



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 1609, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 7, 2023      **TIME:** 1:01 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 224

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
Elise A. Amemiya or Bryan C. Yee, Deputy Attorneys General

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Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments regarding this bill.

This bill would appropriate money to the Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism to issue grants for: (1) a virtual marketplace that supports local artisans and business adapt to e-commerce, page 2, lines 1-4; and (2) a physical co-working space and an innovation, entrepreneur, and resource center that provides workshops, counseling, loan assistance, and broadband access, page 2, lines 5-9; and appropriate money to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to issue grants for the repatriation and reburials of Native Hawaiians nationally and internationally, page 2, lines 10-13.

These grants are subject to article VII, section 4, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, which provides, "[n]o grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law." This bill does not appear to contain sufficient standards for grants of public money. Examples of existing statutes that provide standards for agencies to issue grants are part II of chapter 9 and sections 10-17, 210D-11, and 383-128, Hawaii Revised Statutes. We have attached draft standards to this testimony as a sample to work from, and we are happy to work with you on developing more specific standards.

Alternatively, the bill could be amended to appropriate money to the departments to procure services instead of issuing grants. We have attached draft language that could be used to amend the bill to provide that the departments purchase the services instead of issuing grants.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

**POSSIBLE STANDARDS FOR THE GRANTS IN THIS BILL**

- (1) Any grant shall be used exclusively for the purposes of this program.
- (2) The applicant shall indicate capability to properly use the grant for the purpose of the grant program.  
[Specific applicant qualifications should be described for the different types of grants.]
- (3) The applicant shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, disability, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law.
- (4) The grant shall not be used for purposes of entertainment or perquisites.
- (5) The applicant shall comply with other requirements as the department may prescribe.
- (6) All activities undertaken with funds received shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and county statutes and ordinances.
- (7) The applicant shall indemnify and save harmless the State of Hawaii and its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims arising out of or resulting from activities carried out or projects undertaken with funds provided hereunder, and procure sufficient insurance to provide this indemnification if requested to do so by the department.
- (8) The applicant shall agree to make available to the department all records the applicant may have relating to the grant, to allow state agencies to monitor the applicant's compliance with this section.

**POSSIBLE WORDING TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS  
TO THE DEPARTMENTS FOR PURCHASE OF SERVICES**

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to the department of business, economic development, and tourism and the department of land and natural resources to improve Native Hawaiian communities and culture through various assistance services, including but not limited to services that offer Native Hawaiian historic preservation, business training, entrepreneurship, and mentoring.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the purpose of improving Native Hawaiian communities and culture by providing a virtual marketplace that supports local artisans and businesses to adapt to e-commerce.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of business, economic development, and tourism, for the purposes of this Act.

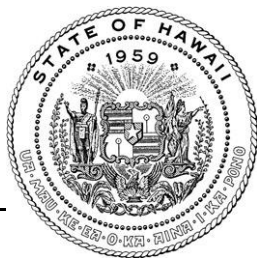
SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the purpose of improving Native Hawaiian communities and culture by providing a physical co-working space and an innovation, entrepreneur, and resource center that provides workshops, counseling, loan assistance, and broadband access.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of business, economic development, and tourism, for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the repatriation and reburials of Native Hawaiians nationally and internationally.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**  
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI  
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**CHRIS J. SADAYASU**  
DIRECTOR

**DANE K. WICKER**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [dbedt.hawaii.gov](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**CHRIS J. SADAYASU**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Tuesday, February 7, 2023  
1:01 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of  
**SB1609**  
**RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.**

Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Fevella, and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) offers comments on SB1609, which requires certain departments and agencies to provide grants to tax-exempt non-profit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities:

- “Purchase of services” should be used instead of “grants” in the bill. If the term “grants” is used in the bill, a grantee should be specified along with the specifics of what the “grants” can be used for.
- DBEDT’s Community Based Economic Development (CBED) program is authorized to provide grants. However, general funds appropriation to this program must specifically be appropriated to the CBED special fund. Furthermore, grants made from the CBED program are limited to no more than \$100,000 per entity.
- A virtual marketplace can support local artisans and businesses to adapt to e-commerce. DBEDT has an active e-commerce support program so this initiative aligns with our current efforts.
- An innovation center that is a physical co-working space and an innovation, entrepreneur and resource center providing workshops, counseling, loan assistance, and broadband access also aligns with DBEDT’s mission and current programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee



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

Councilmembers  
Tom Cook  
Gabe Johnson  
Tasha Kama  
Tamara Paltin  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura  
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins

Deputy Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

February 1, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair,  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Alice L. Lee   
Maui County Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1609, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. This measure would appropriate funds for certain departments and agencies to provide grants to tax-exempt nonprofit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities.

