



**OUTRIGGER
DUKE KAHANAMOKU
FOUNDATION**

P. O. BOX 160924
HONOLULU, HI 96816

DUKEFOUNDATION.ORG

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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 415 & Videoconference

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in **strong support** of SB 116 to create a Duke Kahanamoku license plate to raise money for water safety and swim education. The Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation exists to perpetuate the legacy Duke Kahanamoku. The foundation gives scholarships and grants in Hawaii related to watersports, volleyball, and water safety. Hawaii is known as a place of waterman excellence. However, the drowning data is telling a different story. **Hawaii is ranked second in the nation for rate of drowning among residents.** Sadly, these resident deaths only account for 46% of the drownings in our state; **more than half the drowning victims in Hawaii are visitors from other states.*** The United Nations and the World Health Organization have officially recognized drowning as a major public health problem and it's time for our waterman state to do the same and put more resources towards prevention. We need widespread and continual aquatics education for children and adults, and residents and visitors.

Duke Kahanamoku, history's most well-known Native Hawaiian Olympic swimmer, godfather of surfing, and Ambassador of Aloha is an important figure to commemorate. Duke's likeness on a license plate symbolizes the waterman excellence and aloha spirit our state is known for, and surely would be quite popular. It would be an honor to his name to use the resulting proceeds to teach aquatics safety and to save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Sarah Fairchild

Executive Director

*from the Hawaii Department of Health "Fatal Ocean Drownings 2012-2021" report.

