

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB3338 SD2
(RELATING TO THE KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL)**

REPRESENTATIVE CEDRIC ASUEGA GATES, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Hearing Date: 3/23/2022 Room Number: 329

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact priorities identified in the Governor's Executive
- 2 Budget Request. The department requests that any funding be made in the form of a Capital
- 3 Improvement Project to assure that the Department of Accounting and General Services'
- 4 technical expertise is incorporated into the project and that funds can be executed with an
- 5 appropriate timeline.
- 6 **Department Testimony:** S.B. 3338 SD2 appropriate funds for the design, planning and
- 7 construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial and directs that the funds be expended by the
- 8 Department of Health. The department supports the intent of this bill to assist with the
- 9 development of a permanent memorial to honor those who were institutionalized at Kalaupapa
- 10 Settlement.
- 11 This memorial honors the lives and legacy of the more than 8,000 people who were separated
- 12 from their families and placed into isolation on the Kalawao Peninsula on the Island of Molokai.
- 13 The property where the Memorial would be constructed is owned by the Department of Land &
- 14 Natural Resources (DLNR) and is currently managed under a cooperative agreement between
- 15 DLNR and the Kalaupapa National Park Service.
- 16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3338, S.D. 2

March 23, 2022
10:30 a.m.
Room 329 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3338, S.D. 2, appropriates an unspecified amount in general funds in FY 23 to the Department of Health for the design, planning, and construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

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David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
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March 15, 2022

TO: Honorable Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: March 15, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR SB 3338, SD2, RELATING TO THE KALAUPAPA
MEMORIAL**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the design, plans, and construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. By supporting the Kalaupapa Memorial, this measure would allow for family members to reconnect with their ancestors and their stories and bring a crucial segment of Hawaii's past to light.
2. The design, plans, and construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial envision stone walls making two interlocking circles. This design is representative of bringing the people of Kalaupapa and their families back together.
3. The Kalaupapa Memorial will list the names of the nearly 8,000 people who were taken from their families and sent to Kalaupapa, appropriately bringing them honor and recognition.

For the foregoing reasons, I **SUPPORT** this measure.

ocs:proj:legis:22legis:testimony:sb3338_sd2_paf22-018(75)a_lma



"When you see all the names on the Memorial, it will be like everyone from Kalawao and Kalaupapa is standing right there in front of you. It will bring tears to my eyes."

-- the late Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa, resident of Kalaupapa for more than 50 years and President of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, 2009-2021

March 21, 2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chairman
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawaii State Legislature, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing: SB3338 SD2, Wed March 23, 2022, at 10:30 am, Room 329

I write in strong support of SB3338 SD2, funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs,

Thank you for your service to the people of Hawai'i and doing your best to make the islands a better place to live. I ask for your support of SB 3338 SD2 which would fund construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial which is being established by our nonprofit organization, Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa.

The Memorial will list the names of each of the nearly 8,000 men, women and children who were taken from their loved ones and sent to Kalaupapa, usually for the rest of their lives, because they were diagnosed with leprosy. The Kalaupapa Memorial has been a longtime desire of many of the people of Kalaupapa, including our late President Boogie Kahilihiwa who spoke tirelessly about the importance of remembering every name and every person.

The professionals advising Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, estimate it will take \$5 million to build the Memorial. If the State Legislature would appropriate this amount, it would come to just \$650 for each person who was sent to Kalaupapa and their families who were left behind, a small price for the pain, sacrifices and courage of all these individuals.

We know that the Legislature faces many decisions regarding projects to fund and there are so many infrastructure and community needs. But we also must remember our past, our collective history and remember the people who overcame so many obstacles and injustices to become, in the words of one Kalaupapa descendant, "The Pride of a Nation."

In these troubling times, we need the Kalaupapa Memorial to bring us hope and we need the history of the people of Kalaupapa to help us meet the challenges that we are already facing. We need our past to carry us into the future.

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa has done an enormous amount of work already in getting to this point. We introduced a bill to the US Congress that passed the House and Senate unanimously -- and was signed into law by President Barack Obama. Nearly every Kalaupapa resident signed a petition of support for the Memorial -- some gave recorded testimonies, others written testimonies. Ka 'Ohana received letters of support from then-Governor Linda Lingle, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu, the Hawai'i Conference of the United Church of Christ, family members and friends.

We have been working diligently ever since on the complicated compliance processes, completing processes required by both the federal and state governments. We have finalized a beautiful and meaningful design of the Memorial that has been applauded by the residents and everyone else who has viewed it. We have approvals from the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the State Land Commission.

We have been assisted by professionals who have donated so much of their time because they, too, believe in the Memorial: Munekiyo & Hiraga, G70 International, Goodfellow Brothers, Umemoto Cassandro Design Corp., Islander Institute and other individuals with expertise in various fields.

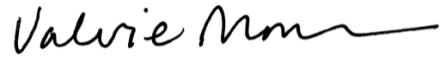
Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa has raised nearly \$450,000 to get the Memorial to where we are today in addition to the estimated \$200,000 in pro-bono work from our professionals. (We have also raised money for our other projects and programs.) We have a fundraising plan to raise \$5 million in private funds for an endowment for maintenance and care of the Memorial so it will always be a place of dignity and respect. We already have a local foundation ready to cover costs for the first few years of maintenance of the Memorial while we raise the endowment.

We hope your Committee will restore the amount of \$5 million originally requested in this bill for construction of the Memorial.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will be a living Memorial. Future generations will be able to touch the name of their ancestor(s) and feel a connection, an energy that will be life-changing for them. Young people will be infused with the pride of being descended from such strong people -- and will go home better prepared to face life's challenges.

We hope you can help us make the dream of so many at Kalaupapa come true. Together, we will forever remember and honor the nearly 8,000 people at Kalaupapa who, despite the odds, showed us strength, resiliency, aloha and the value of community.

Sending all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valerie Monson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Valerie Monson, Executive Director, Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawaii State
Legislature, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2
Wed March 23, 2022 at 10:30 am, Room 329

Dear Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Art and International Affairs (CAI)

We write in support of SB3338 SD2, funding \$5 million for The Kalaupapa Memorial construction.

Over the past decennium, the Damien Archives in Leuven and the Damien Museum in Tremelo (Belgium) have closely been working together with Anwei Law and Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa doing research on the history of Father Damien and of the people who were sent to Molokai.

We were happy to give them free access to our collection in their effort to draw a comprehensive list of all people that were isolated on Kalaupapa in a timespan of more than 100 years. They also assisted us in designing the new display and narrative of the Damien Museum in Tremelo that was opened to the public in 2017, enabling us not only to tell the story of Father Damien, but of all the people he shared his life with on Kalaupapa.

We are writing to you in strong support of SB3338 SD2 which would provide funding for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial. The Memorial will remember and honor the 8,000 men, women, and children forcibly sent and isolated at Kalaupapa. One of them was Father Damien. Remembering his name side by side with the people he lived and died with, is a very powerful way to express our shared history. We also hope that by erecting the memorial present and future generations can pay homage to the people sent to Kalaupapa, find healing, and acknowledge this important part of history.

Therefor we ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully,

Bart Massart, president Board of the Damien Museum in Tremelo, Belgium

Sonia Crabbé, member Board of the Damien Museum in Tremelo, Belgium

Pieter Geens, staff member Damien Museum in Tremelo, Belgium

Patrik Jaspers, staff member Damien Archives in Leuven, Belgium

Ruben Boon, staff member Damien Museum in Tremelo, Belgium and Damien Archives Leuven, Belgium

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 10:25:24 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Keaulani	Living Life Source Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts & International Affairs,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify today, in **strong support** of SB 3338 SD 2, which appropriates funds for the design, planning, and construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial to be expended by the Department of Health.

8,000 innocent individuals were exiled to Kalaupapa and most of them died there and are buried in unmarked graves, separated in life and in death from their parents and families. Yet, we have no sacred site to honor and connect to them and their selfless sacrifices. There is no edifice that speaks their names.

I have humbly stood at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, in Washington, D.C., and lovingly touched the names of the warriors who gave their lives for their country. And, I have read the names that line the wall of honor of the Arizona Memorial, in solemn ceremony. One does not need to know them or be related to them to feel profoundly touched and grateful.

In the same way, the Kalaupapa Memorial will remember and honor these heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice, to alleviate the suffering of others, by their name. Many of them belong to children who were separated from their families, forever, because they had no immunity to the disease. They have been left out of history and their family genealogy and are waiting to be rediscovered. The Memorial will serve as a symbol of justice, a place of healing, family reunification and remembrance, especially, for our `ohana, who still carries the pain of separation, from one generation to the next.

The National Park Service writes of Kalaupapa in this way:

“Few places in the world better illustrate the human capacity for endurance or for charity than the remote Kalaupapa Peninsula on the island of Molokai. The area achieved notoriety when the Kingdom of Hawai'i instituted a century-long policy of forced segregation of persons afflicted with Hansen's disease...On January 6, 1866, the first group of nine men and three women were dropped off at the mouth of Waikolu Valley, the closest accessible point to Kalawao on the southeast side of the peninsula. By October of the same year, 101 men and 41 women had been left to die at Kalawao.”

The law forcing the permanent exile of children, women and men diagnosed with Hansen's Disease would remain in full execution until 1969, when it was finally abolished. Can we even imagine such a fate, today, even as we suffer the greatest pandemic of our time? Absolutely, not.

The Kalaupapa Memorial is a way for us, a civilized and enlightened society, to give these heroes, in death, the dignity and honor that they were denied in life...our deepest gratitude and Aloha.

Ka 'Ohana is requesting funds from the Legislature for construction of the Memorial, and it is raising an additional \$5 million for an endowment to make sure that the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity. The cost, per person, \$625.00, pales in comparison to the price that the residents paid, so that the rest of society could breathe free.

What is the value of a human life, which suffered and died in exile, so that our ancestors and we could survive?

Mahalo nui loa for your leadership and support and for shining a light on Hawai'i's true heroes. Our gratitude will run, for generations.