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. This measure would provide support to improving Native Hawaiian communities and culture through various assistance programs, including those offering Native Hawaiian historic preservation, business training, entrepreneurship, and mentoring.
2. Supporting organizations that have experience and expertise in the supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities perpetuates the Hawaiian culture while also encouraging innovation for local businesses and keeping Hawai'i's skilled labor from moving away for better opportunities.

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

ocs:proj:legis:23legis:23testimony:sb1609\_paf23-007(14)\_kmat



**SB 1609**  
**RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 7, 2023

1:01 PM

Room 224 &  
Videoconference

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The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA), a member-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to enhance the cultural, economic, political, and community development of Native Hawaiians, **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SB 1609, which proposes much-needed additional state grant funding to support the Native Hawaiian community.

CNHA worked with its members to help develop this collection of grant program proposals. Our goal was to empower Native Hawaiian and local communities through the investment in our state's economy and unique heritage, with an eye towards setting critical foundations that can sustain and build upon hard-fought progress. We greatly appreciate the Legislature's willingness to consider new buckets of state grant funding that would supplement existing state funding opportunities for Native Hawaiian organizations with demonstrated track records of success.

#### Proposed Grant Programs

**1. Virtual Marketplace that supports local artisans and businesses to adapt to e-commerce**

In April 2020, CNHA launched the **Pop-Up Mākeke**, a virtual marketplace supporting local artisans impacted by the global pandemic that shut down vital revenue streams from brick-and-mortar stores and community events. The success of the Pop-Up Mākeke demonstrates the need for a centralized e-commerce hub that leverages small business resources and creates new opportunities for Hawai'i's small businesses to thrive in an ever changing global market. The pandemic has shifted how consumers shop and as a result has caused many businesses needing to reimagine their business model to a more web-centric approach.

The Pop-Up Makeke will leverage data analytics to provide to artisans their sale history and market trends for them to make better business oriented decisions.

This request would allow Pop-Up Mākeke to provide increased support for Hawaii-based artisans to remain sustainable and thrive in a post-pandemic economy.

This request for funds would cover:

- Kūhana Management
- Pop-Up Mākeke Management
- Sector-expert consultants including branding and marketing consultants, and business development specialists
- Consignment support for participating businesses in Pop-Up Mākeke

CNHA will facilitate incubator courses to micro- and small-retail businesses to adapt to e-commerce. The course will include personalized assistance to each businesses needs from e-commerce, marketing, and logistics experts. Businesses that complete the incubation course will be allowed to participate in the Pop-Up Makeke to introduce their products to a global market as they prepare their own online presence.

Course syllabus will include:

- What does it mean for your products to represent Hawaii?
- How to effectively market your business online?
- How to leverage resources to scale your business? (i.e. wholesale model, capacity building, resources to capital)

**2. Physical co-working space and an innovation, entrepreneur, and resource center that provides workshops, counseling, loan assistance, and broadband access**

The **West O'ahu Innovation Center** will serve as a physical co-working space, entrepreneur, and resource center. It will be an innovative entrepreneur center for the underserved-community of West O'ahu, providing collaborative, meeting and event space; offering business workshops and counseling; engaging 'Big Business' mentors for small and micro-business entrepreneurs; and delivering loan assistance and broadband access.

The facility will also feature CNHA's Hawaiian Trades Academy Technology Center and Classroom. By establishing these resources on the west side, small businesses will have the tools and support needed to start, grow and thrive.

This request for funding would cover the cost to retrofit an existing 10,000 sq ft facility to house the West O'ahu Innovation Center.