	B	C	E	F
	First Name	Last Name	City of Residence:	Testimony:
1	Deborah	Fischer	Kailua Kona	I have been a resident of Kailua Kona Hawaii since 1988. I have always been amazed by how many Keki do not know how to swim. Duke Kahanamoku legacy as Hawaii's finest waterman, helping his foundation would be a terrific way to improve water safety in our state. I strongly support this bill and would immediately sign up for the new plate in his honor.
2	Billy	Pratt	Honolulu	<p>I am in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 116 to create a Duke Kahanamoku license plate to raise money for water safety and swim education.</p> <p>I continue to serve as the past President and longest standing Director on the Board of the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation. It has been our mission to raise funds for scholarships and grants for Hawaii's keiki who continue to perpetuate Duke's incredible legacy. A legacy, which my partners and I were able to capture and share as Co-Producers of the award winning documentary on Duke, entitled WATERMAN. Duke Kahanamoku was not only Hawaii's greatest Olympic athlete, he was also the International father of surfing and perhaps, most importantly, the Ambassador of Aloha. His contributions were so significant - four straight Olympic Games, three gold and two silver medals, an unimaginable number of World records broken, the creator of the Kahanamoku kick which is still utilized by Olympic swimmers today, the catalyst behind the development of the life saving rescue board that dots shorelines following his heroic rescue in 1925 off the coast of California, and the reason and inspiration why surfing recently became an Olympic sport! So significant are these contributions that Duke, who will be 133 years old this coming August 24th, is still honored and hailed with four statues in three different countries! While Duke himself might humbly nod at the significance of his athletic prowess, he should undoubtedly be remembered for the compassion and humility he has shown to all that he came in contact with. It is this expression of love and kindness which we know as the Aloha spirit, that was so valued to Kahanamoku that it became his personal creed - Duke's creed. The message of Aloha is something so unique that all of Hawaii should always carry and share the spirit with friends, family and visitors alike, just as Duke did!</p> <p>If this bill is passed, it would be an ideal opportunity to continue to perpetuate the great legacy of Duke Kahanamoku and all that he has done during his era to share the culture of Hawaii with the world. It would also create an opportunity to raise critical funds for ocean safety and swim education. In the U.S. we are one of only approx. 8 states with no mandatory drowning prevention and continue to be one of the top two states with the highest drowning rate. Our state is completely surrounded by water so it is crucial that we provide this education for our residence, visitors and most importantly, our keiki. It is a most worthy investment in Hawaii's future!</p> <p>I strongly urge you to pass this legislation. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.</p> <p>Much Aloha,</p> <p>Billy Pratt Director & Past President Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation Chairman & Co-Founder Hawaii Waterman Hall of Fame Co-Producer, WATERMAN the movie</p>
3				
4	Maiana	Hooper	Honalo, HI	I support this bill
5	Cameron	Kahanamoku	Honolulu	Duke Kahanamoku was my great uncle.
6	Leah	Morimoto	Kailua Kona, HI	I support this Bill. Duke was the first Native Hawaiian Competitive Swimmer and Surfer that all the young watermen and waterwomen of Hawaii look up to!! He is iconic, a Legend!
7	Dexter O.	Kahanamoku	Honolulu	I fully support this bill.
	Patty	Kahanamoku	NANAKULI HOMESTEAD	<p>Aloha mai' Ka ko:</p> <p>On behalf of our O'hana - my mother Joann Kamuela Kahanamoku, we strongly support Authorizes the issuance of special number license plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku. The proceeds shall be administered by the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation to support programs that promote water safety and swim education across the State of Hawaii. Like, the commemorate Duke Paoa Kahanamoku stamp, it is vital to continue to bring the educational awareness of our Ambassador of Surfing, water sports for our next generation and public. The Outrigger Duke Foundation has continue to perpetuate Uncle Duke's name by the yearly Oceanfest events at Waikiki with overpouring guest, residents and supported by many, to be able to continue support to move forward the Kahanamoku Foundation needs support for programs that promote water safety and swim education across the State of Hawaii.</p> <p>Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony both to the House Bill and Senate Bill in strong support!</p> <p>Mahalo nui loa, Patty Kahanamoku Teruya Great niece of Duke Paoa Kahinu Mokoe Hulikohala Kahanamoku</p>
8	Janette	freeman	Honolulu	I have been an avid swimmer all my life. I remember clearly what we had to go through at the athletic club to use the pool. At 7, I earned my badge to safely swim in the pool and have been swimming ever since, adding open ocean swimming to my list.
9	April	Craig	Honolulu	I support this bill
10	Makaila	Maile	Kealahou	I support this bill, the ocean is one of our main components to living.
11	Corinna	Roth	Kailua Kona	I support this bill
12	Laurel	Haserot	Kailua Kona	I support this bill
13	Willow	Roback	Ocean view	I support this bill
14	Bill	Kesner	Honolulu	Duke accomplished and gave so much for this island, and this is just one small way we can honor his legacy. I support this bill 100%.
15	Keola	Hayes	Honolulu	I support this bill. Having personally rescued many people over the years I feel education could have prevented many of those situations.
16				

