

HCR224

Measure Title: NAMING THE NEW WAIMANALO ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL BUILDING IN HONOR OF AL LEWIS.

Report Title: Waimanalo Elementary School; Al Lewis

Description:

Companion: [HR157](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU/GVO

Introducer(s): C. LEE, BELATTI, CHOY, CREAGAN, DECOITE, JOHANSON, KAWAKAMI, KOBAYASHI, LUKE, MCKELVEY, NAKASHIMA, OHNO, SAY, THIELEN, Brower, Keohokalole, Kong, LoPresti, Souki, Woodson



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015

RE: HCR 224

PERSON TESTIFYING: JOAN LEWIS, VICE PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Honorable Chairs Michelle Kidani, Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Breene Harimoto, Clarence Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i State Teachers' Association (HSTA) **supports HCR 224** urging the Department of Education to name the new building at Waimanalo Elementary School after Al Lewis.

Hawai'i's students need to have opportunities to learn about their heroes, especially those who are the everyday heroes who are there for them day after day without the bright lights and glitz. Al Lewis is a man that nurtured generations of children in the Waimanalo community and a building in his honor, in a place of education no less, is a fitting tribute to that good work. Moreover, it will insure that future generations will share in his legacy.

HSTA **supports HCR 224**.

Testimony of Glenn Ida
45-284 Pahikaua Street
Kaneohe, Hi. 96744

Committee on Education
Sen. Michelle Kidani, Chair
Sen. Breene Harimoto, Vice-Chair
Committee on Government Operations
Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Vice-Chair
Wednesday, 4-8-2015
1:15PM, Room 229

Re: Support of HCR224, NAMING THE NEW WAIMANALO ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL BUILDING IN HONOR OF AL LEWIS

Aloha Chairs Sen. Kidani, Sen. Dela Cruz, Vice-Chairs Sen. Harimoto and Sen. Nishihara and Members of the Committees,

My name is Glenn Ida, the current Region 9 Chair for the Oahu County Committee of the Democratic Party, which consists of Representative Districts 48-51 on the Windward side.

I'm in strong support of the passage of HCR224, to name a building at the Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate to honor Mr. Albert Lewis.

I was a resident of the Waimanalo Community for most of the time between 1974 till 1986. In looking back I can't recall when I first came to know Uncle Al or Big Al as he was also known. It was probably the Waimanalo Carnival. Where for three days running hear his booming voice encouraging you to, "Spend, Spend, Spend the Money". More recently he was involved with the Relay for Life, the fundraiser for the fight against Cancer. He was busy organizing volunteers and soliciting donations and getting the Waimanalo Community involved.

He has served within the Democratic Party as an Officer at the Precinct and District, as well as at the State level including being a National Party Delegate numerous times, which nominates the Democratic Party Presidential Candidate.

I remember him as kind and generous of himself and any resources he possessed. He would go out of his way to help others. We were friends within the party and even if we disagreed he always treated me with respect.

I urge you to pass HCR224 and take the necessary steps to accomplish naming a Building for Mr. Al Lewis.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Glenn Ida
808-295-1280

The Twenty-Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2015

THE SENATE

Committee on Education

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

Committee on Government Operations

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Wednesday, April 8, 2015; 1:15 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.C.R. 224
NAMING THE NEW WAIMANALO ELEMENTARY AND
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL BUILDING IN HONOR OF
AL LEWIS**

The ILWU Local 142 supports H.C.R. 224 to name the new Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School building in honor of Al Lewis.

Al passed away this past January on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. He joined the ILWU's contingent in the MLK parade through Waikiki in our trolley, all the while greeting tourists and locals alike with "aloha," "ohayogozaimasu," and "welcome to Hawaii." He was a true ambassador of aloha.

Al was not an ILWU member, but one year, after hitching a ride on our trolley in the MLK parade, he made friends with our pensioners and has been a big part of our pensioner group ever since. That was Al. He made friends with everyone. He brought people together. He worked hard and passionately for issues and concerns he believed in.

Above all, he believed in and loved Waimanalo. Some called him the unofficial mayor of Waimanalo. He served on the Waimanalo Neighborhood Board and, at the Waimanalo Carnival, could be heard on the P.A. system almost the entire time. He gave to his community often and generously.

It would be most fitting for a new building at Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School to be named in his honor. The children need to know about Al Lewis, adults need to remember him, and all of us need to dedicate our lives to community just as Al did. Naming the building after Al would perpetuate the legacy that he built in Waimanalo.

The ILWU urges adoption of H.C.R. 224. Thank you for considering our testimony.

Statement of
Mary Alice Evans

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION
AND
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Wednesday, April 8, 2015
1:15 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of

**HCR 224
NAMING THE NEW WAIMANALO ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
BUILDING IN HONOR OF AL LEWIS.**

Chairs Kidani and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Harimoto and Nishihara, and Members of the Committees.

I respectfully ask you to pass HCR 224 urging the Department of Education to name the new building at Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School after the late Al Lewis.

As a longtime resident of Waimanalo, I had the pleasure of knowing Al for many years. I served on the Waimanalo Teen Project board with Al for over 20 years.

Al Lewis was generous, kind, bluntly honest, and friend to all, but especially the keiki of Waimanalo. It would help heal the loss to our community that Al's untimely passing has caused to have a school building named after him.

I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of this Resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.