Aloha nui loa,

Bruce Keaulani, CEO and Kahu



March 21, 2022

Representative Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature, 415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 10:30 am, Room 329

In strong support of SB3338 SD2 – Relating to The Kalaupapa Memorial

Dear Chairperson Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs:

The people of Kalaupapa and Kalawao have been speaking to us for more than 156 years. They have written and signed thousands of letters and petitions, participated in oral history projects, been interviewed for newspaper articles, and testified on numerous occasions before various government agencies.

“I am proud of our people who, although they were taken away from their homes and families, went on to make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of so many others. This is *our* story – a story to be remembered, a story to be treasured, a story to be held close to your hearts.”

– Bernard K. Punikai‘a, International Human Rights Advocate, Composer, Musician
(*Kalaupapa: A Collective Memory*)

The Kalaupapa Memorial is the most important interpretive tool we have to tell an inclusive history of Kalaupapa. Over the last several years, Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa has not only compiled a list of names from several different Department of Health admission records and other sources, but a list of individuals about whom we learn more every day.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will proudly serve as a symbol of justice for the estimated 8,000 individuals sent to Kalaupapa as it returns them to the history of Kalaupapa, the history of their families, the history of Hawai‘i and the history of the world. It is also a symbol of justice for people around the world who have experienced this disease and still face the injustice of prejudice and discrimination.

I have been going to Kalaupapa for over 50 years – since I was 16 years old and a junior at Kalani High School. My father was on the Citizen’s Committee that abolished the century-old isolation policy in 1969. I have conducted more than 200 hours of oral history interviews with the residents of Kalaupapa, some of whom were sent there as early as 1914 and 1915,

IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity, 32 Fall Street, PO Box 651, Seneca Falls, NY 13148; 315-568-5838.

as well as people who have experienced leprosy from around the world. *Kalaupapa: A Collective Memory* is more than 500 pages long and filled with the names of and words of people who were taken from their families, friends and communities because they had leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease. I have just finished editing the Memoirs of Ambrose Kanewalii Hutchison, who was sent to Kalaupapa in 1879, was best friends with Father Damien, worked closely with all the major figures in Kalaupapa's history and lived there for a remarkable 53 years, but who had been left out of his own history until recent years.

"We who are segregated here . . . have made this our homeland."

-- Ambrose Hutchison, Petition from "the oldest resident of Kalaupapa."

Honolulu Star-Bulletin, February 1, 1929

(Yours Faithfully – Ambrose Hutchison. Recollections of Lifetime at Kalaupapa)

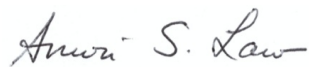
Over a half century of researching the history of leprosy in Hawai'i and working to present this history in the words of the people who experienced it, I have seen two constants: 1) A strong determination on the part of those individuals sent to Kalaupapa that this history and the people who lived it are remembered; 2) An expectation of justice. Petitions and letters expressed the belief that justice would prevail in a situation that was so filled with deep personal pain, separation, and hardship. A song written in Hawaiian (c. 1880s) by the boys of Kalawao and preserved by Ambrose Hutchison talked about "bringing peace to people on earth who desire righteousness."

I strongly urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to support SB3338 so that the final residents of Kalaupapa, the family members of everyone sent there and future generations will be able to personally witness all of the names come back to life and assume their rightful place in their own history.

We love this land, Kalaupapa.
Our pain and loneliness, tears and joys,
Our blood, our bones, our spirit are all here.
We are one with this land!

-- Makia Malo, Excerpt, *Lele Uli – To Dispel Darkness*, Composed for and Performed at the Opening of the "Quest for Dignity" Exhibit at the United Nations, NY, 1997
(Kalaupapa: A Collective Memory)

Sincerely,



Anwei Skinsnes Law, M.P.H.

President for Heritage & Education, IDEA (the largest international human rights organization by and for people who have experienced leprosy)

Director, IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity

Historian, Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

Author, *Kalaupapa: A Collective Memory*

**IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity, 32 Fall Street, PO Box 651, Seneca Falls, NY 13148;
315-568-5838.**

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 8:42:52 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Manuel Kuloloio	Ke Kai O Kuloloi'a	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Hawai'i House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

I write seeking your unanimous support for SB 3338 SD2 A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL to appropriate money to the Department of Health for designing, planning, and construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial, which will list in stone the names of the nearly 8,000 children, women, and men taken from their families and, "to protect public health", forcibly banished for isolation at Kalaupapa.

Our Grandmother Alice Ka'ohiki Akuna remembers of our Kahiapo 'Ohana being taken to Kalaupapa. My father shared of his first travel to Kalaupapa under the auspices of the United Church of Christ. He told me how ministers rode in their own separate vans, but dad chose to ride with the patients.

Uncle Bernard Kaowakaokalani Punikai'a would come to my Grandmother's home in Kahului, Maui, serenading members of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana with his autoharp. I witnessed his care and advocacy for the Kalaupapa residents and saw him on TV trying to protect Hale Mohalu.

I had the privilege to witness the beauty and learn the history of Kalaupapa. landing a Hawaiian canoe on its sandy shoreline en-route from Kahului Harbor to Maunaloa Bay, O'ahu where we were met by Uncle Nainoa Thompson.

With Uncle Richard Marks, I brought select family to Kalaupapa including my youngest sister, nephew, best friend, mother of my two children, and my mentor to learn, to appreciate, to remember, to be in awe, to perpetuate the memory of our Kupuna – many of whom have unmarked graves.

I thank Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa for leading the efforts at memorializing the names and history of these personages with a special monument.

From the Register of Patients at the Hansen's Disease Settlement, Molokai:

LUNA

Ledger Number: 3772

Gender: Male

Nationality: Hawaiian

Age: 11

Date Admitted: April 10, 1889

District: Kuloloia (O'ahu)

Date Died: Mar. 19, 1896

Me Ke Aloha Maluhia,

Manuel Wayne Makahiapo DeCosta Kuloloio



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

March 18, 2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawaii State Legislature, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
[Via email: j.hamada@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Subject: Hearing: SB3338 SD2, Wed March 23, 2022 at 10:30 am, Room 329

Chair Gate, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Art and International Affairs (CAI),

Peace be with you!

I write to support SB3338 SD2 for funding appropriations for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial. I understand that this bill has had positive responses thus far, and I pray that it will be passed, signed, and implemented very soon. Thank you for your efforts in this regard!

As you know, about 8,000 people were sent to Kalaupapa when they were diagnosed with leprosy. They went in sorrow, shame, anger, or despair, but their God-given hope broke through as they made a new life for themselves, forming a new family, and giving of themselves in new ways. This is a story of tragedy turned to hope that can inspire us all in the dark times we often face in life. The Kalaupapa Monument will be a “concrete” way of reminding generations to come of the dignity and the achievement of the human spirit.

The bill you are considering would help a great deal to assure that the beautiful story of Kalaupapa will be told for centuries to come. Thank you very much for your support of it.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Larry Silva
Bishop of Honolulu

March 23, 2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
State Capitol
Honolulu Hawaii 96813

Hearing SB3338 SD2, Wednesday, March 23, 2022, Room 329

I write in STRONG SUPPORT of Senate Bill 3338 SD2

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

My name is DeGray Vanderbilt. I currently serve as a Board member and as Secretary of the Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, a non-profit organization formally established in 2003 and consisting of Kalaupapa residents, their extended ohana and long-time friends of the Kalaupapa community. I have had a bonus privilege of representing Santa Claus at Kalaupapa's annual Christmas party for over a quarter of a century.

My testimony of support for SB3338 SD2 is given remembrance of the many friends I am fortunate to have at Kalaupapa over the years. Many have passed away.

At the beginning of 2021 there were 12 residents living with the right to live at Kalaupapa. Today only 9 remain. In 2021 the community lost three heroes, Makia Malo and Barbara Marks, both founding members of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa and Ka Ohana President, Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa. They, like so many who have passed away would have wanted to be present at the unveiling of the completed Memorial, a tribute to all their brave peers who sacrificed so much for the perceived betterment of society. The Memorial is a long overdue and well deserved honor.



In my support for the heroes exiled to Kalaupapa who suffered injustice, separation from their families and their homes, I cannot help but to reflect on similar tragic events being inflicted on the brave, heroic people of Ukraine. It is meaningful to see their flag present at the Capitol to honor them. Mahalo

The brave Ukrainian people are suffering the sacrifices of war, a similar position Hawaii citizen's sent to Kalaupapa endured as noted by Peter Keola who was sent to Kalaupapa in 1940, who share, " It's good for people to remember who were here before us. It is just like those who went to war and died, there are monuments with their names on it. My mother was also sent to Kalaupapa."

Peter's statement is featured on the one-page Exhibit I have attached . It includes photos of Kalaupapa residents who have passed away along with their strong respective statements each expressed as to why it was important to them to see a completed Memorial in their lifetime.

The exhibit also references a letter dated August 23, 1960 to the residents of Kalaupapa from Helen Keller expressing her following sentiment: "For many years I have read with affection about you and my heart goes out to in this message. You are among the bravest people of whom I know."

I have also attached the testimonies of seven of the nine remaining Kalaupapa residents that submitted at an earlier Committee meeting this session supporting a \$5,000,000 appropriation for the Memorial.

On the State Capitol grounds there are several Memorial. They honor those who gave their lives in the Korean and Vietnam wars, and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice as law enforcement officers, Ironically, there are also two prominent Memorial statues, which grace the entrances to the State Capitol. They honor Father Damien and Queen Liliuokalani, who had a close relationship and a history of serving the people of Kalaupapa. All of these Memorials are well deserved honors. It's now time to honor the people of Kalaupapa with the Memorial they dreamed of having.



The Memorial will include the names of all the approximate 8,000 individuals who were forcibly sent to Kalaupapa. individuals from all walks of life, doctors, husbands, wives, children teachers, legislators, judges, craftsmen, college high school and elementary schools students. This is reflected on a short video on the 'Ohana website (www.kalaupapaohana.org). The video earned a historic preservation award from Historic Hawaii Foundation, one of six such awards the organization has bestowed on Ka 'Ohana for its historic preservation work at Kalaupapa.

Less than 1,000 of the individuals who died at Kalaupapa still have a marked grave that can be identified. Nearly 7,000 rest in unmarked graves and their names are no longer part of the Kalaupapa landscape.