	B	C	E	F
17	Donna	Herbst	Hilo	I support the sake of Duke Kahanamoku license plates to fund safety and educational measures for Hawaii's watersports
18	Sinclair	White	Kamuela	I support this bill because I believe we should do all we can to support water safety education to all residents and visitors. The ocean is our playground but it can take a life in an instant.
19	Kat	Ahin	Hilo	I support this bill. Water safety is a must.
	Chenoa	Jesser	Kailua Kona	As someone who has grown up on big island swimming all my life but been around people that aren't always as confident of swimmers, I believe that it's really important we teach kids of a young age how to swim, well, and make sure they're comfortable around/ can read the ocean. There is so much joy to be gained from enjoying the ocean and so many lives to be saved with our keiki growing up confident in the water. In a state with amazing watermen like Duke and Eddie, this really roots in the culture and history.
20	Poppy	Sokham	Kailua-Kona	I support this bill
21	Leslie	Cochran	Pahoa	I support this bill. Swimming is a core life skill - it offers safety/belonging, opportunities for mastery, fosters independence in the sense of wise decision making and generosity of spirit. Swimmers will also advocate for Kai and wai in the future because they will be immersed and learn to love.
22	Rachel	Able	Kealahou	I support this bill. I lost my 15 year old daughter in November of 2022 in a fatal & tragic surfing accident. She was surfing at Pines aka Kohanaiki. The beach is very popular to ohana & keiki to come & enjoy during their free time. The beach has become so crowded & little safety measures are in place. Councilman & Directors acknowledge & agree that their needs to be a lifeguard stand there but it's a question about how to find the funding. This bill could support a lifeguard stand that could help prevent such a tragic accident from happening again.
23				
24	Rita	Hirai	Captain Cook	I support this bill.
25	Esteban	Lillo	Kailua kona	I support this bill. I hope there are programs that promote water safety and swim education, as I had to learn to swim the hard way
26	Ethan	Peters	Hawaii	I support this bill
27	Marissa	Calcagno	Hawaii	I support this bill
28	Barbara	McNeace	Richmond	I support this bill.
29	Sandra	Wilson	Captain Cook	I support this bill. Our community should be able to go to the beach, enjoy themselves, and be safe. Money appropriated to water safety could make a difference in the lives of many.
	Lindsay	Resetnikov	Kailua Kona	My friend died on the big island last year at kohanaiki beach park in a tragic surfing accident. She was only 15, but a very experienced water girl. Although people were right there, they were not trained on how to safely bring her in after she passed out. There are currently no lifeguards at this beach even though hundreds of people go there each day. And what better way to raise funds then to honor one of the best Hawaiian watermen. I support this bill.
30	Heidi	Ilyavi	Kailua Kona	Far too many drownings on Big Island, tourists and residents. My friend's daughter lost her life in a surf accident on a beach that has no lifeguards or property equipment to save someone's life. All the popular beaches should have lifeguards
31				
32	Ranelle	Kaawa	Lawai	I support this bill, we need desperately need it!
33	Robert Mcki	Mist	Honolulu	I support this bill
	Kari	Vasey	Honokaa	I support this bill as an ocean swimmer. With the most beautiful beaches in the world our state should also provide Keiki & adults the best swim education & water safety programs. Mahalo, Kari Vasey (resident since 1959)
34	Tori	Gacutan	Honolulu	I support this bill, not only because it honors Duke Kahanamoku, but it also perpetuates the legacy of other Native Hawaiian watermen/women legends, with Duke as a symbol. It is amazing to be in a time where we have the opportunity to advocate for the commemoration of Duke Kahanamoku on license plates! These license plates can show the community that people from Hawaii can create change in the world, like Duke did. Also, water safety education is always a benefit for our keiki.
35				
36	Balbi	Brooks	Kamuela, HI	I'm in full support and plan to purchase one
	Phil	Sevier	Kailua	I support bill HB499 & SB116 - RELATING TO SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES: 1st HEARING for HB499: 02-8-23 8:30 AM Authorizing the issuance of special number license plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku. The proceeds shall be administered by the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation to support programs that promote water safety and swim education across the State of Hawaii.
37	Bob	Hampton	Honolulu	Aloha I support this Bill because Duke Kahanamoku is Hawaii's Ambassador of Aloha. Duke's name and image are international symbols of Aloha and represent our state, the "Land of Aloha." Mahalo Bob Hampton
38				
	Kathryn	Heller	Honolulu	I believe any and every opportunity should be taken to perpetuate Dukes legacy and show respect to this legendary water man. This would be M is a way for everyone to participate.



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Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

RE: SB 116 - Relating to Special Number Plates – In Support
February 28, 2023; 10:00 A.M.; Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Servco is in support of SB 116 which authorizes the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku.

Duke Kahanamoku displays all of the attributes of Aloha which we are proud as citizens of this beautiful State. As he honored Hawaii representing the State around the world, we would be well-served to have the chance to honor his legacy by demonstrating our appreciation for his dedication by recognizing him through the issuance of special number plates to commemorate and honor Duke Kahanamoku.

