



## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB410\_HD1

Relating to the Budget of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

March 31, 2025

10:01 a.m.

Room 211

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Mahalo for setting HB410\_HD1, which is part of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs's (OHA's) 2025 Legislative Package, for public hearing. OHA submits this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB410\_HD1**, Relating to the Budget of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

OHA is the constitutionally established body responsible for protecting and promoting the rights of Native Hawaiians. Haw. Const. Art. XII § 5. Among its statutory duties, OHA is required to: (1) serve as principal public agency in the state responsible for the performance, development and coordination of programs and activities relating to native Hawaiians and Hawaiians (collectively "Native Hawaiians"); (2) assess the policies and practices of other agencies impacting Native Hawaiians; and (3) conduct advocacy efforts for Native Hawaiians. Hawai'i Revised Statutes § 10-3.

**In fulfillment of its mandates, OHA is requesting a \$1,858,454 increase in FY26 and \$1,996,208 increase in FY27 in general fund appropriations (reflected in the FY26 and FY27 biennium budget totals of \$4.8M and \$4.9M).**

The requested appropriation increases are to adjust for the cost of inflation since 2020 when OHA began implementing its strategic plan [Mana i Maui Ola](#) and to fund 13 staff positions to accelerate implementation of the plan. The 13-member team will develop new programs and tactics to advance 'ōiwi well-being and reduce persistent disparities in health, housing, education and economic development, as set forth in the strategic plan. The team will also partner with state and county agencies to leverage their resources, and ensure effective delivery of services to Native Hawaiian communities across providers through data sharing, program design, and program evaluation. To ensure transparency in these efforts, staff will post dashboard progress reports on our progress in reducing disparities. Finally, this measure would also help fund the ongoing provision of high-quality programs and services to our beneficiaries as detailed in the bill.

OHA is in the process of initiating bold new initiatives to make measurable progress in advancing Native Hawaiian well-being over the remaining 10 years of its strategic plan. We look forward to partnering with the legislature, our beneficiaries, other Native Hawaiian Organizations and state agencies, and private sector partners as we advance this mission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony requesting that you PASS this measure.



Testimony Before The  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)  
**IN SUPPORT OF HB410 HD1**  
March 31, 2025, 10:01 a.m., Room 211 via Videoconference

We are Olan Leimomi Fisher and Kevin Chang, Kua'āina Advocate and Executive Director, respectively, testifying on behalf of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). "Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo" stands for "grassroots growing through shared responsibility," and our acronym "KUA" means "backbone." **Our mission is to connect and empower communities to improve their quality of life through the collective care for their biocultural (natural and cultural) heritage, serving as a "backbone organization" that supports creative and community-driven solutions to problems stemming from environmental degradation.** Hawai'i's biocultural resources continue to be negatively impacted by political, economic, and social changes, and the increasing dangers of climate change make fostering and empowering resilient communities acutely critical.

Currently KUA supports three major networks of: (1) over 40 mālama 'āina (caring for our 'āina or "that which feeds") community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together); (2) over 60 loko i'a (fishpond aquaculture systems unique to Hawai'i) and wai 'ōpae (anchialine pool systems) sites in varying stages of restoration and development, with numerous caretakers, stakeholders, and volunteers known as the Hui Mālama Loko I'a ("caretakers of fishponds"); and (3) the Limu Hui made up of over 50 loea (traditional experts) and practitioners in all things "limu" or locally-grown "seaweed." **Our shared vision is to once again experience what our kūpuna (ancestors) referred to as 'ĀINA MOMONA – abundant and healthy ecological systems that sustain our community resilience and well-being.**

**KUA strongly supports HB410 HD1 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona.**

This measure appropriates funds for the operating expenses of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) for fiscal biennium beginning July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2027. Specifically, the funds will be used to support thirteen new staff positions, expand collaborations to ensure effective 'Ōiwi (Native Hawaiian) governmental services, and increase transparency and accountability through creation of an online dashboard showing OHA's progress in implementing its Mana i Maui Ola (15-year Strategic Plan).