The Most Reverend Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu wrote, " The Memorial would serve as a kind of communal "tombstone" so that all buried on the Peninsula, whether in marked or unmarked groves could be remembered..

The Memorial would also provide family members with a fitting place to pay tribute to their ancestors and find pride and healing. Time is of the essence for this project. The small remaining population is elderly. It would be ideal to establish the Memorial so that the patient residents can see it became a reality."

I noticed in the testimony of Hitoshi Hida from an earlier hearing that he included some beautiful renderings he drew of the Memorial's final design. Below is pictured one of Hitoshi's renderings.



Ka' Ohana has been fortunate to have many highly respected professional firms involved in the Memorial project. These include, among others, G70 International, an award winning design firm of architects and civil engineers; Munekiyo and Hiraga, a planning consultancy and project management firm; Goodfellow Brothers, serving as the contractor for the Memorial project; Umemoto Cassandro Landscape Design Corp; Donald J Stastny, a renowned architect who was involved in coordinating the design development for several major projects including the Flight 93 and Oklahoma City Memorials; R.M.Towill surveyors, who provided all the survey work and maps for the Memorial site; and Carbonaro CPA and Management Group.

Ka 'Ohana will also raise an additional \$5,000,000 from the private sector to establish an endowment fund to ensure that the Memorial will be maintained in a pristine condition in perpetuity. The endowment will also assist to sustain Ka 'Ohana's highly successful "Restoration of Family Ties" program, which has enabled Ka 'Ohana to reconnect over 900 families with their Kalaupapa ancestors.

As noted above, tremendous amount of time, effort and investment has been made to bring the Memorial to the point it's at today. The time to move is now. We are hopeful that your Committee will support the requested \$5,000,000 budgeted for construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial and include it in any version of the Bill you may approve and pass on to the Committee on Finance.

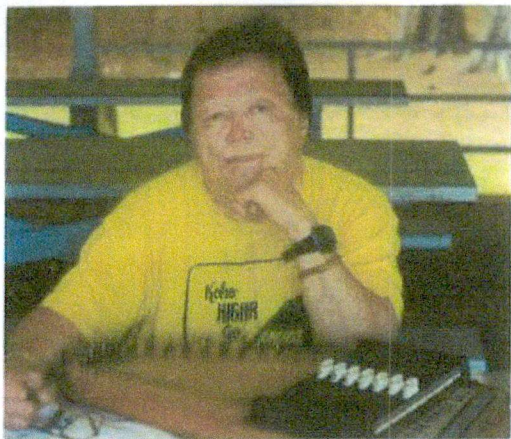
This is a project of Statewide interest and a testament to a dynamic part of our State's history that has continued for over 150 years. The 8,000 Hawaii citizens exiled to Kalaupapa were from all parts of Hawaii with approximately 2,973 coming from Oahu; 2,178 from Hawaii Island; 1671 from Maui; 692 from Kauai; 406 from Molokai; 41 from Niihau and 39 from Lanai.

I respectfully request your support of SB3338 SD2 and the \$5,000,000 budgeted for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial. Mahalo.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "DeGray Vanderbilt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

DeGray Vanderbilt



"You have to hear the voices to feel the people. You have to know their names. If you don't say the names, it's like something has been lost."

— **Bernard K. Punikāi**, a, songwriter, musician and human rights activist, sent to Kalaupapa in 1942.

Photo: Valerie Monson



"When you see all the names on the Memorial, it will be like everyone from Kalawao and Kalaupapa is standing right in front of you. It will bring tears to my eyes."

— **Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa**, President of Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa, taken from his family in 1950 when he was 9, the fourth child his parents were forced to give up.

Photo: Valerie Monson



"I think we deserve to be remembered. We are part of this world. We didn't want to be sent here. It was for the safety of other people that we were put away. Greater love hath no man than to give up his life for a friend. That's what we did."

— **Cathrine Puahala**, sent to Kalaupapa in 1942, a few years after being taken away from her family at age 9.

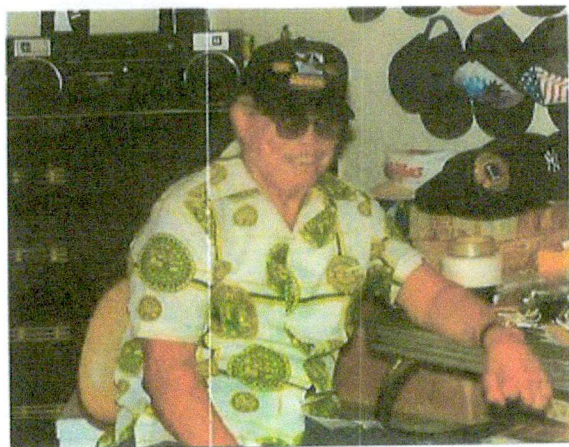
Photo: Valerie Monson

"I want to see a monument honoring the people of Kalaupapa before I die."

I want to see all the names. These people are my friends—even though many of them died before I came here and I didn't know them personally, in spirit we are all together. I know their hearts and souls."

— **Olivia Breitha**, author, sent to Kalaupapa in 1937. Mrs. Breitha died in 2006 on the day that these very words were read into the Congressional record in Washington D.C.

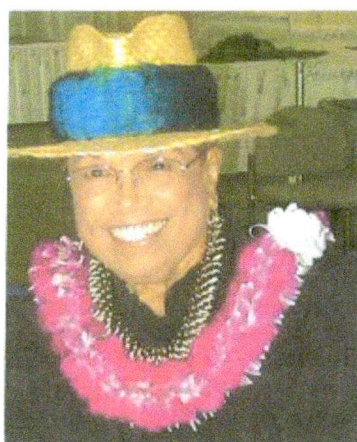
Photo: Valerie Monson



"It is good for people to remember who were here before us. It is just like those who went to war and died, there are monuments with their names on it. My mother was also sent to Kalaupapa."

— **Peter Keola Jr.**, tour driver and musician, sent to Kalaupapa in 1940.

Photo: Valerie Monson



"Everybody's name. ... I want to see their names on the Memorial. ... I want my children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren to know that we were here."

— **Kuulei Bell** postmistress, first President of Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa, sent to Kalaupapa in 1956.

Photo: DeGray Vanderbilt

RESIDENTS EXPRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF THEM BEING ABLE TO SEE THE NAMES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE COMPLETED KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL

In a letter to Kalaupapa Residents Helen Keller wrote the following in 1960
"You are among the bravest people of whom I know"

All the "brave people" pictured will not be present when the completed Memorial is unveiled; Olivia passed away in 2006, Peter in 2007, Cathrine in 2008, Kuulei and Bernard in 2009 and most recently, Boogie in 2021.

February 10, 2022

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairman, Labor, Culture and the
Arts Committee

**SB3338: Providing \$5 million for construction of The
Kalaupapa Memorial**
Monday, February 14, 3:10 p.m., Room 325

I write in strong support of SB3338

Aloha Chairman Taniguchi and members of the Labor, Culture
and Arts Committee,

My name is Pauline Ahulau Chow. I have been a resident of
Kalaupapa for 60 years. Three of my sisters who were sent to
Kalaupapa before me are buried there.

The Kalaupapa Memorial is very important to me. I hope you
help us make it happen.

I was a founding member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa in 2003.
Ka 'Ohana was the idea of Bernard Punikai'a, one of the great
leaders of our people. That first meeting of Ka 'Ohana brought
together Kalaupapa patients, family members and our friends
who often visit. It was an exciting time of knowing we could
make a difference together -- and knowing that our families and
friends would carry on for us in the future.

Since 2008, I have served on the Board of Directors of Ka
'Ohana; in 2009 I was elected as Vice President and have served
in that office ever since.

It was at the first 'Ohana meeting in 2003 when we all decided
that the Kalaupapa Memorial should be a priority of our new
organization. We have been working on plans for the Memorial
ever since. We are now looking at construction of the Memorial
and truly hope this Committee will support this funding to honor
and remember all the people of Kalaupapa who had to leave our

families to make new lives for ourselves.

I especially want to see the names of all the people who went before me, people who suffered far greater than I did. Many of those people never saw their families again. I also want to see the names of my sisters and other Ahulau 'ohana; the name of my late husband and the names of so many of my friends who have died at Kalaupapa.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to share my thoughts. I want to be able to attend the dedication of The Kalaupapa Memorial and see all of these names for myself.

Mahe,
Pauline Chao

February 10, 2022

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairman, Labor, Culture and the Arts Committee

SB3338: Providing \$5 million to build The Kalaupapa Memorial

Monday, February 14, 3:10 p.m., Room 325

We write in strong support of SB3338

Aloha Chairman Taniguchi and members of the Labor, Culture and Arts Committee,

We are all longtime residents of Kalaupapa who were taken from our families and isolated under the old laws regarding people affected by leprosy/Hansen's disease. Our respective ages are 97, 91 and 86.

We want to see the names of everyone who was sent to Kalaupapa engraved on The Kalaupapa Memorial. We want to see the Memorial dedicated while we are still living. Please help us.

The Kalaupapa community has wanted a Memorial since 1985. The Memorial was the idea of the late Paul Harada, husband of one of the signers of this letter, who was sent to Kalaupapa in 1945. Paul felt the people of Kalaupapa had sacrificed their freedom and so many rights to protect the health of others in the community. He felt everyone should be remembered.

When Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa organized in 2003, those of us who were founding members of the 'Ohana agreed that one of our priorities would be to establish a Memorial that would list the names of everyone sent here. Most of the people who came before us no longer have marked tombstones -- their families are always disappointed not to see the names of their ancestors.

The Memorial will forever remember each and every name with dignity. All the names will be together as they should be. Future generations will find the names of their ancestors on the Memorial and hopefully feel a sense of healing and pride.

We are getting older, our numbers are getting fewer and we want to see the Memorial. Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa has been working hard on completing the needed compliance, obtaining the needed permits and working with others to see this Memorial brought to life. We all love the design of the Memorial and we all strongly support the site where it will be located.

