Jan 7, 2000

To Congress,

I am writing this letter to express my support of the Apology Bill, Public Law 103-150.

As a native of California, third generation, and a U.S. citizen I wish to join in apology on behalf of the people of the United States for the illegal overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii on Jan. 17, 1893. I also wish to recognize and commend efforts of reconciliation initiated by the State of Hawaii and the United Church of Christ towards the Native Hawaiian People.

I have been a resident of these islands for thirty years and still consider myself a guest in their home. The Native people have embraced me and shown true respect of a fellow human being.

Growing up in Southern California I learned of the native Indians who once inhabited the land. The tribe I refer to is the Chumash of Santa Barbara County. Their story is similar to Hawaii. Unfortunately there are none left. Modern civilization has taken its toll. I feel that we now have an opportunity to make amends and right a wrong that was committed to an indigenous people

group. There are Hawaiians left, and we do have another chance.

Sincerely,

Dona J. Tavoni
73-1141 Olu Olu St.
Kailua, Kona Hi.
96740