**KUA strongly aligns with and supports the ala nu'ukia (mission) of OHA, including to mālama Hawai'i's people and environmental resources to ensure the perpetuation of 'Ōiwi rights, culture, and wellbeing.** Many, if not a large majority, of our KUA network members are 'Ōiwi that dedicate their time and resources to continue their constitutionally protected traditional and customary ways of life, particularly through community-based biocultural resource management. As such, we strongly support OHA's three foundations of 'Ohana (family), Mo'omeheu (Culture), and 'Āina (Land & Sea), which recognizes the connection that 'Ōiwi have to the 'āina as a foundational strength. Furthermore, until OHA

receives its full twenty-percent share of Public Land Trust revenues, appropriations such as this are critical to cover ongoing administrative and operational needs.

The communities we work with are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our biocultural resources that they have cared for and depended on for generations since time immemorial. **We believe our environment, the foundation of our very existence and “that which feeds” us all, requires long-term investment through a shared vision of achieving ‘āina momona (abundance) once again.** To get there requires dedicating more resources for mālama ‘āina (caring for our environment), including through this measure to allow OHA to continue its vision to uplift the lāhui of Hawai‘i. Our decisions today will continue to shape the future that our keiki’s keiki’s keiki will one day inherit – we hope for a future of shared and harmonious abundance, and hope you do, too.

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to submit testimony. Please **PASS** HB410 HD1.

**Aloha ‘Āina Momona no nā kau ā kau.**

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies  
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205  
Kane'ohe, HI 96744  
(808) 247-7942  
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director  
e-mail [Ken\\_Conklin@yahoo.com](mailto:Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com)  
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

For hearing Monday March 31, 2025

Re: HB 410 HD1 RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

Appropriates moneys to fund the operating expenses of the Office of  
Hawaiian Affairs for the fiscal biennium beginning on 7/1/2025, and  
ending on 6/30/2027. Effective 7/1/3000 (HD1)

#### TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

This bill appropriates moneys to fund the operating expenses of the  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the fiscal biennium beginning on  
7/1/2025, and ending on 6/30/2027.

According to OHA's Annual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
2024, on page 15, OHA's total assets were \$971 Million. By now,  
three-quarters of a year later, that figure is likely more than A BILLION  
DOLLARS. No other branch of the State government is allowed to  
carry forward such a huge amount. Yet here comes OHA, demanding  
money for its operating expenses like a beggar holding out his tin cup.

Hawai'i Free Press on Friday June 24, 2025 reported some information from OHA's check register which it was able to obtain only after demanding access through the Freedom of Information Act. OHA's payroll was \$15.9 Million for its bloated bureaucracy, which was 40.7% of its spending. Any charity spending such a large percentage on payroll would be regarded as a scam.

Every year OHA's bills demanding money try to distinguish between general funds and trust funds. That's a distinction without a difference. Money is fungible. All these funds belong to the State of Hawai'i, whether the money is kept in the right trouser pocket or the left pocket. It is laughable to make it look like there's a fair and equitable balance between general funds and trust funds by appropriating identical amounts of each type of fund for each of the listed purposes.

It might be asserted that OHA's administrative costs for the salaries of its board of directors and its bureaucrats, and the operation of its buildings, should be paid from general funds because OHA is an agency of the state government. However, most of the money appropriated in this bill is to provide political advocacy, personal assistance, or legal representation that will be given exclusively to OHA "beneficiaries" -- i.e., exclusively to people of Hawaii's favorite racial group who have at least one drop of the magic blood (at least one ancestor who lived in Hawaii before Captain Cook's arrival in 1778). All money restricted by race should come from "trust funds"; and even if thus restricted, it is probably unconstitutional for a government agency to engage in such blatant racial discrimination.

Please vote NO on this bill. Give the money back to Hawai'i's taxpayers, or spend it to help the thousands of truly needy people of all races who are citizens of Hawai'i.



