

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY
CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER
AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, April 1, 2025
2:00 PM

State Capitol Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 193
HOUSE RESOLUTION 186, HOUSE DRAFT 1

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND CONSIDER THE TRANSFER OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN BURIAL SITE MANAGEMENT UNDER CHAPTER 6E, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES, FROM THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION TO THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

House Concurrent Resolution 193 (HCR) and companion House Resolution 186 (HR), House Draft 1, requests the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to convene a working group to examine and consider the transfer of Native Hawaiian burial site management under Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, from the State Historic Preservation Division to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) acknowledges the intent of this measure and offers comments.**

The Department recognizes the importance of protecting Native Hawaiian burial sites and the historical significance iwi kupuna hold for the Native Hawaiian community. It further recognizes that the complex and culturally sensitive nature of burial site management often prompts controversial situations that implicate the Department's State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD). SHPD has been taking a proactive approach in working with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to improve in areas such as standard operating procedures, interagency communication, and community relationships. Establishing a working group provides an opportunity to formalize these discussions in a collaborative environment to explore an option that could strengthen the protection of Native Hawaiian burial sites.

To ensure the working group's effectiveness, the Department recommends adding clarification on the specific "conflicts of interest, or appearance of conflicts of interest resulting from historic preservation reviews, inadvertent discoveries, descendancy claims, and making recommendations to the Island Burial Councils" on HR page 3, line 38; HCR page 4, line 1. The effectiveness of the working group will depend

on a clear understanding of these conflicts. In addition, HR page 4, line 4; HCR page 4, line 8, states that “these potential conflicts of interest may be resolved by transferring parts of the Burial Sites Program to another agency.” Without identifying these conflicts, it is difficult to determine whether a transfer to the OHA would effectively resolve them. Thus, further elaboration is essential to provide the working group with a strong and defined premise for meaningful and well-informed analysis.

The Department further recommends adding language for the working group to also consider and evaluate new or amended legislation that may address the challenges identified by the 2022 Burial Sites Working Group and improve the current structure of the burial sites program. HR page 3, line 7; HCR page 3, line 12, states that one of the 2022 Burial Sites Working Group’s key findings were “fundamental inadequacies in the laws affecting burial sites.” This suggests the existing legal framework itself is a core issue that would continue to affect the burials program whether it remains with SHPD or is transferred to OHA. Therefore, including a provision to review legislative improvements to facilitate a more comprehensive assessment of potential solutions rather than presupposing that transferring the program is the only viable solution. This further ensures that the most effective approach is identified to strengthen the burials program while also establishing a contingency should it be determined that transferring the program, in whole or in part, is not feasible. Thus, the Department appreciates the addition of language on HR page 5; HCR page 5 that states:

- (5) Identify and consider issues in the existing legislation and develop amendments that may improve the processes for protecting Native Hawaiian burial sites and the effectiveness of the current burial sites program under SHPD; and

The Department notes that the primary objective of this working group is essentially an interagency feasibility evaluation and limiting its members to representatives of OHA, SHPD, and the Island Burial Councils provides a more focused governmental perspective on the transfer’s implications for those affected State agencies. However, the Department also recognizes the importance of community input and thus, further notes that if non-governmental organizations participate in the working group, having more than one Native Hawaiian organization would promote an inclusive representation of cultural perspectives and expertise. Therefore, the Department appreciations that addition of language on HR page 5, line 22; HCR, page 5, line 26 that states:

- (4) Five members of the community that self-identify and represent unique Native Hawaiian organizations with expertise and experience in protecting Native Hawaiian burial sites, to be selected randomly by the working group from a list of submitted names; and

The Department recognizes that there are ongoing challenges in the protection of burial sites and we are committed to working collaboratively with all stakeholders, including OHA, Island Burial Councils, and the community to improve the effectiveness of the burial sites program in whichever for it may take. We remain committed to furthering discussions to determine how best to protect Native Hawaiian burial sites.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 9:49:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keala Norman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Carolyn Keala Norman. I am a State vetted recognized lineal and cultural descendant. I have been a practitioner in malama I na iwi kupuna, the care and protection of ancestral bones for over 25 years under the tutelage of my mother Kahili Norman.