### **3. Repatriation and reburials of Native Hawaiians nationally and internationally**

This request would support the establishment of a program that addresses Native Hawaiian-specific historic preservation needs. This request would fund a program would:

- Conduct repatriations and reburials nationally and internationally under federal and international legal frameworks, as well as curate sacred objects that have been repatriated; Repatriations have been coordinated from multiple museums in Germany, Poland, France, England, New Zealand and North America. Small teams of culturally trained repatriation experts will be sent to each country to bring home human remains and artifacts. The entirety of the travel budget will be used for this activity and includes Air, Ground, Lodging, Freight, and per diem.
- Create and purchase reburial material for 3000+ Mōkapu Iwi Kūpuna; Kapa and boxes will need to be made or purchased for each kupuna. Items will be sourced from throughout the State of Hawai'i from traditional kapa makers, weavers, and wood workers.
- Assess the establishment of a Native Hawaiian Historic Preservation Office that will include national and international repatriation and reburial efforts and possible management of the burial sites program.
- FTEs would be responsible for overall coordination of first three bullets, which involves multiple stakeholders, cultural practitioners, museum outreach, travel logistics and reporting. Contract services will go to secure repatriation expertise and established relationships with institutions.

Further budget details can be provided for all programs.

In closing, CNHA urges the Committee to pass SB 1609. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Respectfully,

J. Kūhiō Lewis, CEO  
Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement



*Ko`olau Foundation*

P. O. Box 4749

Kane`ohe, HI 96744

[malamapono744@aol.com](mailto:malamapono744@aol.com) / [koolaufoundation@gmail.com](mailto:koolaufoundation@gmail.com)

February 6, 2023

To: Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Sen. Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair  
And Members, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

From: Aaron D. Mahi, President  
Mahealani Cypher, Board Member

Re: Support – S.B. 1609, Relating to Native Hawaiians

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Fevella and Committee Members:

The Ko`olau Foundation strongly supports S.B. 1609, which would appropriate funds for state departments and agencies to provide grants to tax-exempt nonprofit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities.

Our organization has worked for years to raise public awareness of the rich history and heritage of our Hawaiian people, and has advocated for preserving the traditional practices and welfare of Native Hawaiians. We are among the organizations who depend upon government agencies as we do our work to malama na wahi kapu Hawai`i.

Providing this funding mechanism enables some of our state agencies and departments, like the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Transportation and others, to support the efforts of tax-exempt non-profit organizations based here in the islands in their work on behalf of Native Hawaiians.

We urge your committee to support this bill and report it out of committee with the necessary funding.

Mahalo for considering our mana`o.

February 6, 2023

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Senator Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair



*Working together for Kapolei*

Tuesday, February 7, 2023  
1:00 p.m. via Videoconference

**RE: SB 1609 Relating to Hawaiian Affairs**

Dear Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Fevella and members of the Committee,

My name is Kiran Polk, and I am the Executive Director of the Kapolei Chamber of Commerce. The Kapolei Chamber of Commerce **strongly supports SB 1609** which requires certain departments and agencies to provide grants to tax-exempt non-profit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities. Specifically, **we extend our support for Section 2 (1)(B) which appropriates the sum of \$1,000,000 for an entrepreneur center that is a physical co—working space and an entrepreneur and resource center that provides workshops, counseling, loan assistance, and broadband access.**

The Kapolei Chamber and the Business Revitalization Task Force of West O’ahu has partnered with the Council of Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) to establish a West O’ahu Innovation and Entrepreneur Center that serves the Native Hawaiian community as well as other underserved communities in the region.

The Wai’anae Coast in West O’ahu, has the largest resident population of Native Hawaiians in the world and a higher rate of poverty than the rest of Honolulu County. Nevertheless, there is incredible growth in West O’ahu. According to the 2020 Census, the West O’ahu Council District grew 20.7 % since the last census (2010). The region expects 80,000 new housing units by 2025. This includes homes, businesses, and infrastructure. Yet, most residents still commute an average of two hours each day into town for work. During the pandemic, despite economic turmoil, the region continued to experience economic growth and housing development. **CNHA’s online marketplace *Pop-Up Mākeke*, serves over 400 businesses with millions of dollars in revenue since its inception. Hundreds of the businesses in the Mākeke are from the west side.**

**Even though we are a burgeoning community – we lack the most critical infrastructure, connectivity, and business resources.**