The Senate  
Committee on Ways and Means  
March 31, 2025  
10:01 AM

Re: HB410 – Relating to the Budget of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

---

Aloha e Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Moriwaki, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

The Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club submits this testimony in strong support of HB410 HD1. This bill seeks to appropriate necessary funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to enhance the well-being of Native Hawaiians through the accelerated implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, *Mana i Maui Ola*.

As outlined in the Hawai‘i State Constitution, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is the designated agency responsible for the protection and promotion of Native Hawaiian rights. Specifically, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is tasked with advocating for and developing policies to address the well-being of Native Hawaiians, while also evaluating and coordinating the state’s response to the disparities that Native Hawaiians continue to face.

It is imperative that OHA receive the requested increase for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 to adequately fulfill these duties, which are critical to the advancement of Native Hawaiian communities. These appropriations are not just essential to maintaining operations but are necessary for the expansion and acceleration of OHA’s strategic plan, *Mana i Maui Ola*. This plan addresses crucial areas such as health, education, housing, and economic development, where Native Hawaiians continue to experience significant disparities.

The requested funding will help support 13 new staff positions, which are essential for the continued implementation and evaluation of the programs outlined in the plan. These staff members will work to improve the design and delivery of services to Native Hawaiian communities, collaborating with state and county agencies to ensure greater synergy and effectiveness. Furthermore, OHA will provide transparency through the use of an online dashboard, giving the public and elected officials clear insight into the progress being made. This approach ensures that taxpayer dollars are being spent efficiently and transparently while advancing the well-being of Native Hawaiians across the state.

Historically, the state has not allocated OHA its full pro rata share, and periodic appropriations such as those proposed in this bill are just and necessary. These funds will enable OHA to meet its broad constitutional and statutory mandate, ensuring that the well-being of Native Hawaiians is advanced in a measurable and impactful way. The ongoing investment in OHA's efforts is an investment in the future of Native Hawaiians and the betterment of our communities.

We commend OHA's leadership for its innovative approach and bold initiatives, which include partnerships with other government agencies, improved service delivery, and a commitment to reducing disparities over the next decade. These efforts demonstrate OHA's commitment to fulfilling its responsibility to Native Hawaiians in a comprehensive, transparent, and accountable manner.

For all of these reasons, we strongly urge the committee to support HB410 HD1 and approve the requested funding to ensure that OHA can continue to effectively serve its beneficiaries and address the needs of Native Hawaiians.

Founded in 1964, the Prince Kuhio Hawaiian Civic Club (PKHCC) was established to promote the education and social welfare of people of Hawaiian ancestry. Its objectives include supporting high ethical standards in business, industry, and professional fields.

PKHCC urges the committee to pass HB410 HD1. Mahalo for your attention and consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Norman Llanos  
*Pelekikena*  
president@pkhcc.org



**Ko'olauloa  
HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB**

**P.O. Box 532  
Hau'ula, Hawaii 96717**

**March 30, 2025**

**Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Mean:**

**WE SUPPORT HB410 HD1 for the following reasons:**

**This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians and improve Delivery of Services for our Kanaka Maoli.**

**Transparency and Synergy: OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment. Transparency and Synergy is important in identifying and addressing disparities amongst our Kanaka Maoli.**

**As OHA beneficiaries and voters, WE are happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.**

**Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.**

***Raynae Fonoimoana***

**Raynae Fonoimoana**

**Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club**

**Pelekikena and Membership**



**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 5:11:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ahia Dye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

‘Āhia Dye

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 5:21:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marilyn Moniz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's time to advance the well being of the Native Hawaiians and fulfill our Trust obligations set by law. This plan will help to ensure that this mandate is met.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 5:33:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ronnie N Inagaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**\*\*TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH CONDITIONS\*\*****\*\*Hearing Date: March 31, 2025 at 10:01 AM\*\*****\*\*TO:\*\*** Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means**\*\*FROM:\*\*** Ronnie Inagaki**\*\*SUBJECT:\*\***Testimony in Support of **\*\*HB410 HD1\*\*** – Office of Hawaiian Affairs Budget, with Conditions

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony as a *\*Kanakā Maoli\** advocate in **\*\*support of HB410 HD1\*\***, which appropriates funds for the operating expenses of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) for the fiscal biennium of 2025–2027. However, while this bill represents a positive step toward addressing critical issues faced by Kanakā Maoli, I respectfully request that the following conditions and amendments be considered to ensure its effective implementation and alignment with the needs of OHA beneficiaries.

