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Public Meeting regarding whether the Federal
Government should reestablish a
government-to-government relationship with the
Native Hawaiian Community

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School
41-1330 Kalanianaʻole Highway
Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795
Monday, June 23, 2014
6:00 p.m. - 8:44 p.m.

Moderator:

DAWN CHANG

Recorded and Transcribed by:

JESSICA R. PERRY, CSR, RPR

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR PANELISTS:

RHEA SUH, Assistant Secretary for Policy,
Management, and Budget, U.S. Department of the
Interior

SAM HIRSCH, Acting Assistant Attorney General for
the Environment and Natural Resources Division,
U.S. Department of Justice

ESTHER KIA`AINA, Senior Advisor to the Secretary,
U.S. Department of the Interior

VENUS PRINCE, Deputy Solicitor, U.S. Department of
the Interior

JUSTIN SMITH, Assistant Section Chief of Law and
Policy, Environment and Natural Resources Division,
U.S. Department of Justice

JENNIFER ROMERO, Senior Advisor to the Secretary,
U.S. Department of the Interior

1 MS. CHANG: So the first person is Bumpy.
2 Then I've got Brandon Maka`awa`awa. Then I have
3 Maurice Rosete. Then I have Ululani Beirne and Paul
4 Richards.

5 MR. KANAHELE: Hi, aloha. Aloha.

6 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

7 MR. KANAHELE: My name is Dennis Bumpy
8 Kanahele. I'm here to testify on behalf of my family,
9 my ohana.

10 Recently I've joined forces with the
11 Native Hawaiian Roll Commission. I'm also one of --
12 recently I've joined forces with the Native Hawaiian
13 Roll Commission, and I'm also one of more than 125,000
14 Hawaiians who signed up for the Native Hawaiian
15 created by Act 195 in 2011. I've been participating
16 and engaging with the Hawaiian community in the
17 process of self-governance for over 20 years, and this
18 is the first time since the passing of the Apology Law
19 that I see so much activities amongst Hawaiians, young
20 and old, getting more educated, getting more involved.
21 Of course technology has a lot to do with that, too.

22 At this time they should be no need for
23 the federal government to interfere with the
24 nation-building process of the Native Hawaiian Roll.
25 The last time the federal government was involved the

1 Akaka Bill was created. No joke. And I know because
2 I was a delegate on the political process in 1996.

3 Lessons in history. 1945 was another
4 process, decolonization process. Hawaii was listed
5 under the UN decolonization process under article 73.
6 The Native Hawaiian people were colonized and robbed
7 of their right to self-governance under international
8 law. That's another political process that was
9 violated. The 50th state of the United States of
10 America was created instead and that's the big problem
11 we have right now.

12 Now in 1996 the state of Hawaii had
13 another process, a political process sanctioned by the
14 state. That was also cut off. That task force --
15 that was cut off. The funding, the political barriers
16 we had at the time was really bad.

17 2001 funding was cut and Senator Inouye
18 at that time created the federal task force. Now that
19 task force became the co-writers of the Akaka Bill.
20 And it's really important that you understand that
21 because it's putting us more and more under a bubble,
22 but yet you still got the crime to deal with.

23 Now, U.S. Public Law 106-1 -- I mean
24 100-606, the Genocide Act, the political, economic,
25 social and cultural conditions of the Native Hawaiian

1 people have been subjugated or subjected to the
2 international crime of genocide that took place over
3 121 years ago. It continues today.

4 According to U.S. Public Law 103-150,
5 President Obama can observe, protect and fund this
6 political process. In the spirit of this hearing,
7 please take this message back to your president, our
8 keiki o ka aina, Barack Obama. Sincerely, Bumpy
9 Kanahele.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. I also wanted to
12 reiterate, if you have a written statement and you
13 want to leave it, please do so as well. So the next
14 person is Brandon and then Maurice.

15 MR. MAKA`AWA`AWA: Aloha. Aloha, panel.
16 Aloha, Waimanalo.

17 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

18 MR. MAKA`AWA`AWA: I do not support the
19 proposed rule making by the Department of the Interior
20 to administer a government-to-government relationship
21 between the United States and the Native Hawaiian
22 people. I ask that the United States support Act 195
23 which created the Native Hawaiian Roll and its
24 nation-building efforts because it is a fair and
25 unbiased path to self-determination for us, which was

1 developed by Native Hawaiians for Native Hawaiians to
2 protect Native Hawaiian rights and claims. Act 195
3 proposes a constitutional convention the Native
4 Hawaiians would convene in in order to draft an
5 organic document to be the basis of our new
6 government. The convention will be a fair process
7 that will allow our people to debate and convene
8 freely without the interference of either the U.S.
9 government or the state of Hawaii.

10 In the past the Native Hawaiian people
11 have suffered the manipulation of our rights to
12 self-determination on numerous occasions. Our rights
13 were not considered during the illegal annexation by
14 joint resolution in 1900, the Statehood Act of 1959,
15 where the territory of Hawaii pushed adamantly for
16 statehood, and the 1959 plebiscite where they
17 deliberately left out an option for independence.

18 Once again, our inherent sovereignty and
19 right to self-determination are being undermined by
20 these DOI meetings. It is our political right to
21 govern ourselves. The Native Hawaiian people have
22 already begun the process and should be allowed to
23 finish it without the interference of the U.S.
24 government. By disregarding the Native Hawaiian Roll,
25 which currently has more than 125,000 verified Native

1 Hawaiians who are ready to take the next step in
2 self-governance, the Department of the Interior has
3 bypassed our right to self-determination and
4 undermined an effort by Native Hawaiians to freely
5 practice our inherent sovereignty, which we have never
6 relinquished.

7 In conclusion, I propose that the
8 Department of the Interior cease its meetings in
9 Hawaii and deliver to the U.S. government the clear
10 message that the Native Hawaiian people stand ready to
11 complete the process initiated by Act 195. We must
12 exercise our right to self-governance and
13 self-determination without interference by the U.S.
14 government. If not our rights will be disregarded
15 once again. Mahalo.

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Next I have Maurice,
18 Ululani and Paul Richards.

19 MR. ROSETE: Aloha. My name is Maurice
20 Rosete. Okay, first of all, we are a nation and we're
21 still under Hawaii Kingdom law and there was no treaty
22 with America and the annexation was illegal like the
23 Soviet Union is doing to the UK and Crimea right now.

24 Nobody is talking about the Great Mahele
25 of 1839 to 1857. And the Great Mahele, it was put

1 together by -- in London by Great Britain and France
2 when we made our constitution of 1843 under King
3 Kamehameha's rule, the III. And you guys make like
4 you own us because King Kamehameha III put together
5 everything and all the laws and what you see over
6 here. All you guys did was come over here like the
7 Soviets, bust into all our government buildings, put
8 everybody at gunpoint and tell them, you know what,
9 gonna be our way or the highway or everybody gonna
10 lose. And everybody did lose in that battle.

11 But what I want to say is patents are the
12 superior land patents of the land. It goes back to
13 allodial titles, Magna Carta, the great -- the Magna
14 Carta is with the Catholic churches back in the 12th
15 century when they formed their first government.
16 That's what we fall under, the international law, the
17 common law, and that is our patents, yeah. Thank you.

18 One more thing. There's another name for
19 the patents. It's called allodial titles, allodial
20 titleship, and if you understand allodial titleship,
21 which a Medieval terminology, what it says is the
22 royal patents that we have cannot be sold, mortgaged,
23 willed, trust because those are all junior titles,
24 okay. It cannot even be sold by its own person, it
25 has to be heired down.

1 If you want a good example of that, look
2 at Tonga. Tonga followed the Hawaiian nation and then
3 we lost our nation but they still have their
4 government. If you could Google Tonga government and
5 you will see how the Hawaiian nation was run and is
6 still run because we still run this place. Okay?

7 Aloha.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Next I have Ululani
10 and then I have Paul Richards and then I have
11 Kealohanui and then Shaun Young.

12 MS. BEIRNE-KEAWE: Aloha mai kakou.

13 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

14 MS. BEIRNE-KEAWE: The food was ono, by
15 the way. If you folks haven't eaten, go eat.

16 You know I find it ironic that the
17 Department of Interior has stepped forward now after
18 months of our people getting out there and trying to
19 get everybody to come and register to vote, you know.
20 And so you know way back in 1995, I had the
21 opportunity of going all the way over to Geneva, you
22 know, and listen to this issue being talked about in
23 the Geneva Convention. And after many, many years,
24 more recent years, the United Nations finally, finally
25 recognized the Native Hawaiian people as an indigenous

1 people of the islands.

2 So, you know, it's like round robin. In
3 1993 we had all this Apology Bill. Then we had all
4 these hearings that went on and nothing came out of
5 it, you know, with the federal government. And I even
6 forget what department came out at that time, but now
7 we have you folks, you know, that have come to listen.

8 And do we want rule changes? I think it
9 would be very, very sticky at this time if we said --
10 if we all said, yes, let the Department of Interior do
11 the rule changing, because we can talk and we can go
12 through a hearing and you can have all these comments,
13 but by the time you go through everything, it changes
14 anyway. You know, it changes from what we originally
15 wanted. So it's very sticky for us as Hawaiians.

16 But more important I'm here because
17 you're having all these hearings on Oahu, but no more
18 hearings on our side. I'm from Kahana Valley, so the
19 whole North Shore, all the way around Haleiwa side, no
20 more meetings. So since I missed the capitol, I'm
21 here, and I just want to say very, very sticky to be
22 involved, you know, with any kind of rule changing
23 because it just might come our not what we want as
24 Hawaiians. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Paul Richards,
2 Kealohanui, Shaun, Luwella, Eunice, Jade and Frances.

3 MR. RICHARDS: Aloha. Honorable
4 Assistant Secretary Suh, also Sam from the Department
5 of Justice. My name is Paul Richards. I'm the
6 president for the Waimanalo Hawaiian Homes. I would
7 like to also welcome all our Waimanalo residents, our
8 lowercase native Hawaiian and our uppercase Native
9 Hawaiians.

10 We wanted to note that we did submit to
11 our written testimony on behalf of the five threshold
12 questions, so you can go ahead and take the matter
13 into your hands and take a look at that.

14 But we would really like to address the
15 fourth question, and the fourth question we adamantly
16 submit a no. We do not feel that the state or any
17 Native Hawaiian community organization should
18 facilitate the process in which we should be able to
19 determine a government-to-government relationship.

20 We also feel that the Department of
21 Interior should be the one that should take the role,
22 go out, get the funding for us to do the work that we
23 need to do to get our government back into shape and
24 hopefully to recognize that. It may not be our
25 opportunity, us, here, now, but it may be our kupunas

1 or actually our mo`opunas two generations from now who
2 will probably establish this government, but we want
3 to make sure from our homestead association that we
4 have the ability to at least open the door for them.

5 And this is our testimony. Thank you
6 very much.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. KEALOHANUI: Aloha kakou.

9 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

10 MS. KEALOHANUI: This is a declaration in
11 opposition to the United States Department of
12 Interior's proposed government-to-government's
13 relationship between the United States and the Native
14 Hawaiian community. Acknowledging our deepest aloha
15 and gratitude for the wondrous achievements of our
16 Hawaiian Kingdom kings, Queen Liliuokalani and our
17 kupuna, we, the undersigned Hawaiian nationals, hereby
18 proclaim that we object to and protest against the
19 United States Department of Interior's presence in
20 Hawaii to convene scheduled hearings in June and July
21 2014 for the purpose of considering measures to
22 establish a government-to-government relationship with
23 the Native Hawaiian community, as intervening in the
24 internal and domestic affairs of the Hawaiian Kingdom
25 in violation of international law, the laws of

1 occupation, United States Constitutional law and the
2 laws of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

3 The Hawaiian Kingdom's existence as an
4 independent state among the family of nations is
5 undisputed, affirmed and many times reaffirmed by the
6 conclusion of treaties, including treaties with the
7 United States. Until relevant evidence of its
8 extinguishment is established, the continuing of
9 Hawaiian Kingdom as an independent state is resumed,
10 thereby strictly prohibiting said interference in the
11 affairs of the Hawaiian Kingdom by the United States
12 Department of Interior.

13 Accordingly, we call upon and demand that
14 the United States DOI cease and desist the convening
15 of all scheduled community hearings in Hawaii and all
16 actions, including all legislative, internal
17 administrative, or executive actions in the
18 furtherance of or to conclude the proposed
19 government-to-government relationship between the
20 United States and the Native Hawaiian community.

21 By affixing our signatures to said
22 proclamation, we affirm the memorial of the Hawaiian
23 Patriotic League filed with the United States Hawaiian
24 Commission for the creation of the territorial
25 government in August 1898. To wit: Whereas, by

1 memorial of the people of Hawaii have protested
2 against the consummation of an invasion of our
3 political rights and have fervently appealed to the
4 president, the congress and the people of the United
5 States to refrain from further participation in the
6 wrongful annexation of Hawaii. And whereas, the
7 Declaration of American Independence expresses that
8 governments derive their just powers from the consent
9 of the governed, therefore, be it resolved that the
10 representatives of a large and influential body of
11 Native Hawaiians, we solemnly pray that the
12 constitutional government of the 16th day of January
13 AD 1893 be restored under the protection of the United
14 States of America. Signed this day on the 21st of
15 June, 2014.

16 I have petition -- a petition around
17 asking you to sign. It's exactly what I've just said.
18 If you care to, please sign it and return it to me.
19 Mahalo.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. YOUNG: Shaun Kamakea Young.

22 (Speaking in Hawaiian.)

23 Since I have another minute, I'll
24 translate into English.

25 I mahalo you folks for sympathizing with

1 us, but I'm still a little nervous as to the integrity
2 of this process being that the Department of Interior
3 was sent here instead of the Department of State,
4 being that the Department of Interior deals solely
5 with matters of the interior, which would be under the
6 purview of the United States, and Hawaii, being an
7 independent nation, should be dealing with the
8 Department of the State, which is where our letter was
9 first filed, but yet America has sent us the
10 Department of Interior to kind of file this suit.

11 So I'm still very kind of ha'alulu as to
12 the integrity, although you guys stated you're going
13 to trying your best, but it would have meant a lot if
14 the Department of State would have been here to show
15 an actual interaction between two foreign entities
16 rather than trying to put us under the interior of the
17 United States. Mahalo.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CHANG: Thank you. Next I have
20 Luwella, Eunice McElroy, Jade Danner, Frances.

21 MS. LEONARDI: Okay, two things for the
22 panel I want to mention is Martens clause,
23 M-A-R-T-E-N-S clause.

24 The second thing I want to mention is I'm
25 not liking the word "indigenous." (Inaudible) used

1 the word aboriginal and I think that's the correct
2 word to be used if you want to address us.

3 Okay. I also want to make it clear to
4 you, I am -- our people are prime, so in this
5 plan-to-plan we are the prime. We are not a
6 subculture. So I just wanted to make that clear with
7 the panel.

8 I am my father's daughter. My father's
9 name is Kanakao`o Niaupio. My father went to this
10 school. I went to this school. I graduated from this
11 school in 1963. And so did my father's great
12 grandchildren and great-great grandchildren went to
13 this school. My tutu man's name is Edward Niaupio.

14 Living here in Waimanalo I watched my
15 father heart break over the years before -- as a
16 matter of fact, Tap Pryor stood right there as he said
17 to us in the audience, those of us who were kids back
18 then, that he's going to feed the world. My father
19 cried because of Sea Life Park. It was a heiau.
20 Today it has a wedding chapel on Sea Life Park.