Please help make the Memorial possible and pass SB3338 to provide \$5 million to fund construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Soy K. Kahilikawa

John O. O'Connell

To: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chairman, Labor, Culture and the Arts Committee
From: Kalaupapa residents at Leahi Hospital, Hale Mohalu

Re: SB3338: Providing \$5 million to build The Kalaupapa Memorial

Hearing: Monday, February 14, 3:10 p.m., Room 325

We write in strong support of SB3338

Aloha Chairman Taniguchi and members of the Labor, Culture and Arts Committee,

We are residents of Kalaupapa currently at Hale Mohalu at Leahi Hospital on Oahu. We have been excited to read all the recent coverage of Kalaupapa Month and about a bill to fund construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial being introduced to the Hawai'i State Legislature.

We urge this Committee to pass on this bill. We want to see the Memorial built during our lifetimes; we want to see all the names of 8,000 people who were forced to leave their families, most of them being sent to Kalaupapa.

We have all lived at Kalaupapa for many years. We have experienced the injustices, the lack of freedom and other aspects of life that most people in Hawai'i take for granted. Still, we have overcome those circumstances and have found our own blessings.

We know that the people who were sent to Kalaupapa long before us had much more to overcome -- these are the people whose names are still not as well known, people whose families have yet to learn about them. The Kalaupapa Memorial will make sure that the names of all of us are always remembered.

Thank you for caring about the people of Kalaupapa, our families and the importance of remembering our names and our lives.

With respect,

Gloria T. Marks
Nakia T. Aala

Sebastiana Fernandez

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 10:49:14 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Lapilio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good afternoon, Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 3338 for funding of the Kalaupapa Memorial. My great-grandfather, Bonepake Lapilio, was sent to Kalaupapa in 1889 at the age seven with his sister, Mary. My great-grandfather lived long enough to be found free of leprosy in 1909 and by the time he left Kalaupapa in 1917, he had married and with my great-grandmother, Louisa Lui, had seven children. They lived challenging but full lives. In contrast, my great-grandaunt, Mary died in Kalaupapa a few years after arriving. My family knows where my great-grandfather and great-grandmother are buried. He is buried at Diamond Head Memorial Park on Oahu. She is buried in Kalaupapa. While we can visit Bonepake often, our visits to Louisa Lui are less so. We have no idea where aunty Mary rests. The Kalaupapa Memorial provides a way for her to be remembered. There are thousands of others sent to Kalaupapa who are in the same situation. There people were sent to Kalaupapa by a misguided government policy that forced them from families, friends and communities that loved them. They will be forgotten unless we build this memorial to etch their names as a testament and a reminder for us and for future generations. We owe them this. Please support SB3338. Again, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

March 17, 2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Hearing: SB3338 SD2, Wed March 23, 2022 at 10:30 am, Room 329

I write in SUPPORT of SB3338 SD2 funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Art and International Affair (CAI);

I am writing in support of SB3338 SD2, funding \$5,000,000 for the Kalaupapa Memorial construction. I respectfully request endorsement from this Committee to include the amount of \$5,000,000 budgeted for the construction of the Memorial in the approved version of this bill for final consideration by the House Finance Committee.

I am the great, great granddaughter of a Kalaupapa patient who was banished to Kalaupapa for the remainder of her life, removed from her loved-ones to be placed in permanent quarantine over a misunderstood and unfamiliar health condition. In addition, my late parents, Donald Reeser, retired National Park Service Superintendent of Haleakalā National Park, and Bunnie Reeser, both of the Big Island and Maui, worked tirelessly to bring this memorial to fruition and honor the patients who were forcibly sent to Kalaupapa, as well as the families who experienced such devastating loss throughout Hawai'i nei.

Mahalo for your consideration.

With warm regards,

/Cheryl Reeser/

Cheryl Ku'ulei Reeser
Makawao, Maui



*Donald Reeser, Haleakalā National Park
Superintendent, 1988-2005*

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 3:16:57 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tessa Munekiyo Ng	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Tessa Munekiyo Ng and I am a member of the Kalaupapa Memorial Design Committee. I have been working with the Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa for many years to help make this important Memorial a reality.

I am writing in strong support of SB 3338 which would provide \$5 million for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial.

The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed by President Barack Obama in 2009, authorizing Ka ‘Ohana to establish the Memorial. Since that time, the ‘Ohana has been involved in federal and state compliance processes, assembled a strong Memorial Committee that produced a beautiful and meaningful design for the Memorial, compiled the names of nearly 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa, and developed a fundraising strategy. The names of the people of Kalaupapa have been mostly forgotten over the years and left out of the history that they helped to create. The Kalaupapa Memorial will make certain that they will be forever remembered and returned to the history of Kalaupapa and their family histories. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names.

We humbly ask for your support of SB3338 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Tessa Munekiyo Ng

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawaii State Legislature, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing: SB3338 SD2, Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 10:30AM, Room 329

I write in support of SB3338 SD2 funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Art and International Affair (CAI)

My name is Susan Woo Smith. I am the great-granddaughter of Wong Chew, who was taken from his family in 1931 and forced to reside in Kalaupapa from 1935 until his death in 1939.

In 2016, I began a journey to learn about my great-grandfather. At the time, I didn't even know his name, as little was ever spoken about him. I only knew he had been taken from his family by "Men in white coats." His neighbors all thought he was taken to an insane asylum, and his family thought it better to remain quiet rather than share the truth and stigma of his disease. I have since come to know Wong Chew as a successful businessman, husband, and father of thirteen children. The street where he resided in Honolulu was named for him and the other resident who lived on the street.

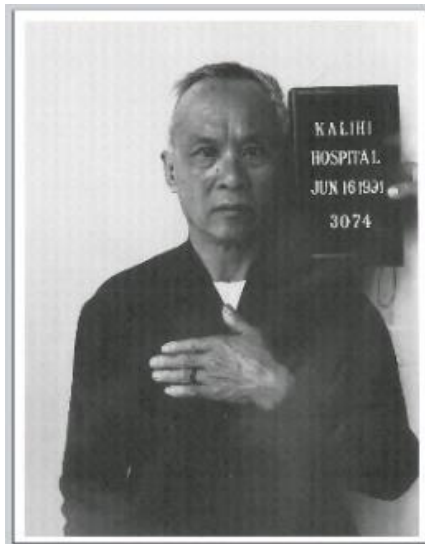
Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa helped me throughout my journey. In 2018, I went to Kalaupapa to pay homage to my great-grandfather. I anticipated a trip of great sadness; but instead, I discovered Kalaupapa, a community of people whose strength and courage built a community. The shame and embarrassment that was once associated with my great-grandfather has been replaced with pride. It brought Wong Chew's name back to light, no longer hidden from our history.

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa traveled to California and displayed wonderful exhibits, sharing the history of Kalaupapa and the dynamics of the Kalaupapa Memorial at Ho'olaule'a, hosted by Hawaiian Inter-Club Council of Southern California. It is the largest Hawaiian Festival in Southern California. Ka' Ohana O Kalaupapa's professional presentation was well attended, informative and appreciated by all.

The Memorial will provide dignity for the 8,000 men, women, and children forcibly sent and isolated at Kalaupapa and will remember and honor them by name. The Memorial will be a place where present and future generations can pay homage to the people sent to Kalaupapa, find healing, and where all can acknowledge this important part of history.

I ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial and humbly request that you re-insert the \$5,000,000 amount budgeted for the Memorial's construction back into the bill you are considering for approval before it is passed on to the Finance Committee. The \$5,000,000 amount was included in earlier versions of the bill supported by the residents of Kalaupapa and the many others providing support testimonies. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Susan Woo Smith
Great-Granddaughter of Wong Chew



Summary sheet for Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs hearing on SB3338 SD2 appropriations for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawaii State Legislature, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing SB3338 SD2, Wed March 23, 2022 at 10:30am, Room 329

I write in Support of SB3338 SD2 funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Art and International Affair (CAI),

My name is Tanya Leong and my wish is for you to support this funding to create the memorial at Kalaupapa. It has such a deep history with the Hawaiian Islands. It helped foster two Saints and took care of my uncle in a time where Leprosy was a stigma. My Uncle Herbert Hayase was sent to Kalaupapa because he had Leprosy. He was born and raised in Hana, Maui with my grandma, Chieko (Joyce) Hayase (Masunaga) and their six other brothers and sisters. I never learned too much about him because I knew he was neither on Maui or Oahu, like most of our family was. While I was learning about Hawaiian History in school and I learned about Kalaupapa, my grandma told me, "Your uncle is there." I was in shock, I didn't think it affected any of our family members. I asked her so many questions about when and why. I remember her telling me at that time, everyone thought you could catch it and die, so they shipped people off. He was taken away from his family, friends, and home. He was lucky, his Leprosy was not as severe as others, but he still had to be taken away, to never return until they were allowed off the island and even then, I think I remember my grandma saying they needed permission. I remember hearing that Uncle Herbert had to swim to land. The captains didn't want to land on shore, so they stayed far out, and had them jump off the boat. If you didn't know how to swim, you drowned. My Uncle Herbert, coming from a fisherman family, knew how to swim and made it, but it must have made him feel horrible to not be able to save all those people who couldn't swim. He, like my grandma and siblings, had big hearts. They always gave and never took in return. During his time there, he got married and became the postmaster, which is why he collected stamps. When they were finally able to leave, my uncle decided to stay. All his friends were there and his wife was there. His wife May was from Oahu and actually a teacher before she got Leprosy and was sent to Kalaupapa. She was sent to never return home, she passed away almost a decade after she was taken there. What I learned about my uncle, I learned from my grandma. Many of her stories were up until he was taken away. She didn't know too much because, I think, my uncle didn't want to share what went on there. I know he was very smart, athletic, and "talked plenty" according to my grandma. Whenever he was on Oahu to go to the doctors, my grandma and aunty would always go visit him and talk about the "good 'ol days." People were taken from their families, friends, homes, and way of life from all islands. My uncle and aunty were from two different islands. I was not lucky enough to go to Kalaupapa to see where he lived and what he did while he was alive. When I finally am able to go, I would love to see a memorial for all the Kalaupapa residents to show my son. This is a place of history, our history. A memorial will help everyone know that Kalaupapa is a place of

significance. It is a place connected to my history and I am very grateful I was able to learn about my uncle, while others never got the chance. This memorial will honor all of those who came and never left and those who came and were able to leave. This memorial will memorialize all the people from all islands who were forced to be there because they had Leprosy. Please consider supporting the bill SB3338 SD2, for the memorial that will last for many generations.