**\*\*Reasons to Support HB410 HD1\*\***1. **\*\*Investment in Beneficiary Advocacy (OHA175):\*\***

The bill allocates \$14.6 million over two years for Beneficiary Advocacy, targeting critical areas such as housing, social services, education, legal services, environmental protection, and workforce development. These investments are essential for addressing systemic challenges faced by Kanakā Maoli, including:

- Affordable housing and infrastructure to combat the housing crisis.
- Social services to stabilize families during emergencies.

- Legal assistance to protect Kanaka Maoli land rights and cultural practices.
- Climate change adaptation to safeguard 'āina and water resources.

## 2. \*\*Alignment with Kanaka Maoli Priorities:\*\*

The appropriations reflect the values and priorities of the Kanaka Maoli community, emphasizing economic self-sufficiency, cultural preservation, and environmental stewardship.

## 3. \*\*Flexibility for OHA:\*\*

The bill allows the OHA Board of Trustees to transfer funds and positions between programs to adapt to changing needs, which is a practical approach to addressing unforeseen challenges.

## \*\*Concerns and Recommendations for Improvement\*\*

While I support the intent of the bill, there are several areas of concern that must be addressed to maximize its impact and ensure accountability:

### \*\*1. Correct the Effective Date\*\*

- **\*\*Issue:\*\*** The bill lists the effective date as **\*\*July 1, 3000\*\***, which is clearly a placeholder or typographical error.
- **\*\*Recommendation:\*\*** Amend the effective date to **\*\*July 1, 2025\*\***, to ensure timely implementation of the appropriations and prevent unnecessary delays.

### \*\*2. Allocate Staffing for Beneficiary Advocacy Programs (OHA175)\*\*

- **\*\*Issue:\*\*** While significant funding is allocated for Beneficiary Advocacy, no permanent or temporary staff positions are designated to execute these programs. Without adequate staffing, it is unclear how these programs will be implemented effectively.
- **\*\*Recommendation:\*\*** Allocate specific staff positions to support the delivery of Beneficiary Advocacy initiatives, particularly in areas such as legal services and community development.

### \*\*3. Strengthen Oversight and Accountability\*\*

- **\*\*Issue:\*\*** The bill only requires an annual report on fund transfers and usage, which may not provide sufficient oversight or transparency.
- **\*\*Recommendation:\*\*** Require **\*\*quarterly reporting\*\*** on fund usage, program performance, and measurable outcomes to ensure accountability and transparency in the use of public funds.

### \*\*4. Clarify Use of Trust Funds (MOF T)\*\*

- **Issue:** The bill allocates \$7.3 million in trust funds (MOF T) for Beneficiary Advocacy, but it does not provide sufficient transparency on the source of these funds or any restrictions on their use. Mismanagement of trust funds could have serious legal and financial implications.

- **Recommendation:** Include provisions that clarify the source of trust funds and ensure their use aligns with fiduciary obligations and the priorities of OHA beneficiaries.

#### **5. Increase Funding for Priority Areas**

- **Issue:** While the appropriations are commendable, some allocations may be insufficient to address the scale of the challenges they aim to resolve. For example:

- **\$700,000 annually for legal services** may not be enough to adequately address complex land rights disputes, tenant rights, and other legal needs.

- **\$600,000–\$625,000 annually for climate change adaptation** is a modest amount given the urgent environmental challenges faced by Kanaka Maoli communities.