This measure will honor the legacy of Duke Kahanamoku while generating revenue to help prevent future drownings through increased ocean and water safety and swim education.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support.

Peter Dames
Executive Vice President

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 415 & Videoconference**

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in **strong support** of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

As a surfer and swimmer, I would be proud to have the Duke riding along with me!

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

Despite our waterman heritage, Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and a high drowning rate for visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

*Christopher Gardner
Director North Shore Swim Series*

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 4:29:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Reeves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, vice chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee on Ways and Means;

I am in support of SB 116 authorizing special plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

I am a proud local resident and believe that Duke embodied the values that we aspire to live by here in Hawaii. He was a supreme waterman and exemplary ambassador for Hawaii to the world – and he deserves a prominent position in our community. With the passage of this bill, we can each carry an image of Duke everywhere we go, improving visibility for all Native Hawaiians. Representation is important. In addition, this effort will fund water safety initiatives for locals and visitors alike thereby improving the wellbeing of all. A true win-win.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

Mahalo,

Bill Reeves

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 5:46:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Ferandin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 415 & Videoconference

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in strong support of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

I am a ranked competitive swimmer in the state of Hawaii and I feel that along with many of my peers, we have looked to the legacy of Duke Kahanamoku to strive to not only love the people of Hawaii, but to represent them well.

It would be an honor to have these special plates on my car to remember “the why” I am a CPR/AED professional rescuer. I feel a great sense of pride to live like Duke and that when I am in and around any body of water, I feel a great sense of responsibility. Duke Kahanamoku and his story inspires keiki and adults alike - as well as our tourists can learn and inquire about his legacy.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii’s aloha spirit.

Despite our waterman heritage, Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and a high drowning rate for visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Catherine Ferandin (18)

Kailua, Hawaii

12th grade senior @Le Jardin Academy

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 7:27:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
nadia raich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The bill will support water safety and also showcase duke legacy which is very important for us as surfers.

The duke was One of the first athletes to break the color barrier in American sports. Native Hawaiian Duke Paoa Kahanamoku broke the world record in swimming and popularized surfing in the mainland United States and Australia. He **saved lives as a lifeguard and enforced safety in Honolulu as sheriff for 13 years.**



Kahanamoku **helped Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders reconnect with their heritage and cultural identity.** As the best swimmer in the world during his prime and a legendary surfer, Kahanomoku made waterman skills aspirational, not something to be ashamed of like many had grown up hearing.

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 10:43:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Walker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 415 & Videoconference

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in strong support of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

Despite our waterman heritage, Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and a high drowning rate for visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Michael Walker

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 2:36:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessamy Town Hornor	Testifying for Hawaii Aquatics Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Conference Room 415 & Videoconference

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in **strong support of SB 116** to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Aquatics Foundation, an organization that provides aquatic safety and drowning prevention courses during school hours to students in K-12 schools. We designed our program to teach these foundational, lifetime skills in response to the fact that drowning is the leading cause of death for elementary-aged children in Hawaii and also a leading cause of death for residents of all ages.

This last year we began collaborating with the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation, as well as other key stakeholders, on developing a statewide coalition and action plan to

improve both ocean and aquatic safety in our state. ODKF has led the way in organizing these efforts, and the funds from this license plate would enable them to further this important work.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Jessamy Town Hornor

Community Engagement Manager

Hawaii Aquatics Foundation (dba Hawaii Aquatics Academy)

