JOSH GREEN, M. D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA



SYLVIA LUKE LT. GOVERNOR KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

STATE OF HAWAI'I OFFICE OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

235 S. BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 1201 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813-2437

Statement of BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO Chief Negotiator, Office of Collective Bargaining

Before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, February 2, 2023 1:00PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of SB 732, RELATING TO STATE HOLIDAYS

Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Fevella, and the members of the committee.

The Office of Collective Bargaining (OCB) appreciates the intent of SB 732, which designates the second Monday in October of each year as Indigenous Peoples' Day; and establishes Indigenous Peoples' Day as a state holiday. However, OCB offers the following **comments** on this measure:

- 1. While the Legislature is the governing body to both establish and remove official state holidays, the potential impact on public employees is a negotiable matter, subject to collective bargaining pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §89-9.
- 2. This was evident when, as early as the mid-1970's, the exclusive representatives and the employers mutually agreed to remove references to HRS, Section 8-1, from the holiday provisions of the respective collective bargaining agreements. This action reflected the parties agreement that holidays are a negotiable matter and cannot be solely legislated.
- 3. Finally, should this measure pass prompting the exclusive representatives to initiate negotiations for inclusion of Indigenous Peoples' Day as another observed holiday for public employees, the employer would have serious concerns regarding the operational and financial impact to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and comments on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR OF HOLDS

LUIS P. SALAVERIA

SABRINA NASIR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

STATE OF HAWAI'I

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

Ka 'Oihana Majama Mo'ohelu a Kaja

BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE

BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

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

Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā P.O. BOX 150 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 732

February 2, 2023 1:00 p.m. Room 224 and Videoconference

RELATING TO STATE HOLIDAYS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on Senate Bill No. 732, which designates the second Monday in October of each year as Indigenous Peoples' Day, a 14th State holiday.

B&F estimates that the annual cost in terms of lost productivity to add another State holiday is approximately \$17,000,000. This estimate is based on current collective bargaining data projected for FY 24 increases. It includes base pay, Social Security, Medicare, and pension accumulations, but does not include any potential hard costs such as overtime pay for employees who may be required to work and, therefore, are eligible for holiday pay.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments on this bill.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 10TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 TELEPHONE: (808) 768-8500 • FAX: (808) 768-5563 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov/hr

RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR



NOLA N. MIYASAKI DIRECTOR

FLORENCIO C. BAGUIO, JR. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

February 2, 2023

The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
The Honorable Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
State Senate
State Capitol, Room 224
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Bill No. 732 Relating to State Holidays

The Department of Human Resources, City and County of Honolulu understands and appreciates the historical significance and importance of recognizing indigenous peoples, including Native Hawaiians. Since the matter will require negotiations with the various public unions through the collective bargaining process, our concern is the added cost to the Public Employer should this become an established State paid holiday. We note that the cost to the City and County of Honolulu alone would be close to \$2 million annually.

We thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely, Nolan Muyasalu

Nola N. Miyasaki

Director

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 8:20:46 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Sarbin	Testifying for Volcano School of Arts & Sciences	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

The 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Civics (Papa Pono Kiwila) students of the Volcano School of Arts & Sciences would like to submit the following written testimony in support of SB732. These statements were collected in class as reasons for supporting the celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day in Hawai'i:

- 1. People here are indigenous, and this holiday is dedicated to recognizing those before us, and it's important to look into our older, original culture, and to learn from our elders.
- 2. It is important to respect the people who lived here first, because we are on their land, we are guests in their house.
- 3. It is important to honor the people who first made the island habitable for humans.
- 4. Let us celebrate and learn about our indigenous cultures so that it doesn't get lost. The majority of indigenous Hawaiians died due to encounters with Europeans.
- 5. It is important to recognize and celebrate all cultures that make up Hawai'i today.
- 6. What Hawaiians had to go through to preserve our culture was hard. They were made to be ashamed to be Hawaiian growing up. We want to recognize all the people who kept our culture and traditions alive.
- 7. A festival at school on Indigenous Peoples' Day can help people to learn more about their heritage and to feel grateful for it.
- 8. This holiday could be used as a way for all people to respect Hawaiian traditions.
- 9. Indigenous Peoples' Day could help teachers to teach more about Hawaiian culture.
- 10. We need to look at both then and now, at those who came before us and those who are here now, to recognize and embrace the fact that today we can speak Hawaiian and do hula things that our parents and grandparents couldn't do at our age.

Additional note: The students are keenly interested in celebrating their indigenous heritages at school, so that it could be an educational event for everyone.

Mahalo for including our written testimony!

Barbara Sarbin, Middle School Civics Teacher, Papa Pono Kiwila, Volcano School of Arts & Sciences, Volcano, HI

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 12:21:24 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill that designates the second Monday in October of each year as Indigenous Peoples' Day. Establishes Indigenous Peoples' Day as a state holiday. Our unique Hawai`i should honor the people of this place and others around the world.

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 1:44:55 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in STRONG support of SB732

Mahalo

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 1:55:57 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support under one condition. Since I beleive there are too many state holidays, one needs to be removed. I suggest Good Friday, the Friday preceding Easter, as it is really a religious holiday and with separation of church and state should not be a legal state holiday.

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 1/31/2023 8:56:11 PM Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Baligad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support bill sb1555

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:10:52 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim I Miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB732 recognizing Indigenous People's Day in Hawai`i to be celebrated the 2nd Monday in October. It is essential to the positive future of our state to recognize, celebrate, understand, and be guided by the Indigenous knowledge of our place.