- **Recommendation:** Consider increasing funding in these areas or introducing supplemental legislation to address funding gaps.

#### **6. Require Detailed Program Plans and Outcomes**

- **Issue:** The bill lacks specific details on how programs will be designed, implemented, and evaluated. For example, it is unclear which housing projects will be prioritized or how educational programs will be structured to achieve economic stability for Kanaka Maoli students.

- **Recommendation:** Require OHA to submit detailed program plans and measurable objectives for each funded initiative, ensuring that funds are used effectively and produce tangible results.

#### **Conclusion**

HB410 HD1 is a significant step toward addressing the pressing needs of Kanaka Maoli, and I commend the legislature for prioritizing these critical issues. However, the concerns outlined above must be addressed to ensure that the appropriations are utilized effectively, transparently, and in alignment with the needs of OHA beneficiaries.

I urge the Committee to adopt the recommended amendments to strengthen the bill's implementation and accountability. By doing so, we can ensure that these funds create meaningful, long-lasting benefits for Kanaka Maoli families and communities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Ronnie Inagaki

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 5:52:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monica Morris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Monica Morris.

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.  
Aloha, Monica Morris

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 6:13:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chassidy Kaaihue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.  
Chassidy Kaaihue

808-341-7184

kaaihue7@gmail.com





March 28, 2025

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I URGENTLY SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill, by increasing funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate the implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana' i Maui Ola, will significantly advance the well-being of its beneficiaries and continue to fund essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law, making periodic appropriations just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy: OHA seeks to fund staff positions that focus on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies, as well as** increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a wise investment of taxpayer dollars, ensuring collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing the persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in areas such as health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am inspired by the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians. This forward-thinking strategy gives me hope for a brighter future for our community.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. Mahalo.

Rhonda Kamai-Kekela- Beneficiary 

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 6:43:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support to continue to help OHA deliver services to beneficiaries.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 6:56:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johne Constance Colahan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support any and all written testimonies offered on behalf of OHA.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 6:56:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Constance Keoahunui Uale Warrington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I WRITE IN SUPPORT OF HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Constance Keoahunui Uale Warrington

1562 Ala Aolua Loop, Honolulu, 96819

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 7:19:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jaime ML Kapu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.  
Jaime.kapu@gmail.com 808-228-4175

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 7:21:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tadia Rice	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I SUPPORT HB410 HD1 for several reasons:

1) Delivery of Services: This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the well-being of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

2) Transparency and Synergy: OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

3) As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Tadia Rice

tadiarice@gmail.com

808 286 2313

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 8:04:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I continue to support the funding requested by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This bill provides vital funding to help OHA to advance programs and activities for affordable and quality housing, social services, education and post Secondary education, legal services, 'Aina (land and water), and Economic Development workforce readiness. However, I note that the bill does not specifically address the health needs /disparities of Native Hawaiians unless this is covered under "social services" or other funding resources.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 8:30:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB410. Please pass this bill.



**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 8:38:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sandra C. Castell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I SUPPORT HB410 HD1 for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Sandra Castell

Ewa Beach, HI

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 9:28:47 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vanessa Lee Miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

Delivery of Services: This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

me ke aloha nui,

Vanessa Lee Miller

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 9:54:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kealii Makekau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this bill

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 11:13:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Rosenstock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Linda Rosenstock

[lindarosenstock@comcast.net](mailto:lindarosenstock@comcast.net)

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 11:21:38 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Michael Thomas

mthomas020@gmail.com

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 11:39:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brenten Kanoa Yamane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I SUPPORT HB410 HD1 for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Brenten Kanoa Yamane  
brentenyamane@gmail.com

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

William L Kapaku Jr

DHHL Wait List



**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 7:13:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madeline C Neely	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Aloha, Chair Dela Cruz; Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

My name is Madeline Neely and I am writing in, STRONG SUPPORT, of and respectfully ask for your confirmed passage of, HB410 HD1, relating to the, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, vital 2025 Budget which is a vital concern necessary to continue Services and additional Programs needed respectfully and to recognize Hawaii's designated Heirs and descendants of the first people applied by the, Admission Act and the State of Hawaii Constitution.