The Innovation Center itself is an innovation because **currently, there are no community-focused co-working spaces anywhere in West O`ahu**. Our vision is that the Center will be a place where small and micro business entrepreneurs will access free or discounted co-working space, where ideas, networking and innovation can flourish. Business professionals can nurture industry using Center resources including Wi-Fi, "BIZ Workshops" (business training), counseling services, mentoring, inspirational "BIZ Talks" (an innovation), computers, office machines and networking opportunities. **It will be a collaborative space, a meeting space, and even an event space, something that is also a rare commodity in West O`ahu. It is a unique approach to deliver long-term economic recovery, growth, and resilience to the Native Hawaiian community.**

The West O`ahu Innovation and Entrepreneur Center **will be a public and private partnership**. Monetary contributions are also being sought from private foundations and donors in addition to public funding and grants. The intention is to lease space in a location in the Kapolei area that is already built and has basic infrastructure already in place. The improvements would likely include electrical installations, internet cables, cabinetry and/or the installation of a kitchenette or bathroom. In-kind donations could include furniture, computer equipment, printers, Wi-Fi service, website maintenance and social media management.

**The Innovation Center will utilize all funds received to stabilize operations during the first two years.** If funds are available, the Center would like to subsidize memberships or offer discounted memberships to underserved community members.

After the initial two-year period, a professional management company (like the Hub Networking, BoxJelly or Regus) would be hired to manage the day-to-day operations of the Center. The partnership between CNHA, the KCC and the management company would be responsible for ensuring that the Center becomes self-sustaining and profitable.

By leveraging the expertise of our established business community to encourage networking and sharing and providing the physical space and tools to get started, we are creating an environment that supports and inspires our citizens in our Native Hawaiian and West O`ahu community to achieve success. **Overall, the West O`ahu Innovation and Entrepreneur Center will aid businesses to innovate, stabilize and expand as we navigate through the pandemic and beyond.**

The Kapolei Chamber of Commerce is an advocate for businesses in the Kapolei region which includes Waipahu, `Ewa Beach, Kapolei, Nānākuli, Waianae and Mākaha. The Chamber works on behalf of its members and the entire business community to improve the regional and State economic climate and help Kapolei businesses thrive. We are a member- driven, member-supported organization representing the interests of all types of business: small, medium or large, for profit or non-profit businesses or sole proprietorship.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,



Kiran Polk  
Executive Director

1001 Kamokila Boulevard, Campbell Building Suite 250, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

February 6, 2023

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Senator Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

1:00 p.m. via  
Videoconference

**RE: HB 1609 Relating to Hawaiian Affairs**

Dear Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Fevella and members of the Committee,

My name is Eliza Talbot, and I am the Chair of the Business Revitalization Task Force of West Oahu for the Kapolei Chamber of Commerce. The Task Force **strongly supports SB 1609**, which requires certain departments and agencies to provide grants to tax-exempt non-profit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities.

**The Task Force is comprised of business leaders representing the West O'ahu Community, which supports Section 2 (1)(B) of the bill which appropriates \$1,000,000 for an entrepreneur center that is a physical co—working space and an entrepreneur and resource center that provides workshops, counseling, loan assistance, and broadband access.**

West O'ahu has the largest resident population of Native Hawaiians in the world and is the fastest growing region within the state but we do not have sufficient resources to support our entrepreneurs and small businesses. During the pandemic, many of our residents found creative ways to monetize their skills and create new businesses but the business development resources they needed were primarily located within urban Honolulu. Additionally, due to infrastructure gaps and unaffordability, access to broadband connectivity is limited or not available at all in certain parts of West O'ahu

In response to these needs, the Task Force partnered with the Council of Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) to establish a West O'ahu Innovation and Entrepreneur Center designed to provide business resources to Native Hawaiians, veterans, women, LGBTQ+ and all underserved communities in the region.

The Center will be a hub for connectivity, innovation, networking, support services, learning, co-working, and event space, mentoring and inspiration for entrepreneurs. With the partnership of CNHA, we strive to create a collaborative community space that offers technology and services with cultural integration. We believe this is a unique

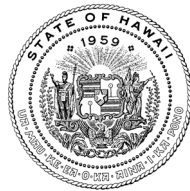
approach to deliver long-term economic recovery, growth, and resilience to the Native Hawaiian community in West O'ahu.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share this testimony.