I have stood shoulder to shoulder with my Aunt Paulette Ka'anohi Kaleikini who is my mother's youngest sister, my mother, siblings, sons, nieces and nephews fighting to protect the iwi kupuna, ancestral bones at various locations in Waikiki, Kaka'ako, Kalihi, Ewa and Hawai'i Island. Some of these areas are the Walmart Ke'eaumoku, Alexander and Baldwin's Waihonua Condominium, HART, the then General Growth Properties Ward Village and Hokuli'a. My ohana and I malama iwi kupuna out of love for our iwi kupuna, not for payment. We attend Island Burial Council meetings, developer and descendant consultations on our free time to be the voice for our iwi kupuna.

I oppose HR 186 HD1.

HR 186 HD1 is deceptive because OHA proposes including people with burial experience in the working group, effectively incorporating Hui Iwi Kuamo'o, an organization that receives grants from OHA. While OHA accuses SHPD of conflict of interest or its appearance, they themselves exhibit the same behavior. Today's OHA is politically driven compared to the OHA of 1990, serving their friends or those who align with their political and cultural beliefs.

OHA advocates for members of Hui Iwi Kuamo'o despite me and my ohana's recognized descendancy status. For example, OHA did not conduct meaningful consultation with my ohana who were the only State-vetted recognized descendants for the Nu'uaniu iwi kupuna reburial, valuing input from Hui Iwi Kuamo'o over us. Another example is OHA overstepping by involving themselves in developer consultations, instructing SHPD's Burial Sites Specialist to schedule a reburial date that favors recognized descendants with ties to Hui Iwi Kuamo'o, despite disagreements among other State-vetted recognized descendants and it being outside SHPD's jurisdiction, let alone OHA's.

SHPD's interim Branch Chief confirmed OHA has no authority over SHPD employees.

HR 186 HD1 would allow a Burial Sites Working Group, others with burial experience and OHA access to the private genealogies, my family's genealogy and of the families involved in the cultural practice of the care and protection of ancestral bones, that we submit to SHPD. Our genealogy is currently protected by the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) and the Attorney General.

Under HR 186 HD1, our genealogy will not be protected. Our genealogy will be subjected to possible fraud and abuse.

I don't want a Burial Sites Working Group, others with burial experience and OHA to have access to my ohana genealogy. **I don't want** a Burial Sites Working Group, others with burial experience and OHA impose their political and cultural beliefs on me and my ohana. **I don't want** a Burial Sites Working Group, others with burial experience or OHA take away or override our rights as State-vetted recognized descendants.

Burial sites management 6E should not be transferred to OHA until there is a solid plan and agreement with families who are burial practitioners, such as my ohana for reasons that I have stated above.

Rather than involving OHA, a Burial Sites Working Group or others with burial experience in the State Historic Preservation Division 6E process, what needs to be addressed is the long-standing staffing shortages at SHPD, which have persisted for over 20 years.

I strongly oppose HR 186 HD1

Mahalo

Carolyn Keala Norman

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 1:01:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Fitzsimmons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

I am writing in strong support of HCR193

Unfortunately, SHPD has historically been understaffed and underfunded. As a result, Native Hawaiian burials continue to be unearthed and mismanaged despite the law’s express recognition that “all burial sites are significant” and the state’s constitutional obligation to protect Native Hawaiian practices including Malama Iwi Kūpuna.

Mahalo nui,

Diane Puanani Fitzsimmons

Former Oahu Island Burial Council Waialua Moku Representative

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 6:32:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaori-Lei Hanohano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

I am writing in strong support of HCR193 HD1.

Native Hawaiian burial sites are sacred and must be protected. HRS chapter 6E sets forth procedures to identify Native Hawaiian burials and ensure their respectful treatment but success of the law is dependent upon adequate resources and implementation. Unfortunately, SHPD has historically been understaffed and underfunded. As a result, Native Hawaiian burials continue to be unearthed and mismanaged despite the law’s express recognition that “all burial sites are significant” and the state’s constitutional obligation to protect Native Hawaiian practices including mālama iwi.

