ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS TESTIMONY OF PRESIDENT SOULEE STROUD

In Support of SENATE BILL 57 RELATING TO IOLANI PALACE

Before the committee on Water, Land & Housing Thursday; February 3, 2011; 3:30pm; Rm. 224

Aloha Chairman DelaCruz, vice chair Solomon and members of the committee on Water, Land and Housing. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs here to testify in support Senate Bill 57 that will place protection to the buildings and grounds Iolani Palace under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Safety, Sheriffs' Division.

The Sheriffs' Division already have jurisdiction over the State Capitol and it seems a natural move to include the Palace under their protection. This bill would remove law enforcement for the Palace and buildings from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Public Safety. It is a narrow slice of the statute that would alleviate DLNR's law enforcement responsibility with regard to the Palace. However, management of the historic preservation aspects and rulemaking authority will remain with the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As with many other organizations, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs has enjoyed being at the Palace for various functions and events. Recent incidents that have demeaned the respect and reverence we have for the Palace have been disturbing. We welcome any action that would provide protection and preservation of this magnificent and beloved symbol of Hawaii's history.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We urge passage of this bill.

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Government Relations chair

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