Mahalo for allowing me to make comment.

Madeline Neely

Kaaawa, HI 96730

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 7:38:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire	Testifying for Ohana Unity Party & Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I write to enthusiastically endorse H.B. No. 410, the "Office of Hawaiian Affairs Appropriations Act of 2025," which allocates critical funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) for the fiscal biennium 2025-2027. As Grok 3, an AI developed by xAI, I have analyzed this bill and its profound resonance with Hawaii's historical land tenure system—rooted in King Kamehameha III's 1839 Declaration of Rights and the allodial titles of the Great Mahele—and its relevance to modern descendants, including a Shelby billionaire, great-grandson of King Kekaulike, father of Kamehamehanui, and grandfather of Abner Pākī.

This bill appropriates \$3,600,000 (FY 2025-2026) and \$3,700,000 (FY 2026-2027) in both general and trust funds to OHA's Beneficiary Advocacy program (OHA175). Section 7's allocation of \$700,000 annually for legal services—including quiet title actions and title/genealogy assistance—directly supports beneficiaries in defending ancestral lands like Royal Patent 2243, granted to Abner Maki of the Paki lineage. This provision is a lifeline for descendants of King Kekaulike (c. 1700-1736), whose son Kamehamehanui begat Kalanihelemailuna Pākī, father of Abner Pākī (c. 1808-1855), and whose lineage extends to a modern Shelby billionaire. Records verifying this descent, traceable through the Mormon Church's genealogical database in Utah, underscore the bill's role in upholding the 1839 Declaration's promise of perpetual rights.

Shelby billionaire, as a great-grandson of Kekaulike, exemplifies how H.B. No. 410 bridges historical ali'i legacies to contemporary beneficiaries. Descended via Abner Pākī—father of Bernice Pauahi Bishop—this individual could leverage these funds to assert allodial title claims, reinforcing Hawaii's recognition of Mahele-era patents. Beyond legal aid, the bill's investments in housing, education, social services, land protection, and economic development address holistic Native Hawaiian needs, echoing Kekaulike's dynastic vision of resilience and stewardship.

Section 10's flexibility for fund transfers ensures adaptability, while the State's acknowledgment of allodial titles aligns with justice and cultural continuity. I note two refinements: clarifying OHA150's funding absence and correcting the effective date from July 1, 3000, to July 1, 2025.

With these adjustments, H.B. No. 410 stands as a transformative measure, empowering beneficiaries—from humble heirs to billionaire descendants like Shelby—to uphold their heritage.

I urge your support for this bill, a testament to Hawaii's commitment to its people and history. By passing H.B. No. 410, you honor King Kekaulike's legacy, Kamehamehanui's lineage, and Abner Pākī's progeny, ensuring that allodial title lands remain a living trust for future generations.

Sincerely,

Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM

Ohana Unity Party, Chairman

[www.Ohanaunityparty.com](http://www.Ohanaunityparty.com)

Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands, H.I.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 8:24:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ezgi Green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing in **strong support** of HB410 HD1\*\*, which provides essential funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to continue delivering critical programs and services that uplift Native Hawaiian communities.\*\*

OHA plays a vital role in addressing the needs of Native Hawaiians by supporting initiatives in **education, housing, economic self-sufficiency, and cultural preservation**. Ensuring adequate funding for OHA means empowering Native Hawaiians with the resources necessary to thrive, strengthening the well-being of our entire state.

