

Assistant Secretary John Berry
Document Management Unit
Department of the Interior

KSK

Dear Mr. Berry:

I hope when you come to Hawaii, you will not confine your hearings to what compensation is owed to ethnic Hawaiians, and that you will accept testimony from other than ethnic Hawaiians.

I believe there are many residents of Hawaii that agree with the following:

The United States took no real part in the overthrow of the Hawaiian kingdom, and did not affect the outcome.

The ethnic Hawaiian residents of the Hawaiian kingdom had no special status, nor any claim to financial or territorial compensation to a greater degree than non-ethnic Hawaiians.

Any government lands or other assets were held either in the name of the monarchy, or all the citizens of the Hawaiian kingdom. Today, any such lands or assets transferred from the Hawaiian kingdom or the Republic of Hawaii belong to all citizens of Hawaii.

Today's descendants of ethnic Hawaiian residents of the Monarchy period have no valid claim to special treatment or compensation from any level of government of the United States.

Today's activist ethnic Hawaiians are simply playing 'victim' and are counting on 20th century politically correct sensitivities to get undeserved privileges based on their version of 19th century events.

Based on percentages of eligible persons taking part in "sovereignty" activities, even a majority of ethnic Hawaiians are satisfied with American citizenship and do not want hand outs that they do not deserve.

Much has been done to restore Hawaiian culture and language to the position of honor that the original host culture deserves. These efforts are the ones that the government of the United States should support.

Giving special privileges and/or compensation to citizens of the United States based on ethnicity is not just wrong, it is un-constitutional. I hope you will not permit it.

Richard Miller