Thank you for your time,
Tanya Leong

Patrick Boland
45-665 Uhilehua St.
Kaneohe, HI 96744
March 19, 2022

To: Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

Date: Wednesday Mar 23, 2022

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 329

Re: SB 3338 SD1 Relating to the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am Patrick Boland, a long-time friend of Kalaupapa and its people, and an occasional driver/guide for a patient-operated tour business there.

Between 1866 and 1969 approximately 8000 of our brothers and sisters thought to have leprosy were banished to Kalaupapa. They were deprived of their freedom and gave the rest of their lives for the benefit of the rest of us – for our perceived safety.

In 2008, through SCR 298, the Legislature recognized our debt to them. The resolution acknowledged the people of Kalaupapa and their families and apologized for harsh government policies. A copy of the resolution is attached.

This is an appropriate time to implement the findings of the resolution and repay the debt in a concrete way. Funding the Kalaupapa Memorial is a way to do this. The honor is long overdue.

It is also simply a matter of justice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted

Patrick Boland

Attachment: SCR 298 SD1 from 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING, ACKNOWLEDGING, AND EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE PEOPLE OF KALAUPAPA AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THEIR GREAT SACRIFICES AND HARDSHIPS AS A RESULT OF THEIR FORCED ISOLATION, WHICH AT THE TIME WAS BELIEVED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, AND APOLOGIZING TO THE PEOPLE OF KALAUPAPA AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR ANY HARSH RESTRICTIONS THAT CAUSED THEM UNDUE PAIN AS THE RESULT OF FORMER GOVERNMENT POLICIES SURROUNDING LEPROSY.

WHEREAS, from 1866 to 1969, an estimated 8,000 citizens of Hawai'i were forced to leave their families and to be isolated, most often on the Kalaupapa peninsula, because of society's fear of leprosy (also known as Hansen's disease); and

WHEREAS, these individuals were mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters who were separated at all ages, from very young to very old; and

WHEREAS, for many of these residents, the separation was permanent, yet, because they felt they were protecting the general public from a disease that was not curable until the 1940s, most people diagnosed with leprosy willingly made this greatest of sacrifices; and

WHEREAS, these sacrifices were made because these heroic individuals did not want anyone else to experience this disease, which was not only physically painful, but also emotionally difficult to bear; and

WHEREAS, despite being exiled by their own government and suffering great deprivations and injustices throughout much of

their lives, the people of Kalaupapa have been remarkably resilient and have responded to their situations with kindness, generosity, and forgiveness rather than anger, bitterness, and despair; and

WHEREAS, the families of those sent to Kalaupapa also suffered unimaginable pain; and

WHEREAS, fathers and mothers were forced to take their unsuspecting children diagnosed with leprosy to a designated facility and leave them there, resulting in farewells of agony and sorrow; and

WHEREAS, those same parents would later watch from the docks as their children were loaded onto the ships destined for Kalaupapa, possibly the last time they would see one another; and

WHEREAS, children born to the people of Kalaupapa were immediately taken away at birth and grew up with other relatives or in orphanages, and, if they were fortunate, would eventually get to know their parents, but not until they were nearly adults or older; and

WHEREAS, relationships between parents and children could be difficult to establish and maintain because of the forced separation; and

WHEREAS, the Kalaupapa residents and their families have mostly accepted their circumstances throughout the years and put their lives back together as best they could; and

WHEREAS, the government has maintained Kalaupapa for the last remaining residents as long as they choose to remain there, and provides for their medical, food, and housing needs; and

WHEREAS, there has never been an official acknowledgement to the people of Kalaupapa for all that they did and the exemplary manner in how they have lived their lives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature recognizes, acknowledges, and expresses gratitude to the people of Kalaupapa and their families for their sacrifices, for thinking more of the public than of themselves, for giving up

freedoms and opportunities the rest of society takes for granted, for rebuilding their lives with pride and dignity, for overcoming prejudice and discrimination, and for consistently reaching out to others in need; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while with the adoption of this measure, the Legislature does not confer any legal cause of action or any legal rights, remedies, relief, restitution, or reparations on any person, it nonetheless apologizes for the past actions against, and treatment of, past and current residents of Kalaupapa; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this overdue action be issued with the utmost respect and admiration for those remaining Kalaupapa residents, the descendents of those who have died and family members who all have endured separation from loved ones and the anguish that came with it, with the hope that if any quarantine or isolation is necessary in the future to protect public health and safety, it will be used only with appropriate safeguards to protect every individual's dignity and rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to all the residents of Kalaupapa, Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa, the Governor, the Director of Health, and the Superintendent of Kalaupapa National Historical Park.

Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates Chair
Rep. Adrian K. Tam Vice Chair
Culture, Arts, and International Affairs Committee
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB3338-SD2

Hearing: March 23, 2022, 10:30 a.m.
Room 329, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB3338-SD2, Requests that the State Legislature allocate funding for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair Adrian K. Tam and Members of Culture, Arts, and International Affairs Committee

My name is Colin Brede. I am the nephew of David Kalani Kaluai Brede (1933-2009) and Jimmy Aheana Brede (1929-2016) who was taken from their loved ones and sent to Kalaupapa 15 May 1942 at the young ages of 9 and 13. David and Jimmy are siblings of my father John P Brede (1930-2017).

I am writing in strong support of SB3338-SD2 which would fund construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial. Our 'Ohana has been working on this essential most important project since the Kalaupapa residents asked us, to establish a Memorial at Kalaupapa that would list the names of everyone sent there.

Uncle David is buried in the catholic section at Kalaupapa with a headstone marking his grave site. Uncle Jimmy and his wife Aunty Nancy ashes was spread in Kalaupapa Bay 2016.

The names of the people of Kalaupapa have been mostly forgotten over the years and left out of the history that they helped to create. Their lifelong sorrow of being exiled to Kalaupapa will serve as a place of connection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names. It is for the generations of those to come to escapes one's memory their sacrifices and suffering, in comparison to our current COVID-19 protocols of days in quarantine compared to a lifelong of banishment to Kalaupapa.

The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed by President Barack Obama in 2009, authorizing Ka 'Ohana to establish the Memorial. I 'am an active member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, we have been involved in federal and state compliance processes, assembled a strong Memorial Committee that produced a beautiful and meaningful design for the Memorial, compiled the names of nearly 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa, and developed a fundraising strategy. Ka 'Ohana is also raising \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

I respectfully request the sum of \$5,000,000 be re-inserted into Section 1 of SB3338-SD2 as it moves forward.

My Family the Brede's and Apio's, humbly ask for your support of SB3338-SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin K Brede

Nephew of David Brede, Jimmy Brede, and Nancy Brede

Member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

Friend of Rotary Club of Mililani Sunrise

ckbrede@hawaii.rr.com

Uncle Jimmy & Aunty Nancy Brede



SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 8:00:38 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monica Morris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and members of the House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs,

I am in strong support of SB3338 SD2, which proposes funding for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

My name is Monica Morris. My grandfather is Alfred Clement Hoopii, who at the age of 23 was taken from his young wife and daughter and removed to Kalaupapa in 1927. He passed away four years later.

Alfred Hoopii's daughter, my mother, rarely spoke about her father. She does remember going to Honolulu Harbor as a young girl, and along with her mother, waving to her father as he left on a ship. They would never see him again. Father Damien of Kalaupapa, now St. Damien, became a source of comfort to my mother throughout her life.

My search to learn more about my grandfather began in earnest in 1990. I have visited Kalaupapa three times. I have not located my grandfather's tombstone or gravesite, and believe he is buried in an unmarked grave. My visits to Kalaupapa have been profound, and I have met proud, courageous and resilient people who built their community, and who live with joy and dignity. Ka 'Ohana o Kalaupapa has been a vast resource in my search for information, and has become my loving and extended 'ohana. I believe so wholeheartedly in it's mission, which includes sharing information and promoting healing, that I became a member of its Board of Directors in 2021. We ask for your support of SB3338 SD2, which would fund the Kalaupapa Memorial and honor the 8,000 men, women and children who were removed to Kalaupapa, their families that were left behind, and their descendants. The Memorial would also honor my grandfather and others who are buried in unmarked graves. It would also memorialize an important part of Hawaii's history, which should never be forgotten.

I respectfully ask your Committee to reinsert the original \$5,000,000 appropriation, and to pass this measure out of your Committee. Mahalo nui loa.

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 11:01:42 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kalei Dagulo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT OF SB3338 SD2 funding for construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and members of the Culture, Arts and International Affairs Committee.

My name is Kalei Dagulo and I am a descendant of Lizzie Long my great-great-grand- aunt who was sent to Kalaupapa at the age of 12 years old. She does not have a tombstone along with many others that were sent to Kalaupapa and the memorial is a way to honor and remember them.

The memorial will also provide closure for families that were separated so many years ago and provide a place for families to reconnect, reflect and remember those who lived at Kalaupapa.

I am also a former Board member of Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa and I strongly support SB3338 SD2 which would provide funding to construct the memorial, that is budgeted at \$5,000,000. Mahalo for your time and consideration!

Mahalo,

Kalei Dagulo, daguloohana@hawaii.rr.com

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawaii State Legislature, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Hearing: SB3338 SD2, Wed March 23, 2022 at 10:30 am, Room 329

Hearing: SB3338 SD2, Wed March 23, 2022 at 10:30 am, Room 329

I write in Support of SB3338 SD2 funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs (CAI)

My name is Marcia Weight Lyons. My father, Edward Weight, was born in Kalaupapa, taken from his parents who he never knew, and lived his childhood in an orphanage and foster homes. My grandparents, Marcia Ka-ne Weight and Harold Weight, who were sent to Kalaupapa, and two of their five children are buried there.

I am writing in support of SB3338 SD2 which would provide \$5 million to fund construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial. *Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa* has been working on this project at the request of Kalaupapa residents who expressed their desire to establish a Memorial in Kalaupapa that would list the names of those sent there as a way to remember and honor them.

I have been a member of, and a volunteer with *Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa* for over a decade and I have had multiple opportunities to hear Kalaupapa residents share their stories, feelings, and thoughts on what it would mean to them to have this memorial built. I feel that they speak for my family and all of those who lived and died in Kalaupapa since 1866.