Collaborative solutions are necessary. Under HCR193 HD1, representatives from OHA, SHPD, the island burial councils and the larger mālama iwi community would collaboratively explore whether transferring any of SHPD’s burial site duties to OHA would improve protection of iwi kūpuna. The working group would consider timelines, funding, staffing, and statutory and regulatory amendments necessary to operationalize any transfer. A careful, collaborative approach as proposed in the resolution is necessary to ensure that any changes increase protection of iwi kūpuna and are not overly disruptive to the existing program.

Please PASS this measure to allow the affected parties to collaborate on ways to improve protection of iwi kūpuna across the pae ‘āina.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Kaori-Lei Hanohano

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 7:41:43 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

I am writing in strong support of HCR193 HD1.

Native Hawaiian burial sites are sacred and must be protected. HRS chapter 6E sets forth procedures to identify Native Hawaiian burials and ensure their respectful treatment but success of the law is dependent upon adequate resources and implementation. Unfortunately, SHPD has historically been understaffed and underfunded. As a result, Native Hawaiian burials continue to be unearthed and mismanaged despite the law’s express recognition that “all burial sites are significant” and the state’s constitutional obligation to protect Native Hawaiian practices including mālama iwi.

Collaborative solutions are necessary. Under HCR193 HD1, representatives from OHA, SHPD, the island burial councils and the larger mālama iwi community would collaboratively explore whether transferring any of SHPD’s burial site duties to OHA would improve protection of iwi kūpuna. The working group would consider timelines, funding, staffing, and statutory and regulatory amendments necessary to operationalize any transfer. A careful, collaborative approach as proposed in the resolution is necessary to ensure that any changes increase protection of iwi kūpuna and are not overly disruptive to the existing program.

Please PASS this measure to allow the affected parties to collaborate on ways to improve protection of iwi kūpuna across the pae ‘āina.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Monica Morris

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 8:43:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiare Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

****Written Testimony in Support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 193, HD1****

To the Honorable Members of the House of Representatives and Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i:

My name is Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu, where I have resided for 45 years. As a proud descendant of the indigenous stewards of these islands, I offer this testimony in resolute support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 193, HD1 (HCR 193), which requests the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to convene a working group to examine the transfer of Native Hawaiian burial site management from the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to OHA under Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes. This resolution confronts a legacy of systemic neglect and cultural disenfranchisement with intellectual rigor and moral clarity. Below, I delineate the compelling advantages of HCR 193 and propose precise, actionable solutions to enhance its safety, efficacy, cost-effectiveness, and equity—ensuring that the sanctity of iwi kūpuna is safeguarded in a manner befitting our heritage.

The Virtues of HCR 193: A Paradigm Shift Toward Justice

HCR 193 represents a sophisticated and necessary evolution in the stewardship of Native Hawaiian burial sites. Its merits are both profound and multifaceted:

- **Cultural Sovereignty and Constitutional Duty**:** By advocating for OHA—a constitutionally established trust for Native Hawaiians—to assume responsibility for burial site management, HCR 193 fulfills article XII, section 7 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution, which mandates the protection of our cultural practices. This shift aligns with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, affirming our right to self-determination and the repatriation of our ancestors’ remains—an antidote to the current system’s antithetical structure.
- **Rectifying Systemic Failures**:** The 2022 Burial Sites Working Group report, cited in HCR 193, exposed SHPD’s precipitous shortcomings: inadequate resources, lack of will, and flawed legal frameworks. This resolution offers a structured pathway to address these failures, transferring authority to an entity with the cultural mandate and community trust to succeed.

3. **Eliminating Conflicts of Interest**: SHPD’s dual role as regulator and advisor to Island Burial Councils (IBCs) creates an untenable conflict, undermining impartiality in burial site decisions. HCR 193’s proposed transfer to OHA resolves this tension, fostering a process untainted by competing interests.

4. **Enhanced Community Representation**: Unlike its Senate counterpart, HCR 193 uniquely mandates the inclusion of five community members from Native Hawaiian organizations in the working group. This provision amplifies our voices, countering decades of disenfranchisement and ensuring that decisions reflect the lived experiences of our people.

