
HO`OMANA PONO, LLC
Mamua Kānaka

ATTENTION:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Chair

Senator Rachele Lamosao, Vice Chair

January 31, 2026

Re: **SB2795 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs!

We **STRONGLY SUPPORT** this, Bill.

It is a sad commentary that in Hawai`i Nei, we are even having to engage in this type of legislation. However, we must as **ONE LĀHUI ONIPA`A & KU`E** those who seek to erase who we are as a people and a ***Proud Kānaka Nation!***

As Uncle Liko has sung:

“All Hawai`i, stand together, it is now and forever, to raise our voices and hold your banners high. We shall stand as a nation, to guide the destiny of our generations to sing and praise the glory of our land.”

The GLORY of this Ko Hawai`i Pae `Āina is our Hae Hawai`i! It must always be allowed to fly HIGH & PROUD!

Please pass this bill. Mahalo.

De Mont Kalai Manaole

De MONT Kalai Manaole, Co-Manager

Ho`omana Pono, LLC

86-044 Hoaha St.

Wai`anae, HI 96792

Phone: (808) 726-5753

Email: hoomanaponollc96792@gmail.com



February 2, 2026

State of Hawaii Regular Session Hawaiian Affairs Committee
Senate Bill 2795 – Hawaiian Flag

Aloha Honorable Chair Richards, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Patty Kahanamoku Teruya a Native Hawaiian, a beneficiary serving as President of the Waianae Coast Community Foundation and as an advocate for cultural preservation, economic development, and the wellbeing of our people.

I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of SB 2795, Relating to the Hawaiian Flag, on areas of condominium, housing corporations, community associations and on any commercial site malls, state libraries, shopping center “leasing on the Department of Hawaiian Homelands.”

For Native Hawaiians, the Hawaiian flag is not merely a decorative image or political symbol — it represents our Kingdom, our ali'i, and our identity as a people. It carries the history of a sovereign nation and reflects the resilience of the lāhui despite the illegal overthrow and the continued impacts of colonization. The flag is a reminder of who we are, where we come from, and the responsibility we carry to protect our culture and history for future generations.

As a community leader, I witness the importance of cultural education and respect in strengthening our families and communities. When cultural symbols are misused or commercialized without understanding, it diminishes their meaning and disrespects the people they represent. SB 2795 helps establish proper recognition and use of the Hawaiian flag in a manner that honors its historical and cultural significance.

Mahalo for your support on SB 2795.

Patty Kahanamoku-Teruya
808 723-9161
89-1101 Pohakupalena Street Wai'anae, Hawaii 96792
pattyteruya@gmail.com



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2795
RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN FLAG

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka ‘Oihana Kālepa a me
ka Ho‘omalū Mea Kemu a me Ke Kōmike ‘Aha
Kenekoa o ke Kuleana Hawai‘i
Ke Kapikala o Hawai‘i

Pepeluali 6, 2026

9:30AM

Lumi 229

Aloha e Chairs Keohokalole and Richards, Vice Chairs Fukunaga and Lamosao, and Members of the Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB2795**, which affirms and protects the right to display Ka Hae Hawai‘i at one’s home.

For over two centuries, Ka Hae Hawai‘i has been a powerful symbol of the Hawaiian Kingdom and the lāhui. Ka Hae Hawai‘i reflects a legacy of sovereign governance, international diplomacy, and aloha ‘āina. Despite the illegal overthrow of the Kingdom, Ka Hae Hawai‘i has endured as a symbol of kū‘e (resistance) and ‘onipa‘a (steadfastness).

Today, Ka Hae Hawai‘i remains a cherished symbol of Hawai‘i’s history, culture, and identity. It is both reasonable and just to protect the right to display Ka Hae Hawai‘i consistent with fundamental rights to free speech and political protest. Moreover, OHA is concerned about the proposed loophole in the bill allowing an HOA’s “substantial interest” to justify restrictions on flying Ka Hae Hawai‘i. This loophole is contrary to the overall intent of the bill to provide residents with security and certainty concerning their right to fly Ka Hae Hawai‘i.

OHA respectfully urges this committee to **PASS SB2795 with attention to our concerns.**

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this critical issue.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:34:02 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Philip Nerney	Testifying for CAI	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

CAI has no objection to the proper display of the Hawaiian flag. The essential issue is that authority must exist to reasonably regulate the time, place and manner of display. Community interests must be taken into account.

For example, and without limitation, flags that are disproportionately large, or that are displayed upside down, could become a distraction or divisive.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/1/2026 11:35:22 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Emery	Testifying for Associa	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an experienced condominium manager I can share the problems if the Bill is not carefully worded.

The most common mainland issue for the US flag is that an owner may want to erect a permanent flagpole in their limited common area. There are cases of attempted installation of a permanent 50' flagpole with a gigantic flag.