My Dad was 81 years old when he connected with *Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa* and met other families with Kalaupapa connections. I saw my Dad come to a new awareness of who he was. Through his involvement with *Ka 'Ohana* members and visits to Kalaupapa he had a sense of belonging to a place and a new understanding of his own family. This is why I know that the Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection and healing for descendants.

Please support SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Mahalo,
Marcia Weight Lyons
marciL.email@gmail.com

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chairman
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2

Hearing: Wed., March 23, 2022, 10:30 a.m.
Room 329, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB3338 SD2, funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs (CAI),

My name is Jason Umemoto. I was a long serving member on the Board of Directors of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa and have continued serving as the Chairperson of the Kalaupapa Memorial Committee. My involvement is directly related to my relationship with my grand-uncle Ed Kato, who was a long-time resident-patient at Kalaupapa. The Committee is comprised of current residents, descendants, 'Ohana members and dedicated professional consultants all seeking to realize this dream to provide a touchstone to ancestors and celebrate their community.

I am writing in strong support of SB 3338 SD2. I am also requesting that the CAI Committee members approve the bill and specifically include the \$5,000,000 amount budgeted for the construction of the Memorial. I would strongly support the budget amount in an approved version of the bill reaching a final hearing at the House Finance Committee. So many individuals, companies and organizations have contributed to the Memorial design and fundraising process and it is critical that we finally provide recognition to this community.

The names of the people of Kalaupapa have been mostly forgotten over the years and left out of the history that they helped to create. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names. In particular, my Uncle Ed spoke to me about the idea of a memorial for many years when it was just an idea being carried by the community to try and establish a way to memorialize the community and dramatic history of the peninsula.

We humbly ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Umemoto
Chair, Kalaupapa Memorial Committee

3 Generations of
Descendants and
family at my Uncle
Ed's front porch,
Kalaupapa



My family at the
famous painted
stones of ed Kate
greeting residents
and visitors in the
Kalaupapa
community



2744 Lower Lake Road
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

March 21, 2022

Representative Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature, 415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, March 23, 10:30 am, Room 329

To Chairperson Gates, Vice-Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

I strongly support SB3338 SD2 that will fund the construction of the The Kalaupapa Memorial.

I first visited Kalaupapa in 1977 as an historical architect with the National Park Service. I was part of a month long effort to review the condition of some 400 structures and buildings and make recommendations on repair needs including rough cost estimates. This was part of a legislated planning effort to determine the feasibility of having Kalaupapa designated as part of the National Park System.

Kalaupapa National Historical Park (NHP) was authorized by an act of Congress and signed into law in December 1980. I was hired in 1982 as the first and only permanent NPS employee until Kalaupapa NHP received its first annual appropriations in fiscal year 1985. At that time I was appointed the first Superintendent. Having lived in the settlement more than five years, three years of which I was the only NPS employee, I became part of the community. I made several life long friends while living there, most of whom have passed away. In conversations with the residents about what they felt was most important for the National Park Service to focus on, they overwhelmingly said that they wanted to see the graveyards cleared and all of the graves taken care of. It was clear that they wanted to be remembered and wanted those who had come before them to be remembered.

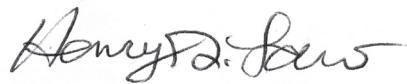
Clearing the graves is a way to honor both the past and present residents and it became the top priority for the NPS when I was Superintendent. However, there are only a little more than 1,000 identified graves at Kalaupapa out of an estimated 8,000 people who were sent there.

There is a field next to Father Damien's Church and across the road from the chosen site for the Kalaupapa Memorial that reportedly contains 2,000 unmarked graves. The Kalaupapa Memorial will honor all of these individuals and ensure that every person who was sent to Kalaupapa is remembered and included in their own history. The Kalaupapa Memorial will serve to remember their lives and legacies for the education and inspiration of present and future generations.

With 26 years experience working for the NPS, I am very familiar with the National Park Service's policies regarding memorials and monuments within National Park sites. So was Don Reeser, who

served as Superintendent of Haleakala National Park for many years. However, we both also recognized that Kalaupapa is still in its historic period and that the wishes of the residents should be honored as part of Kalaupapa's ongoing history. Don Reeser (who has since passed away) and I have both worked closely with Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa on plans for the Kalaupapa Memorial in order to see that the wishes of the people of Kalaupapa, past and present, are respected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry G. Law". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Henry" being more prominent and the last name "Law" following in a similar style.

Henry G. Law

First Superintendent, Kalaupapa National Historical Park

Photograph Specialist, IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity

hlaw@idealeprosodydignity.org; 315-224-3415

March 22, 2022

Testimony of Lorna Catalani, Granddaughter of Leon Nono, deceased

Before the Hawai'i State Legislature Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

In Support of SB 3338, SD2, relating to funding for construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs:

Leon Nono was born Valentine Cabebe. On September 4, 1941, Leon Nono received the attached letter from the Territory of Hawaii Board of Hospitals and Settlement, informing him that he was "to be transferred to Kalaupapa" aboard the "S.S. Hawaii". My name is Lorna Catalani, and I am the very proud granddaughter of Leon Nono.

Our Pops was sent to Kalaupapa at the age of 36 and lived his life there for 62 years. Kalaupapa was his home, and while he came to love his home and found peace there, he also found it to be at times very lonely and isolated. If not for his many, many friends that he (and our family) considered family, Pops would not have survived the effects of total isolation and would have undoubtedly died from his disease.

Pops truly was a special man – he was smart, funny, generous, loving and had the most infectious laugh you ever heard. I am thankful to have had spent many years with him at his home on Kalaupapa. I loved caring for Pops - listening to baseball with him while he told me stories of fishing spots, laughing at jokes that were just between us, and getting chicken skin every time he would retell being saved by God. I also saw how much Pops cared for his family and experienced firsthand how much he, and all the people of Kalaupapa, persevered despite their disabilities.

Our extended family spans thousands of miles, and although I have been graced with my grandfather's love, many of his other grandchildren were not blessed with this experience, and it is my duty to honor him by passing on his story to the rest of our family. Kalaupapa and its history are a huge part of who I am. The people, all of whom I consider my family, have in one way or another impacted my life, deserve to be honored as well.

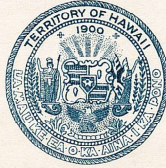
Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa is requesting that the State Legislature allocate \$5 million for construction of the Memorial. Ka 'Ohana is also raising \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will remember and honor all the people of Kalaupapa in their individual names; be a way to help preserve the legacies of thousands of men, women and children; and keep alive the important history of Kalaupapa.

I humbly ask for your support of SB 3338, SD2, to provide funding for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorna Catalani (*lcatalani1160@yahoo.com*)



TERRITORY OF HAWAII
BOARD OF HOSPITALS AND SETTLEMENT
HONOLULU

September 4, 1941

Mr. Leon Nono
Kalihi Hospital
Honolulu, T. H.

Dear Mr. Nono:

I wish to inform you that you are to be transferred to Kalaupapa on September 22, 1941 on the S. S. "Hawaii" leaving Honolulu at 9:00 a. m. making a direct trip arriving there at about 3:00 p. m.

Sincerely yours,

H. A. Kluegel, Superintendent
of Hospitals and Settlement

gh

cc-Attend. Phys. K. Hosp.
Matron, K. Hosp.

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 9:19:58 AM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wally Inglis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rep. Cedric Gates, Chair,

Rep. Adrian Tam, Vice-Chair, and

Members of the House Committee on Cuulture, Arts & International Affairs:

My name is Wally Inglis, and I come before your committee in strong support of SB 3338 SDD.

I will keep this brief and stand on the testimony I submitted to the two Senate Committees which have already put their stamp of approval on this bill. I urge you to return the original amount requested, \$5 million, to the bill. The people of Kalaupapa, along with their families and friends, have waited a long time to see this Congress-approved project come to fruition. In solidarity with these good people I want to "see the names" of the thousands of people who have lived and died at Kalaupapa over the past generations.

Please pass this bill on to the Committee on Finance with your strong recommendations of approval.

Aloha,

Wally Inglis

Palolo Valley

Representative Cedric Asuega Gates , Chair, Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

Bill Number: SB 3338 SD2 Memorial Funding

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

I write in SUPPORT of SB 3338 for Construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

My name is Patricia Leilani Shimomoto, 3x great granddaughter of John Ernstberger, a German immigrant, who lived at Kalaupapa from his admission on October 18, 1868 until his death on January 3, 1875. As family members of one of the earliest residents of Kalaupapa, my family and I (mother – Harriet Roselani Paresa Veneri – and sisters – Glorianne Katherine Garza and Lisa Marie Veneri Stewart) strongly support the proposal put forth by the Board of Directors of Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa to construct a memorial in honor of the 8000 men, women & children who lived and died there.

With the help of Ka ‘Ohana O Kalaupapa, our family was able to piece together the story of John Ernstberger, who made his living as a blacksmith at Kalaupapa where he resided with his Hawaiian wife Luka & youngest son Peter. I find it difficult to imagine the hardships they endured at the time, especially since the settlement had been established in 1866, only 2 years prior to their arrival. As exiles, I’m sure they had no choice but to make the best of their lives at Kalaupapa, but how sad they must have been to separate from their older children living on Maui & Oahu. One of the saddest realizations I had during our visit was learning that most of the people who died there, including my 3X great grandfather, are not even buried in properly marked graves; instead, due to the sheer numbers, most were laid to rest in mass graves in the great field next to St. Damien’s Church. Although we were grateful to visit Kalaupapa in November 2015 and to pay homage at the ahu, construction of a permanent memorial would surely be a fitting tribute to our ancestors who lived and died at Kalaupapa.

I humbly ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to fund the Kalaupapa Memorial, and to please re-insert the \$5,000,000 amount budgeted for construction which was in the versions of SB3338. Mahalo for your consideration!

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Shimomoto 99-152 Waipao Place Aiea, HI 96701 pattyshimo@outlook.com

Patrick Boland
45-665 Uhilehua St.
Kaneohe, HI 96744
March 19, 2022

To: Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

Date: Wednesday Mar 23, 2022

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 329

Re: SB 3338 SD2 Relating to the Kalaupapa Memorial Construction appropriation

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am Patrick Boland, a long-time friend of Kalaupapa and its people, and an occasional driver/guide for a patient-operated tour business there.