www.hawaiiaquaticacademy.org

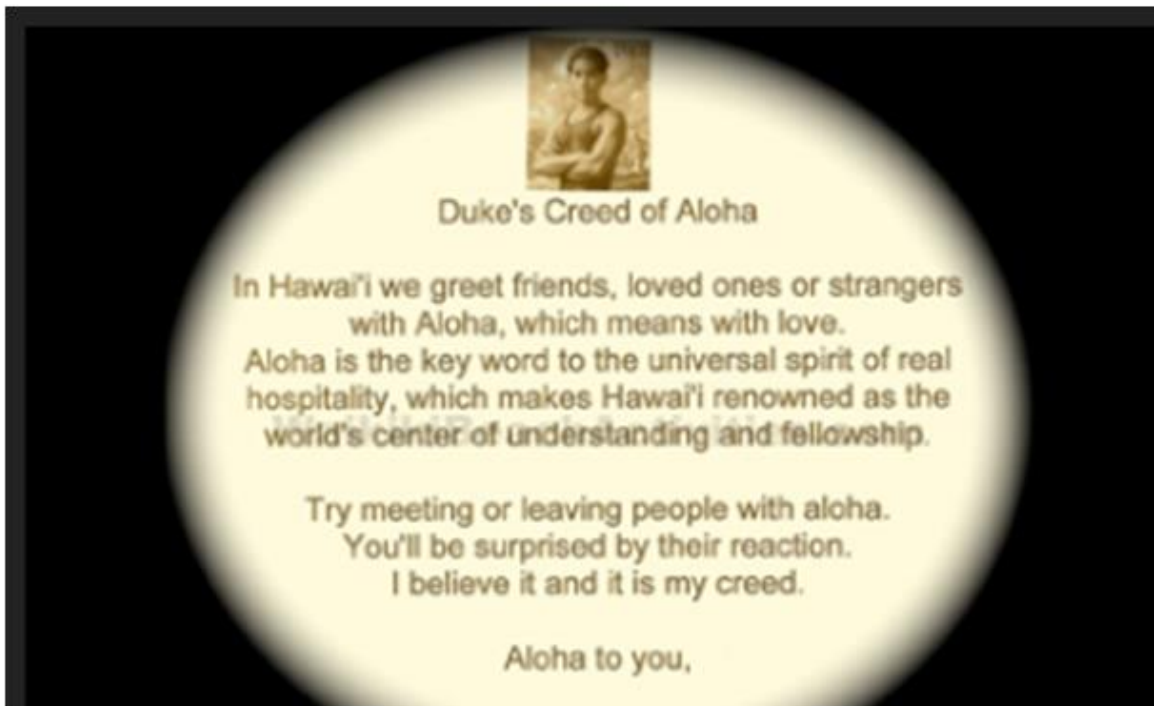
To prepare the children of Hawai'i with the knowledge, skills, and experience they need to become Water Safer for Life®.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 415 & Videoconference**

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in **strong support** of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.



A license plate for Duke will remind us all of Duke's Creed of Aloha

ALSO In 1986, 16 years after Duke's death, the State Legislature passed into law what is known as HRS 5-7.5 stating that all who work for the people of Hawaii are to be guided to the best of their ability by the Aloha Spirit

The Statute reads in full:

"Aloha Spirit" (a) "Aloha Spirit" is the coordination of mind and heart within each person. It brings each person to the self. Each person must think and emote good feelings to others. In the contemplation and presence of the life force, "aloha", the following unuhilaulaloa may be used:

"Akahai", meaning kindness to be expressed with tenderness;

"Lokahi", meaning unity, to be expressed with harmony;

"Oluolu", meaning agreeable, to be expressed with pleasantness;

"Haahaa", meaning humility, to be expressed with modesty;

"Ahonui", meaning patience, to be expressed with perseverance.

These are traits of character that express the charm, warmth and sincerity of Hawaii's people. It was the working philosophy of native Hawaiians and was presented as a gift to the people of Hawaii. "Aloha" is more than a word of greeting or farewell or a salutation. "Aloha" means mutual regard and affection and extends warmth in caring with no obligation in return. "Aloha" is the essence of relationships in which each person is important to every other person for collective existence. "Aloha" means to hear what is not said, to see what cannot be seen and to know the unknowable.

(b) In exercising their power on behalf of the people and in fulfillment of their responsibilities, obligations and service to the people, the Legislature, governor, lieutenant governor, executive officers of each department, the chief justice, associate justices, and judges of the appellate, circuit and district courts may contemplate and reside with the life force and give consideration to the "Aloha Spirit". Passed 1986.

