

April 4, 2022

HCR7/HR3

Dear Members of the Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

We the undersigned are testifying to our support of HCR7/HR3 written by Rep. Mark Nakashima and co-sponsored by Rep. Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Rep. Jeanne Kapela, and Rep. David Tarnas. We are in favor of this resolution which requests the Hilo High School Community Council (SCC) to recommend to the Hawaii State Department of Education that the new Hilo High School Gymnasium be named in honor of Coaches Albert and Lawrence Manliguis. The reasons are as follows:

The Manliguis name has been synonymous with Hilo High School basketball since the 1940s when Al played on Hilo's Territorial Championship teams until Coach Larry's passing in 2007. Brother Gus played in the mid 50's, Larry in the late 50's, and Rocky and Cal played in the early 60's. Their children then went on to play in boys and girls' basketball teams for Hilo High – that's 60 years of having a Manliguis family member playing, coaching and contributing to Hilo High School's successful basketball legacy.

Both Al and Larry coached at Hilo High School from 1958 to 2007. Al coached for 26 years and led the Vikings to 20 league titles, one state title in 1964 and two state runner-up finishes during his career at Hilo. Larry played for Coach Al for two years and was an assistant coach before becoming head coach. During 23 years as the head coach at Hilo High, Coach Larry led the Vikings to 11 BIIF titles and two State Championships in 1991 and 2000 and one runner-up finish.

As players and coaches, Al and Larry have been admired and respected not only for their playing abilities and skills, their coaching strategies and knowledge, but for their caring, positive "can do" attitude with integrity, compassion and strength. They have established a record of extraordinary achievements for others to emulate for years to come. They, as coaches and mentors, brought about the team work needed to achieve goals others would feel unreachable and what they accomplished in life was just outstanding. They gave so much of themselves to teach and help our youth and others and, in doing so made our community a better place in which to live.

We would feel honored, proud and grateful if the new Hilo High School gym complex was named on behalf of Coaches Al and Larry, a lasting tribute to them and to their Manliguis ohana. We believe Coach Larry would have continued to coach for more years had he not passed away at the start of the 2007-2008 season.

For the reasons stated above, we the undersigned urge the House Committee on Education to approve HCR7/HR3.

Respectfully,

Andy Baclig
Mason Bello
Moe Bello
Eugene "Buzzy" Capellas
Aaron Carvalho
Carrie Carvalho

Raymond Carvalho
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Aaron Chung
Doug Espejo
George Hanohano, Jr.
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Chris Harris
Leon “Blue” Harris
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Dr. Henry Lee Loy
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