Fortifying HCR 193: Strategic Enhancements for Safety, Efficacy, Cost-Effectiveness, and Equity

While HCR 193 lays a formidable foundation, its potential can be maximized through targeted enhancements. I propose the following solutions to strengthen its implementation:

1. Enhancing Safety

- **Proposal**: Require OHA to establish a Burial Sites Protection Unit staffed with Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and forensic experts trained in iwi kūpuna protocols.
- **Rationale**: SHPD’s current approach lacks the cultural sensitivity and expertise needed to handle inadvertent discoveries safely. A dedicated unit would minimize risks of desecration, ensuring remains are treated with reverence from discovery to resolution.
- **Implementation**: Fund six full-time positions (approximately \$400,000 annually), integrating existing OHA staff where feasible to maintain continuity and expertise.

2. Boosting Efficacy

- **Proposal**: Develop a statewide digital burial site registry using GIS technology, managed by OHA in collaboration with IBCs.
- **Rationale**: SHPD’s inefficiencies stem from fragmented records and poor coordination. A centralized, accessible database would expedite identification, preservation, and decision-making processes, reducing delays that imperil site integrity.
- **Implementation**: Allocate \$150,000 for initial development, partnering with the University of Hawai‘i’s geospatial programs to leverage academic resources, followed by \$50,000 annually for maintenance—enhancing efficacy at a modest cost.

3. Ensuring Cost-Effectiveness

- **Proposal**: Phase SHPD’s burial site budget to OHA over three years, supplemented by federal funding and community-driven initiatives.

- **Rationale**: Critics may decry added costs, yet OHA's existing infrastructure can absorb these duties efficiently, while strategic funding offsets expenses.

- **Detailed Options**:

- **Budget Transition**: Reallocate SHPD's estimated \$500,000 annual burial site budget to OHA incrementally (\$166,000/year), avoiding fiscal disruption.

- **Federal Support**: Secure \$75,000–\$150,000 annually from the National Park Service's Tribal Heritage Grants, targeting indigenous preservation efforts.

- **Community Contributions**: Establish a volunteer corps via partnerships with organizations like Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna O Hawai'i Nei, reducing labor costs by 15% (approximately \$75,000 savings/year).

- **Outcome**: These measures could yield \$100,000–\$200,000 in annual savings, proving that cultural integrity need not strain public coffers but can thrive through prudent innovation.

4. Promoting Equity

- **Proposal**: Expand the working group's community representation to include two additional seats for rural Native Hawaiian residents, such as those from Kahalu'u or outer islands, selected via OHA's community nomination process.

- **Rationale**: While HCR 193's inclusion of five organizational representatives is laudable, it risks sidelining grassroots voices from underserved areas. Additional rural seats ensure equitable input, reflecting the diverse realities of our people.

- **Implementation**: Amend the resolution to mandate these seats, with OHA overseeing a transparent nomination process to prevent elitism and guarantee broad representation.

Conclusion: A Legacy Worth Defending

As a Native Hawaiian who has called Kahalu'u home for 45 years, I have borne witness to the anguish of burial site mismanagement—the disruption of our ancestors' rest, the silencing of our voices, and the erosion of our cultural fabric. HCR 193 HD1 is a clarion call to restore this kuleana to Native Hawaiian hands, through OHA's stewardship and the collective wisdom of our community. By adopting this resolution and integrating the solutions I have outlined, this Legislature can craft a system that is safer, more effective, cost-efficient, and unequivocally equitable. I implore you to act with the intellectual sharpness and cultural fidelity this moment demands, ensuring that our iwi kūpuna are honored not as relics of the past, but as the foundation of our future.

Mahalo nui loa for your attention and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiare Smith

Kahalu'u, O'ahu

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 10:17:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keomailani Hanapi Hirata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Keomailani Hanapi Hirata, from the island of Molokai. I am in support of HR186, which calls for the formation of a working group to examine and consider the transfer of Native Hawaiian Burial Site management under HRS Chapter 6E from the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). This resolution is a necessary step toward ensuring that the care and protection of our iwi kūpuna (ancestral remains) and burial sites are managed by those who hold the deepest cultural and genealogical responsibility for them—the Native Hawaiian community.

For far too long, the management of Native Hawaiian burial sites has been under the authority of state agencies that lack the cultural understanding, urgency, and accountability required to properly protect our sacred places. The current system has repeatedly failed to:

- Prevent the desecration of burial sites due to inadequate enforcement and delays.
- Center Native Hawaiian voices in decision-making, despite burial sites being integral to our identity and spiritual practices.
- Respect the rights of lineal descendants and cultural practitioners in stewardship matters.