Between 1866 and 1969 approximately 8000 of our brothers and sisters thought to have leprosy were banished to Kalaupapa. They were deprived of their freedom and gave the rest of their lives for the benefit of the rest of us – for our perceived safety.

In 2008, through SCR 298, the Legislature recognized our debt to them. The resolution acknowledged the people of Kalaupapa and their families and apologized for harsh government policies. A copy of the resolution is attached.

This is an appropriate time to implement the findings of the resolution and repay the debt in a concrete way. Funding the Kalaupapa Memorial is a way to do this. The honor is long overdue.

It is also simply a matter of justice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted

Patrick Boland

Attachment: SCR 298 SD1 from 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING, ACKNOWLEDGING, AND EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE PEOPLE OF KALAUPAPA AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THEIR GREAT SACRIFICES AND HARDSHIPS AS A RESULT OF THEIR FORCED ISOLATION, WHICH AT THE TIME WAS BELIEVED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, AND APOLOGIZING TO THE PEOPLE OF KALAUPAPA AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR ANY HARSH RESTRICTIONS THAT CAUSED THEM UNDUE PAIN AS THE RESULT OF FORMER GOVERNMENT POLICIES SURROUNDING LEPROSY.

WHEREAS, from 1866 to 1969, an estimated 8,000 citizens of Hawai'i were forced to leave their families and to be isolated, most often on the Kalaupapa peninsula, because of society's fear of leprosy (also known as Hansen's disease); and

WHEREAS, these individuals were mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters who were separated at all ages, from very young to very old; and

WHEREAS, for many of these residents, the separation was permanent, yet, because they felt they were protecting the general public from a disease that was not curable until the 1940s, most people diagnosed with leprosy willingly made this greatest of sacrifices; and

WHEREAS, these sacrifices were made because these heroic individuals did not want anyone else to experience this disease, which was not only physically painful, but also emotionally difficult to bear; and

WHEREAS, despite being exiled by their own government and suffering great deprivations and injustices throughout much of

their lives, the people of Kalaupapa have been remarkably resilient and have responded to their situations with kindness, generosity, and forgiveness rather than anger, bitterness, and despair; and

WHEREAS, the families of those sent to Kalaupapa also suffered unimaginable pain; and

WHEREAS, fathers and mothers were forced to take their unsuspecting children diagnosed with leprosy to a designated facility and leave them there, resulting in farewells of agony and sorrow; and

WHEREAS, those same parents would later watch from the docks as their children were loaded onto the ships destined for Kalaupapa, possibly the last time they would see one another; and

WHEREAS, children born to the people of Kalaupapa were immediately taken away at birth and grew up with other relatives or in orphanages, and, if they were fortunate, would eventually get to know their parents, but not until they were nearly adults or older; and

WHEREAS, relationships between parents and children could be difficult to establish and maintain because of the forced separation; and

WHEREAS, the Kalaupapa residents and their families have mostly accepted their circumstances throughout the years and put their lives back together as best they could; and

WHEREAS, the government has maintained Kalaupapa for the last remaining residents as long as they choose to remain there, and provides for their medical, food, and housing needs; and

WHEREAS, there has never been an official acknowledgement to the people of Kalaupapa for all that they did and the exemplary manner in how they have lived their lives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature recognizes, acknowledges, and expresses gratitude to the people of Kalaupapa and their families for their sacrifices, for thinking more of the public than of themselves, for giving up

freedoms and opportunities the rest of society takes for granted, for rebuilding their lives with pride and dignity, for overcoming prejudice and discrimination, and for consistently reaching out to others in need; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while with the adoption of this measure, the Legislature does not confer any legal cause of action or any legal rights, remedies, relief, restitution, or reparations on any person, it nonetheless apologizes for the past actions against, and treatment of, past and current residents of Kalaupapa; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this overdue action be issued with the utmost respect and admiration for those remaining Kalaupapa residents, the descendents of those who have died and family members who all have endured separation from loved ones and the anguish that came with it, with the hope that if any quarantine or isolation is necessary in the future to protect public health and safety, it will be used only with appropriate safeguards to protect every individual's dignity and rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to all the residents of Kalaupapa, Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa, the Governor, the Director of Health, and the Superintendent of Kalaupapa National Historical Park.

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair Mar. 18, 2022 Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2

Hearing: SB3338 SD2 Wed. March 23, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. Room 329

I write in strong SUPPORT of SB3338 SD2, funding appropriation for the Kalaupapa Memorial construction

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs (CAI)

My name is Hitoshi Hida. It is my honor to be invited to assist the Memorial Committee as an architect in developing the conceptual design for an historically very important memorial such as this Kalaupapa Memorial.

It was in June of 2015 when I went to Kalaupapa first time with the Memorial Committee members. It was on the flight to Kalaupapa that I was shown a conceptual design of the memorial and I strongly believe that it was divinely inspired as a result of my prayer. When we arrived at the very site where the memorial is to be constructed, I verbally presented the design among the members of the Committee and Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa. They all happily accepted the design. Since then, the design has been used as the project vision and to promote the project and now developed into construction document.

The concept is composed of two circles: Mauka circle representing the 8000 people with Hansen's disease who were sent away to Kalaupapa and Makai circle representing the family who were left behind. The two circles were pulled and juxtaposed together at the middle. The juxtaposition represents one of the main purposes of the memorial: that is to reconnect the families who were separated forever.

There will be a stone wall surrounding Mauka circle as if embracing the circle. It will have the names of the 8000 patients to be inscribed onto it to celebrate and memorialize their lives.

I believe it is important for our generations to memorialize these people and their families as well as the place. Therefore we humbly ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for the Kalaupapa Memorial construction which is budgeted for \$5,000,000 Respectfully submitted,

Hitoshi Hida Hitoshi.hida@outlook.com





March 21, 2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair, Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number SB3338 SD2
Wednesday, March 23, 2022, Room 329

Support of SB3338 SD2, construction funding for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

My name is Tim Leong. I am a resident of Molokai and am writing in support of SB3338 SD1 to provide funding for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

On February 14, 1888, my great-great grandfather, Kaho'oilimoku and his thirteen year old son, Alapa'i, were sent to Kalaupapa. They were reunited with another son, fourteen year old Ka'aea, who had been sent on January 30, 1888. They died within a span of four years and were buried in unmarked graves. They started their lives in Kawaipapa, Maui and ended their lives in Kalaupapa, Molokai: exchanging the Wai (fresh water) for the Lau (leaf).

It wasn't until I was in my 60's that I found out I had family that were sent to Kalaupapa. In our household, genealogy was the domain of the women. Nothing was written. My mother, aunts and older sister would sometimes gather after dinner, to "talk-story" about our ancestors, over cups of tea and dessert. I found out later that family stories could have contradicting versions, outlandish embellishments and convenient omissions. In 2010, I became a member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa and was able to get confirmation that I had three family members that were sent to Kalaupapa. This led me on an amazing journey to the Hawaii State Archives, the Bureau of Conveyances and worldwide web to fill in the missing pieces.

Kaho'oilimoku was granted 18 acres in Kawaipapa, Hāna, Maui in 1855. He was an awa grower and with his wife raised a family of one daughter and four sons. In 1888, he and two of his sons were diagnosed with leprosy and were sent to Kalaupapa. He was an Elder of Kanaana Hou Church.

Kaho'oilimoku died on June 14, 1890. He was 57 years old. Alapa'i died on September 10, 1891. He was 16 years old. Ka'aea died on January 27, 1892. He was 18 years old.

As a tribute to my great-great grandfather, Kaho'oilimoku and to all the many other Hawaiian citizens throughout the islands who sacrificed so much for the benefit of others, I respectfully request your support for SB3338 SD2, which provides funding for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial and ask that your Committee consider including the \$5,000,000 in construction funding that was in earlier bills I supported. Mahalo.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Leong, Molokai

March 20,2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chairman
Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs Labor, Culture, and The Art
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, HI 96813

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2
Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 10:30 am Room 329.

I am writing to your committee in support of SB3338 SD2 which provides appropriations for the Kalaupapa Memorial's construction

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs

My name is Cummins Kameeiamoku Mahoe III. I have enjoyed a lifetime of interaction with the Kalaupapa community since the mid-1960s. As a teenager working for an air cargo service on Oahu, I visited Kalaupapa monthly even prior to the lifting of the leprosy isolation policy in 1969. As Postmaster of Kaunakakai Post Office, I jointly conducted a monthly finance audit with Kuulei Bell, the last Patient- Postmistress at Zip Code 96742. Involved in tutoring the Molokai Catholic Youth Ministry in 2009, our group transported Saint Damien's reliquary down the trail for a special post-canonization event. Even after my own retirement in 2009, I would do yard service every Tuesday for the last two long residency Catholic nuns at the Bishop Home for Women, Srs. Theresa Chow and Rose Annette Akuna. Finally, Edwin Lelepali, who conducted the weekly volleyball games, would sponsor my fiancé and I for visitations, which led to our honeymoon in Kalaupapa, in 2012.

As a Vietnam Veteran, when visiting The Wall in Washington, D.C., I can honor by touch, over 58,000 names of fallen soldiers. I will be able to embrace a similar experience, when I visit the Kalaupapa Memorial and am able to honor by touch the inscribed names of the 8,000 Hawaiian citizens who endured prejudice, leprosy stigma, and isolation from family separation, their communities' advocacy for fair treatment, dignity, and respect has benefitted other illness afflicted groups. It is not surprising the Roman Catholic Church has two canonized Saints, Damien De Veuster and Marianne Cope, and has initiated a third possible sainthood for Brother Joseph Dutton. This is the specialty, Kalaupapa, is for their Kalawao County, our State, our Country, and the World.

Again, I am asking for your support, as I support SB3338 SD2, for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial and respectfully request that your Committee include the \$5,000,000 construction amount which was included in earlier renditions of SB3338 which was supported by myself and most of the many others providing testimony.

Never a patient or an actual resident of Kalaupapa, I have been privileged and honored to have spent my lifetime with many personal interactions with members of this special community.

