

ACT 354

H.B. NO. 2098

A Bill for an Act Relating to Hawaiian Sovereignty.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. On January 16, 1893, John L. Stevens, American minister in Hawaii and friend of those supporting the annexation of Hawaii to the United States, ordered the United States marines to invade Honolulu under the pretext of protecting American citizens and their property. Stevens thereafter recognized a new provisional government even before Queen Liliuokalani surrendered. The actions by the annexationists were condemned by President Cleveland's special envoy and the President himself. When President Cleveland refused to submit a treaty of annexation to the Senate, the new provisional government established the Republic of Hawaii which lasted until annexation in 1898. Sixty-one years later, Hawaii became a state.

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Until the provisional government was recognized by John L. Stevens, the Kingdom of Hawaii was recognized as an independent nation by the United States, France, and Great Britain. Many native Hawaiians and others view the overthrow of 1893 and subsequent actions by the United States, such as supporting establishment of the provisional government and later the Republic of Hawaii, the designation of the crown and government lands as public lands, annexation, and the ceding of public lands to the federal government without the consent of native Hawaiians, as illegal. Because the actions taken by the United States were viewed as illegal and done without the consent of native Hawaiians, many native Hawaiians feel there is a valid legal claim for reparations. Many native Hawaiians believe that the lands taken without their consent should be returned and if not, monetary reparations made, and that they should have the right to sovereignty, or the right to self-determination and self-government as do other native American peoples.

The legislature has also acknowledged that the actions by the United States were illegal and immoral, and pledges its continued support to the native Hawaiian community by taking steps to promote the restoration of the rights and dignity of native Hawaiians. The purpose of this Act is to provide funding for resources to educate the general public about Hawaiian sovereignty.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$300,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1993-1994, for the development of programs and curriculum to educate the general public about Hawaiian sovereignty; provided that these education programs and curriculum are developed through a purchase of service contract with Hui Na'auao.

SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of Hawaiian affairs for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1993.

(Approved July 1, 1993.)