Other places around the globe remind *their* citizens of Duke's Aloha-- New Brighton, Christchurch New Zealand hosts an annual Duke's Festival in March; Stockholm Sweden has a plaque; Atlantic City NJ has a mural; Freshwater Beach, Australia has a statue, and a Walk of Fame that shows how surfing radiating from Hawaii, Corona del Mar in California is considering a statue for Duke to honor his brave rescue of drowning fishermen in 1925; Huntington Beach CA has a Walk of Fame and a Duke bust; Rockaway Beach, NY has a plaque; plus he is an inductee of at least 8 Halls of Fame.

One of the most recent honors is the April 2022 announcement that Duke is one of the first 17 people or places to be recognized with a Blue Plaque award, voted by the people of New South Wales Australia for his influential role in the history of that most populous state!

Duke was a great sportsman indeed. All his aquatic records are now broken. But he will be remembered forever as a Native Hawaiian who taught the world about ALOHA.

A license plate for Duke will be prized by the scores of plate collectors worldwide, plus it will be an everyday reminder to us here in Hawaii- nei on how to live.

Aloha to you!

Thank you for passing this legislation,

Sandra K. Hall

Honolulu, Hawai`i

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 415 & Videoconference**

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in **strong support** of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

I am an historian who formerly worked for the Hawaii Authority for Rapid Transit (HART) on preservation and historical matters. My research included some of Duke Kahanamoku's activities. I found a photo of him wielding a golf club while standing on a surfboard taken at a time when Native Hawaiians and people of color were not allowed to join golf clubs. Was it on purpose? Who knows, but if so, I can imagine the impact.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

Despite our waterman heritage, Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and a high drowning rate for visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

*Wendy Tolleson, M.A.
Historic Honokaa Town Project*

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 10:36:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanlin Bower	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in strong support of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku, iconic Ambassador of Aloha, Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman, and the father of modern day surfing. He embodies the spirit of Aloha, and would evoke a powerful reminder to be kind to others..

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Jeanlin Bower



February 27, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Dean Schmaltz, President and Chairman of Hawaii Aquatics Foundation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **support of SB 116** to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

This is a unique opportunity to provide a source of sustained funding for the education of both residents and visitors about Duke Kahanamoku's achievements as a waterman and the role he had in promoting water safety and rescue. Hawaii residents have the second highest drowning rate in the nation and our visitors have a persistently high drowning rate as well. Linking the legacy of Duke to the importance of personal water safety for all is aligned with the drowning prevention policy recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Life Saving Federation (ILS). Their position statements affirm that multifaceted collaborative efforts of community members, like-minded organizations, and local governments are required to achieve a sustained reduction in long-term aquatic injury and drowning rates.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean E. Schmaltz".

Dean E. Schmaltz
President, Chairman
Hawaii Aquatics Foundation
dba Hawaii Aquatics Academy

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 12:37:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
scott mijares	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

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SB 116, Relating to SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

I am in strong support of SB 116 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

The spirit of Aloha lives on in Hawaii for both residents and visitors thru Duke and his memory. Help keep it alive and well with the issuance of this commemorative license plate. It is well deserved and add to the sense of pride that Hawaiians and Hawaiians at heart have for this special place.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Scott Mijares

Host, Surf Stories o Kauai Community Radio and Hawaii Surf Historian

LATE

SB-116

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 10:24:37 PM
Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth BERGER	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to highlight my support in favor of the Duke Kahanamoku license plate.

Throughout his life, Duke Kahanamoku displayed all of the attributes of Aloha which we are proud as citizens of this beautiful State. As he honored Hawaii representing the State around the world, we would be well-served to have the chance to honor his legacy in return, by demonstrating our appreciation for his dedication by promoting him on a license plate.

Please proceed with the Bill to honor this great Hawaiian.

Kindly Yours,