I support the ability to fly the Hawaiian flag but the Bill needs to address installation for permanent flagpoles and oversized flags without association approval. It will happen.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 1/30/2026 6:15:30 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raelene Tenno	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT being able to display our Hawaii Flag within my property with size restrictions to a maximum of no larger than 4'x6' Flag size and no higher than 20feet in height. The position and height should not obstruct neighboring views. example: my flag positioned at the front lawn should not block my neighbors view of the ocean or mountain range.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 1/30/2026 7:09:24 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry Support

2795 SB RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN FLAG.	HWN/CPN	CR 229 & Videoconference	Feb 6, 2026 9:30 AM
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SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 4:34:19 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Agree that the Hawaiian flag remains a historic and beloved symbol of Hawai‘i, it also ties many to a cultural identity deeply rooted in these islands.

It is not disparaging, exclusive, or demeaning to anyone and thus should be allowed to be displayed or flown on all properties in Hawai‘i, with no entity, corporation or otherwise, able to prohibit the display of this symbol of Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Keoni Shizuma

Alexandra Ruiz
Regarding SB2795
2 February 2026

I am writing in support of SB2795.

As a graduate student in the University of Hawaii's Thompson's School of Social Work and Public Health, I've read about the history of Hawaii and am invested in protecting the rights of both 1) the Hawaiian flag, and 2) the citizens and businesses that choose to fly it.

I have concerns that a lack of explicit legislative protections for the Hawaiian flag leave too much of a grey area that may put people at legal risk. It is important for the Hawaiian flag to be held to the same standards and have the same protections as the American flag.

America's presence on the Hawaiian islands is the reason that the Hawaiian flag is a secondary symbol of the islands. Many people fly the flag as both a symbol of pride and as a symbol of protest, it is important that there be protections in place to ensure that this doesn't change. As tensions arise in the United States, it is imperative that there is written legislation to protect the rights of anyone who should want to wave the flag on the Hawaiian islands.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Alexandra Ruiz

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 11:37:53 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Lorenzo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The U.S. Military has committed atrocities against Hawaiian Lands and they continue to do so. The cultural and environmental damages of the U.S. Military can never be repaired. The presence of military personnel and their families negatively impact civilian and Native Hawaiian families in regards to housing availability and cost of living. As soon as military personnel receive an increase in housing, rents jump that exact amount/percentage. Civilian and Native Hawaiian families do not get those increases in their pay and are priced out of our homes and our Native Lands.

The military personnel flowing in and out of Hawai'i do not respect the land, the people, or the culture. They pollute and pillage our lands while destroying cultural artifacts and poisoning our people (i.e., Kaho'olawe, Red Hill). The only purpose of the military is destruction. Destruction of Hawai'i is NOT in the best interests of your constituents.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 2:13:15 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexander K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of **SB2795** relating to the Hawaiian flag.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/4/2026 3:01:37 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kahelelani Alohikea-Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit my opposition to SB27905.

Me ke aloha,

Kumu Kahelelani Alohikea-Smith

Keauhou-Kona.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 1:02:33 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gabriel Agunat	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Gabriel Agunat. I am writing as a concerned resident who strongly believes in the importance of the Hawaiian flag as a symbol of our history, culture, and identity. For many residents, displaying the Hawaiian flag is a meaningful way to honor Hawai‘i’s heritage, express pride in our islands, and show respect for the values and traditions that make Hawai‘i unique. However, residents living in condominiums, cooperative housing, or planned communities are often restricted from displaying the Hawaiian flag, even within their own property. This bill strikes an appropriate and thoughtful balance. By requiring housing associations to allow owners to display the Hawaiian flag, it affirms residents’ ability to express cultural pride and personal identity. At the same time, allowing reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions ensures that associations can still protect legitimate interests related to safety, maintenance, and community standards. As someone who lives in a shared housing community, I believe residents should not have to choose between complying with association rules and honoring Hawai‘i’s culture. This measure recognizes that the Hawaiian flag is not merely decorative; it carries deep cultural and historical significance for many people who call these islands home. I respectfully urge the Legislature to support this bill and ensure that residents across Hawai‘i have the right to display the Hawaiian flag in their own homes.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 7:58:35 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serafina Gajate	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Enough with the military poisoning and destroying our land while they play their war games.
End the leases now.

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 12:10:15 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jocina Alani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I, Jocina Alani support SB2795 where owners be allowed to display Hawaiian flag within the owners property.

Me Ke Aloha,

Jocina Alani

SB-2795

Submitted on: 2/5/2026 2:56:05 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/6/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devon Kaahanui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! I am a mixed-race Hawaiian with parents from England. I work in technology and have a background in computer programming, and I also speak fluent Hawaiian.

I believe condominium associations should retain the ability to prohibit flags that are genuinely offensive, such as custom flags containing explicit or sexual imagery.

However, flags that represent states, countries, and even religions should be freely allowed. If any single flag is permitted to fly, the Hawaiian flag should be allowed to fly just as high. ❤️