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:10:58 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
jasmine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i support it

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:16:25 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
angelyn rose carvalho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I firmly believe that the day of indigenous people should be celebrated everywhere, including Hawai'i. We're the only state that doesn't celebrate this day, it was considered recognition for their contributions and resilience, it's disrespectful that we don't. Considering the pain they've been through because of America. Tons of people were killed, why should thanksgiving be celebrated if the day of indigenous people isn't? It doesn't make sense.

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:22:27 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an indigenous persons myself I think its only fitting if Hawai'i were to celebrate this day since Hawaiians are indigenous people. So it only makes sense for it to be celebrated here in Hawai'i. Additionally, it is a harmless holiday and all it respectfully and truly does is honor our indigenous peoples who have been for so long under represented.

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:22:37 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Orion Kai Harber	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe that Indigenous Peoples Day is a fun and harmless holiday. There isn't a reason as to why indigenous people shouldn't be celebrated. Many indigenous people live in the state of Hawai'i. Having Indigenous People Day become an offical holiday would be wonderful for those that have such backgrounds, and would make them feel seen. I hope that Indigenous Peoples Day will become an offical holiday.

SB-732 Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:22:59 AM Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kalia andrade	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support indigenous day because I my self is an indigenous person.

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:23:51 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
keltyn singleton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. I believe that indigenous day needs to be celebrated, I think that this day is a celebration of all of the tragedy that indigenous people have overcome. The fact that we don't celebrate it would be disrespectful to their losses and ancestors, America slaughtered and took their land. Indigenous day is to commemorate all of the people that have died in America. This day should be celebrated in Hawaii because the Native Hawaiians went through similar events.

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:25:25 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
aliyah	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I think hawaii should have indigenous people day because hawaiians are indigenous to hawaii.

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:26:01 AM Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kiana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support it

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:31:04 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitte	d By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaimana Kaw young		Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

I would like to submit this testimony to support new indigenous day.

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:31:14 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submi	itted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Purs	saiyez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an indigenous person myself we should be able to support indigenous people day and celebrate because of what we went through and being able to be free from all the problems we had in the past.

<u>SB-732</u> Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:31:15 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ayden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support INDIGENOUS poeples day and celebrate because of what we went through and being able from all the problems we had in the past.

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:31:17 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
McKenzie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an indigenous person myself... We should be able to support to support Indienous people day and celebrate because of what we went through and being able to be free from all the problems we had in the past.

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:24:31 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darcie Kanehailua Kalani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My thought about Hawai'i start to do indigenous people day is a strong, we were once a just hawaiian and then there was the kingdom was over thrown mixing the hawaiian with english, causing us to loes are privlages to speak hawaiian; causing or people to forget our laguage. i personally come from a family with all hawaiian, and my family never spoke hawaiian around me; growing up in pahala and only knowing im hawaiian but no one else cares. i agree to having the indigenous day to show that hawaiians are still hear not just becuse we cant speak it but its in our blood, we might have went through a lot of things through out the years and had to go throuh 100 something years of our kingdome being overthrown, and having to fight for our land. we deserve to have a day of out own, not just the day that the kingdome was overthrown and not when ge got rid of captain james cook, but a day to show that we still have hawaiians out there, some pure and some not. evern though some times we witness some things that make no sense and throught the past years we havent had a day about us and what happen to us. on the internet shows evrything but hawaians and how ther still living, maybe we aint that pure hawaiian but we still are hawaiian, i beleive that the ku project shows alot and talks about hawaii and says things in hawaiian even when you dont know what there saying, theres some hawaiians still out there that do speak hawaiian, something thats ment for everone and anyone around the world. we have rights of our own; and growing up and dealing with all the things a head of us is coming soon, we should always have somethign to look back at and see that we actually had created something after all the years of being ignored.

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 7:07:19 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.	Testifying for Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. First we had Columbus Day. Then that was changed to "Discoverer's Day" to avoid singling out Columbus for honor because he was criticized for bringing death and colonial oppression to the Americas, and explicitly (in the bill's text) to add the Polynesian explorers to the pantheon of honorees. Now this bill proposes to get rid of all the explorers (presumably including especially Columbus, Captain Cook, Marco Polo, Magellan, and other haoles) and honor only the "indigenous people" -- especially ethnic Hawaiians -- whose ancestors arrived throughout the world before the White guys got there. But as my dear friend Professor emeritus Rubellite Kawena Kinney Johnson famously said: "We are all indigenous people of this Earth." So let's leave "Discoverer's Day" the way it is, and honor all of ourselves and our brave ancestors (even the haoles). The virulent hatred toward USA, the missionaries, Captain Cook et. al. in the first couple of paragraphs is outrageous. We also should leave this day on the calendar as a day of observance not as another official state holiday where government workers get the day off with pay.



Submitted on: 2/1/2023 4:54:50 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/2/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Muftiah Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Kanuha and Hawaii State Legislature:

I am a parent at Volcano School of Arts and Sciences on the Big Island. Our students provided input to the Senator's office for this bill. I am in support of designating Indegenous People's Day as a State Holiday so that we can call attention to the need for reparations to the first Hawaiians and to support Hawaiian practices and customs. Let our state join the progressive movement to stand for indegenous peoples throughout our nation!