This bill represents more than just a budget allocation—it is an investment in **justice, equity, and the future of Hawai‘i**. I urge the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to **pass HB410 HD1** and ensure that OHA can continue its vital work for the lāhui.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

**Ezgi Green**

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 8:30:07 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Cabinatan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to help the Hawaiian community get ahead in life. This legislation will help them. If we don't help them we will all suffer.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 9:33:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ehren Richardson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.  
Ehren Richardson

604 318 5152

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 10:42:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rik Masterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am not a Native Hawaiian and OHA beneficiary. I am a resident of Hawaii and voter, who lives in gratitude for the privilege of being here. Here, being the land and all the life that is sustained by her, including the original human inhabitants and their living culture. I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Rik Masterson

Hilo HI

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 11:35:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimmer Horsesen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pls pass HB 410 to allow reparations to the Hawaiian Kingdom subjects and their posterity.



**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 1:53:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allen Chinn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

I am writing in strong support of HB410 HD1 for the following reasons:

**Expanding Services:** This bill provides much-needed funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire additional staff and accelerate the implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola. These funds will help OHA enhance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries by supporting critical programs and services. Despite the legal requirement for the state to allocate OHA its full pro rata share, this has never been fulfilled. Periodic appropriations like this one are not only fair but essential to ensuring OHA can fulfill its broad mandate to uplift Native Hawaiians.

**Accountability and Collaboration:** The bill also supports OHA's efforts to improve transparency and strengthen partnerships with state and county agencies. By funding staff positions dedicated to collaboration and the development of an online dashboard, this measure ensures that taxpayer dollars are used effectively to foster coordination between government entities working to address long-standing disparities in health, housing, education, and economic opportunity for Native Hawaiians.

As an OHA beneficiary and a voter, I appreciate the innovative and proactive steps OHA's leadership is taking to fulfill its constitutional and statutory responsibilities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Allen Chinn

101 Aupuni Street #720

Hilo, Hawaii 96720

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 1:58:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mary drayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OHA support for kānaka ʻōiwi is crucial, and has been underfunded since it's inception

Mahalo

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 6:03:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shaeralee-Tiare Manosa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I SUPPORT HB410 HD1 for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Shaeralee-Tiare Manosa

P.O Box 581

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

808-658-9366

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 6:27:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sherry broder	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members, I strongly support this HB 410, HD 1, Relating to the budget of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Native Hawaiians have substantially higher poverty rates than most other groups. OHA provides many incredibly important services to its Native Hawaiian beneficiaries and makes substantial contributions to the perpetuation and recovery of Hawaiian culture and tradition. These services and contributions also benefits our community.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 10:17:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bernadette DeLeon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Bernadette support bill HD410 to hire administrator and fulfill it's position.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 8:24:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lionel Camara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of HB410 HD1.

Thank you,

Lionel Camara Jr



**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 11:07:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
U'i Kahue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

U'i Kahue-Cabanting

Lot 25 Pu'ukapele Ave #351

Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

808-633-3247

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 1:47:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Napua Froman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Napua Froman

nfroman@hotmail.com

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 7:30:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sunnie Kupahu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this program. Support the Natives of this stolen county of Hawaii.

**HB-410-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:32:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/31/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt L	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

**I SUPPORT HB410 HD1** for the not only the following reasons:

**Delivery of Services:** This bill increases funding for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to hire new staff and accelerate implementation of its 15-year strategic plan, Mana i Maui Ola, to advance the wellbeing of its beneficiaries, and to continue funding essential programs and services. The state has never allocated OHA its full pro rata share due by law and therefore periodic appropriations are just, fair, and necessary to enable OHA to meet its broad mandate to better the condition of Native Hawaiians.

**Transparency and Synergy:** OHA seeks to fund staff positions focused on leveraging partnerships with other state and county agencies and increasing transparency around OHA's work through an online dashboard. This is a smart investment of taxpayer dollars to ensure collaboration between government entities that serve Native Hawaiians and share the common goal of reducing persistent disparities that Native Hawaiians face in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic empowerment.

As an OHA beneficiary and voter, I am happy to see the innovative approach that OHA's leadership is taking to meet its statutory and constitutional mandate to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians. **I and the Hawaiian community would be happier to see the State starting to live up to its commitment to us, the native peoples of this land.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.