Eliza Talbot

Chair of the Business Revitalization Task Force of West O'ahu of the Kapolei Chamber of Commerce

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR  
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  
*Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā*  
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

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 1609

**February 7, 2023**  
**1:01 p.m.**  
**Room 224 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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

Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 1609 appropriates \$3,000,000 of general funds to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and \$1,000,000 of general funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for FY 24 to provide grants to federal tax-exempt non-profit organizations to support their respective organizational missions. The measure provides that the grants shall be tailored toward improving Native Hawaiian communities and culture through various assistance programs, including, but not limited to, programs that offer Native Hawaiian historic preservation, business training, entrepreneurship, and mentoring.

S.B. No. 1609 is similar to Act 195, SLH 2022, which also appropriated general funds to DBEDT and DLNR to provide grants to non-profits for the benefit of Native Hawaiian Communities. It should be noted that DBEDT and DLNR would need to establish and adopt appropriate rules, standards, and processes in order to award the subject grants.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**KEKUHAUPIO R. AKANA**  
Acting Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov)

February 6, 2023

TO: Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Honorable Senator Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor

DATE: February 6, 2023

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 1609, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for certain departments and agencies to provide grants to tax-exempt nonprofit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities.

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

1. This measure would provide support to Native Hawaiian communities and culture through various assistance programs, including but not limited to programs that offer Native Hawaiian historic preservation, business training, entrepreneurship, and mentoring.
2. This measure perpetuates the Hawaiian culture, and provides employment opportunities with local businesses.

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



**SB-1609**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 12:31:42 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/7/2023 1:01:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Marion K A Kapuniai | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

**AMEND!**

Pge 1, Line 8

- 1) **Delete** first "and" and . period
- 2) **Add** "and Housing Developements and/or Services".

Thank you,

M Kapuniai

**SB-1609**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 8:30:40 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/7/2023 1:01:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b>          | <b>Organization</b>  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kenneth R. Conklin,<br>Ph.D. | Testifying for Center for<br>Hawaiian Sovereignty<br>Studies | Oppose                    | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

According to OHA's latest annual report, on June 30, 2022 OHA had assets of \$823 Million. Another bill already approved by a committee last year called for \$638 Million in arrears plus \$79 Million per year in future for OHA from ceded land revenues, exclusively for "betterment of Native Hawaiians" who comprise 20% of Hawaii's people; with no set-aside of 4 times those amounts exclusively for the other 80% of Hawaii's people who lack a drop of Hawaiian blood.

What the heck do you folks think OHA should be doing with all that money? Throughout the year OHA blows its conch shell and waves its kahilis to draw attention to its occasional announcements when they give a grant of a few million dollars to help one or another non-profit group that has "experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities." But the total amount OHA spends to give grants to any groups, including the Hawaiian-focus charter schools and immersion schools, is a pitifully small portion of the tens of millions of dollars OHA collects each year from ceded land revenues and legislative appropriations. That's how OHA has acculated its enormous and ever-increasing cash stash.

Gimme, gimme, gimme! Let OHA, not the taxpayers, "provide grants to tax-exempt nonprofit organizations that have experience and expertise in supporting and advancing Native Hawaiian communities."

**LATE**

**SB-1609**

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 9:42:01 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/7/2023 1:01:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b>   | <b>Organization</b>            | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Edward Halealoha Ayau | Testifying for Hui Iwi Kuamo'o | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro,

I am the Executive Director of Hui Iwi Kuamo‘o, the successor organization to Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna O Hawai‘i Nei. We engage in national and international repatriation of ancestral Hawaiian skeletal remains, funerary possessions and sacred objects.

I provide this written testimony in support of this measure and remind this Committee that we testified last year to have this measure passed and funded to support repatriation and reburial activities by organization's such as ours, as we have the most experience and expertise in national and international repatriation, a total of 140 formal cases involving over 6,500 ancestral remains and funerary possessions.

I further testify to support this measure as we have partnered with other Native Hawaiian organizations including CNHA to repatriate cultural items (not human remains) in large quantities that will require funding to properly curate these items.

Mahalo for your kind attention to this important matter.

Ola nā iwi,

Edward Halealoha Ayau, Executive Director, Hui Iwi Kuamo'o