Testimony - edited from that given on Dec. 11, 1999, at the EWC, Hon., Hi. - by Leialoha Apo Perkins.

85-175 Farrington
Apt. A334
Mākaha, Hi 96792

31 Dec. 1999

Asst. Sec. John Berry
90 Document Management Unit,
Dept. 7 The Interior Mailstop 7229
1849 C St. N.W., Washington, D.C.
20240

Dear Asst. Sec. Berry:

Thank you for the opportunity to have our native Hawaiian, Kanaka Maoli, views deported for the records.

First, I was always proud to be an American - abroad. at home, it is, within the center of Hawaiian disenfranchisement, sometimes a question where being American means. But I have a continuing belief in the American democratic vision - of equality and justice for all. Your presence for the hearings gives us half a chance of that.

But I ask - if the American public

is not the owner of its public lands, The U.S. government having placed in 1912 the right + privilege of controlling its economics (the dollar) in the Federal Reserve -- a consortium of 16 or so families, such as the Rothschilds, the J.P. Morgan Bank, the Rockefeller, Carnegie etc. (G. Davenport, Secrets of the Temple) nor all of whom are Americans -- how can the Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiians) trust that the U.S. can control the economics of the Kanaka Maoli interests? Yet the U.S. is our "Trustee"! We ask for justice: what is our due. We are equals, not subordinates to the U.S. government. We never gave up control of our independence.

Yet, various U.S. laws prevent us from acting on that independence. We are now aware of "needing" to handle "federal regulations for "unofficial communities of indigenous People to become official native nations." (Starbird, in Hon. Weekly, Dec. 22-28, 1999). American laws arrogate to Americans alone who is an "official native nation"? It twists us in the wind! We can hardly trust you!

Sincerely,
Pealoha Apo Pereira