Respectfully,

Cummins Kameeiamoku Mahoe III Retired Kaunakakai Postmaster, 96748

Sister Alicia Damien Lau, osf 15 Bishop Home #0129 P.O. Box 129 Kalaupapa, HI 96742

March 23, 2022

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chairman
Culture, Arts and International Affairs Committee Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2 Hearing: March 23, 2022, 10:30 am Room 329, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB3338 SD2 , funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Culture, Arts and International Affairs Committee

My name is Sister Alicia Damien Lau, a Sister of St Francis from the Order of Saint Marianne Cope who arrived in 1883 at the request of King Kalakaua and Queen Kapiolani, to care of those Hawaiian people who were afflicted with the disease of leprosy. Mother Marianne Cope came to Kalaupapa on November 14, 1888 and our Sisters have been here continuously since then.

I came down to Kalaupapa in 1965 and had met many of the patients. Since then I have spent weekends, several times a month in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. In 2012, when I retired from healthcare, I spent half of my time, and later, three-fourths time in Kalaupapa as a National Park Service Volunteer. Now, I am in Kalaupapa full time assisting as a volunteer and as a part-time employee of The Pacific Historic Parks Bookstore.

I am writing in strong support of SB3338 SD2 intending to provide an appropriations for construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial. Hopefully, your Committee will include the \$5,000,000 budgeted amount for construction of the Memorial that was included in earlier versions of SB 3338. As a former board member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, I listened to the Kalaupapa resident/patients express the desire to have a Memorial established at Kalaupapa which would list the names of everyone sent there.

The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed by President Barack Obama, authorizing Ka 'Ohana to establish the Memorial. Since that time, 'Ohana has been involved and completed several federal and state compliance processes, assembled a Memorial Committee that produced a beautiful and meaningful final design for the Memorial working with recognized professional organizations recognized throughout our State, and compiled the names of nearly 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa. This has involved a tremendous amount of dedicated time and expense to bring the Memorial plans to where they are today.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will make certain that those who were sent to Kalaupapa, will be forever remembered and returned to the history of Kalaupapa and their family histories. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names.

I, and all the Sisters who had cared for them, ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully and humbly submitted,

Sister Alicia Damien Lau, OSF
Sisters of St Francis of the Neumann Communities adlau@sosf.org

March 21, 2022

**Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair, Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813**

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2

Hearing: Wednesday March 23 2022 10:30 am – Room 329Conference

I write to STRONGLY SUPPORT of SB3338 SD 2 for the funding associated with the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Alha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture Arts and International Affairs.

My name Marilyn Puanani Janssen Cleghorn .I am writing on behalf of the family of Margarete Lucie Georgine Buns Weber who was a patient that died on February 25, 1917 and is buried in Kalaupapa, Moloka'i. We assume becauseof her date of death that she is buried in the area where many of the markers were washed away by the tidal wave.

Kalaupapa is a place like no other. Once you visit there, you leave a different person. There are more than 8,000 stories of pain and sorrow by people of many different races and cultures who were forced to come together and as a result created their own culture.

A memorial honoring the people sent to Kalaupapa would not only help the families bring long awaited closure of their loved ones buried there but be a profound life experience to all those that visit. Kalaupapa has a story to tell and that story is a very important part of our history here in the Islands as well as around the world.

My great-grandmother's life and death in Kalaupapa was a huge mystery to my family, as was her young grandson "Willie Olsen" who died at the Leahi Hospital on Oahu. I learned of her from my father when I was a young child and as an adult, when I wrote to my family about her, I discovered that I was one of the two family members who knew of her illness and where she was laid to rest. What a shame that her family wasn't able to mourn her as she deserved, but that's the way it was for many of the patients at Kalaupapa in those days.

Like many of the Ohana O`Kalaupapa , I anxiously await the day that I will have a place to lay my lei in honor of my great-grandmother who traveled as a young lady from Germany with dreams of raising her family in her new country which she loved and now called home.

Sincerely,

**Marilyn Puanani Janssen Cleghorn
P.O. Box 359, Kula, HI 96790
(808)878-6170**

Cedric Asuego Gates, Chairman
Labor, Culture and The Arts Committee Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

LATE

Bill Number: SB3338 SD2 Hearing: March 23, 2022, 10:30 am

St. Elizabeth Convent 15 Bishop Home #129 P.O. Box 129 Kalaupapa, HI 96742

I write in support of SB2796, funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial's construction

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs.

My name is Sister Barbara Jean Wajda, a Sister of St Francis from the Order of Saint Marianne Cope who arrived in 1883 at the request of King Kalakaua and Queen Kapiolani, to care for those Hawaiian people who were afflicted with the disease of leprosy. Mother Marianne Cope came to Kalaupapa on November 14, 1888 and our Franciscan Sisters have been here continuously since then.

I came to visit Kalaupapa around Christmas time in 2007 when I was first transferred to Hawaii. Over the course of the years since, I have learned of and experienced the rich and sacred history of this tiny spit of land which gave Hawaii and the world two saints. After a ten-year teaching ministry on the Big Island and in Oahu, I retired a second time from education ministry just prior to my 75th birthday. By that time I had spent times of reflection, retreat and service in Kalaupapa. I felt drawn to minister there in my retirement years, since I was and still am physically able to do the challenging tasks required of a full-time National Park Service volunteer. I have met and interacted with the patients who call this place home. In addition, as part of the NPS agreement, I give tours of St. Elizabeth [Bishop Home] Convent/Chapel and Mother Marianne's gravesite. People of all ages, ethnicities and religions are interested and inspired by the legacy of Mother Marianne and the Sisters of St. Francis of Syracuse, NY, and by stories of the sufferings of the girls and young women and of those with advanced symptoms of the disease and the effects of separation. The most moving experiences are when young and old visitors come to seek out the history of their ancestors and locate their grave markers. Perhaps the most dramatic encounter we had involved a middle-aged man who, after returning to Oahu, found out from his adult cousin that they had a grandfather who lived here. He could hardly speak as he sobbed his discovery to us over the phone. Remembering the lives and stories of those thousands who lived and died here is the just payment of our debt of honor and gratitude to those who made this aina sacred by their presence here.

I am writing in strong support of SB3338 SD1 which would provide funding for construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial. The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed into law by President Barack Obama, authorizing Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa to establish the Memorial. The 'Ohana has been working with numerous highly professional architectural, engineering and planning firms and this effort has resulted in the crafting of a beautiful final design for the Memorial, one that has received overwhelming praise statewide. This has come at great expense to the 'Ohana and a lot dedicated support from people throughout the State.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will make certain that those who were sent to Kalaupapa, will be forever remembered and returned to the history of Kalaupapa and their family histories. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names.

I, and all the Sisters who had cared for them, ask for your support of SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial. The amount budget for construction is \$5,000,000.

Respectfully and humbly submitted,

Sister Barbara Jean Wajda, osf
Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities bjwajda@gmail.com

Cedric Asuega Gates, Chair
Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, HI 96813



Bill Number: SB3338 SD2

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 10:30am, Room 329

I write in support of SB3338 SD2 funding appropriation for the construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs (CAI) -

My name is Monica Bacon and I am a great-grandniece of Ambrose Kanewali'i Hutchison, the younger and only brother of my great-grandfather, William Kalewalani Hutchison. As a young man Uncle Ambrose was taken from his family on O'ahu and compelled to reside at Kalaupapa, Moloka'i, where he lived for 53 years from January 5, 1879 to his death on July 17, 1932.

My great-great-grandfather, Dr. Ferdinand W. Hutchison, and his Native Hawaiian wife, my great-greatgrandmother Malie Moa, had three children during the early to mid-1850's: William K. Hutchison, Christina U. Hutchison, and Ambrose K. Hutchison. My great-grandfather, William Hutchison, is the only one of the three Hutchison children with descendants, therefore me, my mother, siblings, and my cousins are the only family who carry on the memory of Uncle Ambrose. In June of 2008 I was able to visit Kalaupapa for the first time, and it was an eye-opening and emotional experience. Through Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa I was able to learn most of what I now know about the remarkable life my ancestor lived at Kalaupapa. Our family is fortunate to have a gravesite to visit at Kalaupapa which includes my uncle's wife who passed away before him, but Ambrose himself isn't listed on the gravestone along with his wife's name. Through the walls of the Memorial, it will finally be possible to see his name and the names of the thousands of other patients before, during, and after his time at the Kalaupapa settlement.

I strongly support SB3338 and respectfully request the CAI Committee members approve the bill and include the \$5 million amount budgeted for the construction of the Memorial in the version you approve and send to the House Finance Committee for a final hearing. The \$5 million amount was included and supported in earlier versions of the Bill, SB3338 & SB3338 SD1. It is proper, it is pono, that all residents of Hawai'i remember in this permanent way those whose lives were profoundly changed by a disease that inflicted physical pain and, due to the separation of families, emotional pain as well. The memorial will provide a place not only for the public to visit, reflect, and learn about (and learn lessons from) a traumatic chapter in Hawaii's history, but also for the families of patients to gain some closure knowing that their 'ohana has not been forgotten.

Please support SB3338 SD2 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully, Monica K. Bacon, great grandniece of Ambrose Kanewali'i Hutchison

email: mbacon@hawaii.edu

SB-3338-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 2:30:03 PM

Testimony for CAI on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debra Collard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in Support of SB3338 SD2 funding appropriation for the construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam and Members of the Committee on Culture, Art and International Affairs (CAI)

My mother Odetta Weight, was born in Kalaupapa in 1931. She was raised in an orphanage and foster homes along with her 2 brothers. She searched for her parents only to find they were all separated because of Hansen's Disease and discovered she had two additional brothers who also contracted the disease and are buried in Kalaupapa. She was fortunate to be able to locate her father's marked grave but her mother and brothers graves nearby are unmarked. She was so thankful to have been shown where they rest and given some information about them. But many families are not so fortunate.

This memorial will list the names of all 8,000 residents for families and future generations. This will give families the opportunity to find the names of their loved ones, to be remembered with dignity and honored for their sacrifices endured by the entire family.

Mahalo nui,

Debra Collard

(Staff RN Kalaupapa CareHome and Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa, Board of Directors)