

# DEPT. COMM. NO. 522

#### OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

July 9, 2021

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President Hawaii State Senate 415 South Beretania Street Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a certified copy of Resolution No. 21-103, which was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on July 2, 2021.

Respectfully,

JAMES G.M. KRUEGER Deputy County Clerk

/djy

**Enclosure** 

# Resolution

No. <u>21-103</u>

#### RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT OF 1920, AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole, affectionately called Ke Ali'i Maka'āinana (The People's Prince), was elected as the Territory of Hawai'i's delegate in the United States Congress, where he served as a non-voting delegate in the House of Representatives from 1902 until his untimely death in 1922; and

WHEREAS, Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole was born on March 26, 1871, in the Kōloa District of Kaua'i to High Chief David Kahalepouli Pi'ikoi and Princess Kinoiki Kekaulike, the youngest daughter of Kaumuali'i, the last King of Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, by the age of 13, Prince Kūhiō was named a prince by royal proclamation of his uncle King Kalākaua; and

WHEREAS, in 1920, Prince Kūhiō introduced House Resolution 13500, the Hawaiian Rehabilitation Bill, as a response to the dwindling Native Hawaiian population; and

WHEREAS, in testimony to Congress, Prince Kūhiō stated, "The Hawaiian race is passing and if conditions continue to exist as they do today, this splendid race of people, my people, will pass from the face of the earth"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Rehabilitation Bill laid the foundation for the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act ("HHCA") of 1920; and

WHEREAS, the HHCA is a government-sponsored homesteading program that enables Native Hawaiians to return to their lands to support self-sufficiency and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, the HHCA allows Native Hawaiians of 50 percent or more Hawaiian blood to live on homestead lands for \$1 a year for 99 years; and

WHEREAS, HHCA was signed on July 9, 1921, by U.S. President Warren G. Harding and became fully operative on September 16, 1921; and

WHEREAS, initial implementation of the Act was difficult at the onset due to a lack of financial resources and very little usable land; and

WHEREAS, in 1921, the first homestead was established on the island of Moloka'i at Kalama'ula as a pilot program in which 42 Native Hawaiians from Moloka'i and Maui were awarded leases; and

WHEREAS, the first homesteaders faced the pressure of proving the homesteading program would be successful in a dry land of salty soil, poor conditions for growing crops, without any infrastructure, but worked hard together to put in roads and set up large wooden tanks to catch the rainwater for drinking and farming, and combined labor and resources to sow crops and purchase farming equipment; and

WHEREAS, in a 1924 congressional report, observer F.G. Krauss noted that the Kalama'ula residents had built homes, were raising many pigs and growing tomatoes, sweet potatoes, and bananas; and

WHEREAS, in 1925, Ho'olehua homestead was established on the Island of Moloka'i; and

WHEREAS, while Ho'olehua's soil was more ideal for farming, it was still difficult without infrastructure in place; and

WHEREAS, according to a news story by *Hawaii News Now*, on October 8, 2019, Hawaiian Homes Commission Chair William J. Aila, Jr. stated, "Over 100 years ago, Prince Kūhiō sought to return native Hawaiians to the land through a homesteading program," and "[t]he families in Kalama'ula and Ho'olehua exemplify his vision of rehabilitation"; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands ("DHHL") administers 99-year residential, agricultural, and pastoral leases to Native Hawaiians and carries out its core mission to develop and deliver lands to Native Hawaiians towards developing self-sufficient and healthy communities as envisioned by Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole; and

WHEREAS, according to DHHL's website, as a statesman, Prince Kūhiō shaped the foundation for Hawai'i's modern government structure and is responsible for instituting the county system to promote home rule that is still in place today; and

WHEREAS, Maui County had 15 homestead lands with a total of 1,406 homestead leases on the Island of Maui and 839 on the Island of Moloka'i, and 28,788 individual applicants pae'āina-wide on the Waiting List, as of DHHL's 2020 annual report to the State; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Hawaiian Homes Commission ("HHC") adopted a resolution recognizing the Centennial Celebration of the HHCA to commence on July 9, 2021, through July 8, 2022; and

WHEREAS, HHC authorized DHHL to work with Hawaiian Home Lands' beneficiaries, community members, and elected officials to participate in statewide events and to include documentary and video production, haku mele, printed histories, and other such activities that "meet the spirit of 'Ke Ali'i Maka'āinana — The People's Prince"; now, therefore,

#### BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

- 1. That it recognizes the Centennial Celebration of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended, and acknowledges the tremendous contributions Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole made on behalf of the Hawaiian people, the State, and the County through the Act's passage; and
- 2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to William J. Ailā, Jr., Chairman, Hawaiian Homes Commission, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, State of Hawai'i; Randy Awo. Member, Hawaiian Homes Commission. Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, State of Hawaii: Zachary Z. Helm, Member, Hawaiian Homes Commission, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, State of Hawaii; Robin Puanani Danner, Chair, Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations; Kammy Purdy, Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations; the Honorable Brian E. Schatz, United States Senator; the Honorable Mazie K. Hirono, United States Senator; the

## Resolution No. 21-103

Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, United States Representative; Stephanie Ohigashi, Field Representative for the Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele; United States Representative; the Honorable Ed Case, United States Representative; the Honorable Ron Kouchi, President, Hawai'i State Senate; the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Senator, Hawai'i State Senate; the Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Senator, Hawai'i State Senate; the Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Representative, Hawai'i State House of Representatives; the Honorable Scott Saiki, Speaker, Hawai'i State House of Representatives; the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui; and the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i.

paf:wal:21-199a

### **COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

# **CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION**

It is HEREBY CERTIFIED that RESOLUTION NO. 21-103 was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 2nd day of July 2021, by the following vote:

MEMBERS	Alice L. LEE Chair	Keani N. W. RAWLINS- FERNANDEZ Vice-Chair	edsP NOSNHOL	Natalie A. KAMA	Kelly T. KING	Michael J. MCLINA	Tamara A. N. PALTIN	Shane M. SINENCI	Yuki Lei K. SUGIMURA
ROLL CALL	Aye	Aye	Aye	Excused	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK