

HCR180 URGING HAWAI'I'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ACT TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 23, 2011

8:30 a.m.

Room 329

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) <u>SUPPORTS</u> HCR180, a resolution that urges Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation to support the reauthorization of the federal Native Hawaiian Education Act (NHEA) – legislation that has contributed to significant innovations in education for Native Hawaiians.

NHEA grants to the 'Aha Pūnana Leo have contributed to the proliferation throughout the state of Hawaiian language immersion preschools that prepare the next generation of Hawaiian language speakers to enter kindergarten. NHEA grants to the Center for Gifted and Talented Native Hawaiian Children at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo resulted in the growth of programs to meet the needs of this overlooked population of students. NHEA support of the Pihana Nā Mamo program for Native Hawaiian students with special needs resulted in exemplary programs assisting young Native Hawaiians in reading and achieving in school. NHEA has resulted in the increase of Native Hawaiian language curriculum development and indigenous teacher preparation programs. NHEA also establishes the Native Hawaiian Education Council and island councils.

OHA notes that President Obama has already reaffirmed his administration's support and commitment to Native Americans, Native Alaskans, and Native Hawaiians in his federal fiscal budget for 2012 and in his Blueprint for Reform.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to PASS HCR180 to request that Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation continue their unwavering support of NHEA in Congress. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS Testimony of President Soulee Stroud HCR180

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ACT

Before the

HOUSE JOINT COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS Wednesday; March 23, 2011;8:30a.;Rm. 329

Aloha Madam Chair Hanohano of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee and Madam Chair Wooley of the Culture and Arts Committee. I am Soulee Stroud here to speak in support of House Concurrent Resolution 180 Urging Hawaii's Congressional Delegation To Support the Reauthorization of the Native Hawaiian Education Act.

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs is comprised of sixty component clubs in Hawaii and eleven states and the District of Columbia on the continent. Each year we hold an annual convention and conduct several days of business where submitted resolutions are discussed and debated in committees. If they pass out of our committees they are voted upon in plenary session by the House of Delegates.

In 2010 our convention was held in Keauhou, Hawaii and more than fifty resolutions were adopted. Resolution #10-22was entitled: Urging Hawaii's Congressional Delegation to Support the Reauthorization of the Native Hawaiian Education Act.

Education of Hawaiian students has been a fundamental goal of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs since its inception in 1918. Over almost a century we have provided educational assistance to hundreds of students through our fundraising and advocacy activities.

Grants through the Native Hawaiian Education Act have resulted in an increase in Hawaiian language curriculum development and preparation

programs for indigenous teachers. The NHEA is a valuable tool for the betterment of conditions of the Hawaiian people through education and the resulting economic progress and must be continued.

We urge the passage of HCR 180 and mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

For further information please contact our Government Relations Chair, Jalna Keala at jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 180

URGING HAWAII CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ACT

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Hawaii State Capitol Building 415 S. Beretania Street Wednesday, March 23, 2011 8:30 - am - Conference Room 329

Honorable Chairwoman Faye Hanohano and Vice Chairman, Chris Lee and Committee Members on Hawaiian Affairs, and

Honorable Chairwoman Jessica Wooley, and Vice Chairwoman Della Au Belatti and Committee Members on Culture and the Art.

Aloha Kakou!

My name is Dr. VerlieAnn Leimomi Kapule Malina-Wright. I am submitting testimony in support of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 180 urging our Hawaii Congressional Delegation to support the Reauthorization of the Native Hawaiian Education Act in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), Title VII, Part B.

I am also proposing that two amendments be added to the Resolution (HCR) 180 as follows by inserting into Page 1, after line 16 the following amended language.

WHEREAS SEC. 7204. ESTABLISHES A NATIVE HAWAIIAN **EDUCATION STATE COUNCIL AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN ISLAND** COUNCILS FOR Hawaii, Maui, Molokai. Lanai, Oahu, Kauai, Niihau to ensure the adequate representation of island and community interests within the Education Council

WHEREAS NHEC STATE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP REMAIN AT 21 MEMBERS WHO ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATIONS 10 MEMBERS WHO ARE SERVICE PROVIDERS AND 10 MEMBERS WHO ARE SERVICE CONSUMERS, AND ONE MEMBER FROM THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

Mahalo nui loa, Dr. VA Malina-Wright

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