend of the US and Hawaii if they don't comply with our President Trump's demands to help secure our border and balance our trade deficit with Canada.

No. Canada is not a friend of Hawaii. I strongly oppose this bill.

Canada is not going to make America Great. Canada is not going to help Hawaii become great.

The Prime Minister of Canada does not have US and Hawaii's best interest. President Trump does.

SCR-197-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 8:01:37 PM

Testimony for CAA on 4/11/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Rzonca	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SCR197. We don't need more holidays especially ones that celebrate other countries. Because Hawaii is a melting pot, if we pass a holiday for Canada there will be no end to other countries that people will want to have holidays for. This is a ridiculous bill

SCR-197-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 10:19:01 AM

Testimony for CAA on 4/11/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Antya Miller	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator DelaCruz and Legislators,

I am opposed to this bill for the following reasons:

1. State & Honolulu County employees already have way more paid holidays and paid time off than in the private sector AND very generous retirement benefits. This is an added expense for the tax payers and requires hiring another employee for every position to cover that position.
2. While the federal government is cutting the bloated bureacracy, Hawaii is adding to their costs. Where are we going to make up for the federal money cut in our state budget? We don't even know what is going to be cut in the end.

Please be fiscally prudent. Cut our taxes and make Hawaii affordable instead of putting more costs onto the residents. Also, avoid raising the TAT because visitors will start going elsewhere reducing our income from the TAT.

Mahalo,

Antya Miller

Haleiwa

808-342-8557

SCR-197-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 2:30:32 PM

Testimony for CAA on 4/11/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.