OHA, as an agency created to better the conditions of Native Hawaiians, is better positioned to uphold the integrity, dignity, and proper treatment of iwi kūpuna in accordance with Hawaiian cultural protocols and values.

A structured and inclusive working group must be convened to:

1. Assess the legal, logistical, and cultural implications of transferring burial site management to OHA.
2. Engage with lineal descendants, kūpuna, and cultural experts to ensure any transition respects traditional place-based knowledge and practices.
3. Develop clear accountability measures to prevent further mismanagement and desecration.

The protection of iwi kūpuna is not just a matter of historic preservation—it is a moral and spiritual obligation. Countless Native Hawaiian families have endured the pain of seeing their ancestors’ resting places disturbed by development, bureaucracy, and neglect. HR186 offers a pathway to rectify these injustices by placing kuleana where it rightfully belongs—with our lāhui.

I urge this committee to:

- Pass HR186 to establish this crucial working group.
- Ensure Native Hawaiian leadership in the process, including cultural practitioners and lineal descendants.
- Prioritize timely action, as delays continue to put burial sites at risk.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 11:00:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lucienne de Naie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha E Chair Tarnas and Vice -Chair Poepoe and Committee Members

I am writing in strong support of HCR193-HD1 We need to take steps to improve our traditional burial protection process This proposed collaborative working group is a great first step. In short-our Constitution gives strong protections for iwi kupuna. Our administrative process falls far short of upholding the Constitutional protections. We need a better way.

Mahalo for your support of this bill

Lucienne de Naie

Huelo, Maui, HI.

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:33:40 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
P Hauoli'ipo Wright	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

I am writing in strong support of HCR193 HD1.

Native Hawaiian burial sites are sacred and must be protected. HRS chapter 6E sets forth procedures to identify Native Hawaiian burials and ensure their respectful treatment but success of the law is dependent upon adequate resources and implementation. Unfortunately, SHPD has historically been understaffed and underfunded. As a result, Native Hawaiian burials continue to be unearthed and mismanaged despite the law's express recognition that "all burial sites are significant" and the state's constitutional obligation to protect Native Hawaiian practices including mālama iwi.

Collaborative solutions are necessary. Under HCR193 HD1, representatives from OHA, SHPD, the island burial councils and the larger mālama iwi community would collaboratively explore whether transferring any of SHPD's burial site duties to OHA would improve protection of iwi kūpuna. The working group would consider timelines, funding, staffing, and statutory and regulatory amendments necessary to operationalize any transfer. A careful, collaborative approach as proposed in the resolution is necessary to ensure that any changes increase protection of iwi kūpuna and are not overly disruptive to the existing program.

Please PASS this measure to allow the affected parties to collaborate on ways to improve protection of iwi kūpuna across the pae 'āina.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

- P. Hau'oli ipo Wright

808.268.9974 / hauoli.ipo@gmail.com

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 11:44:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Theodore Robert Norman Jr	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose Bill HCR 193 HD1 and HR 186 HD1 for reasons that OHA and Hui Iwi Kuamoo want to take away the rights along with the decisions of Recognized Lineal and Cultural Descendants. I am a recognized Lineal and Cultural Descendant. I am also a cultural practitioner for over 25 years that repatriated many Kupuna Iwi on Oahu and Hawai'i Island. All the work I do to Malama Iwi Kupuna is voluntary and paid out of my own pocket. This Bill is another attempt by OHA by the guidance and paid interests of Hui Iwi Kuamoo formerly Hui Malama I Na Kupuna. They want to override my rights and proven genealogy through the State. They also want to be able to see my Private genealogy information to benefit and connect to serve their interest and purpose.. Under the current laws the State protects my private information along with the State Attorney's Office. OHA does not have that same protection. OHA and Hui Iwi Kuamoo already have a conflict of interest. Hui Iwi Kuamoo works under Grants provided by OHA.

Please vote against this Bill because it does not serve the best interests of the Native Hawaiian People, the Lineal, and Cultural Descendants..

Sincerely,

Theodore Norman Jr, aka Kekua Norman

HR-186-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 1:16:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of **HCR193**.