21 Makai Pier, that was a co-op, that was a
22 co-op, people, and the pictures are there. Everything
23 I talk about is cited. That was destroyed and Makai
24 Pier is there. Queen Liliuokalani's Pond looked up
25 into the hole of the -- our mountains. 1,450 acres

1 belonged to Hawaiian Homestead, that's up for grabs.
2 If we lose those acreage, Waimanalo, then you lose
3 your hydro water. You need to be -- one more, you
4 need to be a little bit more deeper and ma`a to what
5 you're talking about and what you're thinking.
6 Spreckelsville, does Spreckels have the pink paper?
7 A`ole. So who owns the farm lots?

8 Now, if this panel goes through, if this
9 DOI goes through, this drunken DUI, they will turn
10 around and make Spreckelsville owner in history, and I
11 heard you earlier, I heard you say you want to
12 represent us in international court. Today I heard
13 you say it earlier, it's on film, it's interesting.
14 And secondly, secondly, you can look at me in my eye,
15 and secondly -- no, I'm going to let that stay. It
16 was quite interesting to look at you. So thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. CHANG: We have Eunice, Jade and
19 Frances.

20 MS. McELROY: My name is Eunice (spelling
21 not provided) McElroy. Don't let the McElroy fool
22 you. I am 100 percent Hawaiian. My children are
23 half.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. McELROY: I'm here -- I'm here

1 because, like the rest have spoken, we are told that
2 the people want to hear our voices, and so I thought I
3 would sign up and when I see me on TV, I can hear
4 myself on TV, because on TV you don't sound good, and
5 I blame this stuff here.

6 But most of us, I can see the pain we're
7 going through because I've been interested in all kind
8 of histories, mostly Japanese, and I stopped there. I
9 never know I had a Hawaiian history until I went to
10 McKinley High School and there all chaos blew up in me
11 that I wasn't even taught to speak Hawaiian in school.
12 But that was all right, my parents didn't speak
13 Hawaiian to us at home. They spoke to each other, but
14 to the children, to me and my brother, no, we were
15 forbidden to speak the language. All those that have
16 already spoken, please, listen, listen with your
17 heart, not your brains, and as I speak, please hear my
18 voice. Mahalo.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Jade.

21 MS. JONES: Aloha.

22 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

23 MS. JONES: Again, my name is Jade Danner
24 Jones. This is my son Alapa`i, and I'm a homesteader
25 here in Waimanalo.

1 The American history in Hawaii is a
2 terrible one, marked by violated treaties, unlawful
3 acquisitions, mismanaged resources and the suppression
4 of the inherent sovereignty of my people for more than
5 120 years. As a direct result we feel
6 disenfranchised. We hurt for our kupuna and we long
7 for control in our own affairs. Many of us have lost
8 all faith that the United States and its will to make
9 right.

10 While I will also submit written comment,
11 let me say yes, the secretary should engage on rule
12 making so that a long shut door to Native Hawaiians
13 can be opened. It is time for parity in federal
14 policy. It is time to open that door.

15 I want to thank President Obama,
16 Secretary Jewell, and the Administration for
17 acknowledging that the Native Hawaiian people have a
18 continuing right to self-governance. The ability to
19 exercise some portion of our inherent sovereignty will
20 change lives.

21 I will give you one small example. My
22 son Alapa`i was given to me by my brother. In
23 Hawaiian we call this hanai and he is every inch my
24 son. In our way he remains my brother's son as well.
25 (Spoke in Hawaiian). Halea is my daughter by birth,

1 and she and Alapa`i are equally my children. The
2 state of Hawaii says that if I want to ensure this
3 relationship is honored under the law, Alapa`i cannot
4 be my brother's son. Conversely, if he is legally my
5 brother's son, then he cannot be legally mine. Our
6 Native Hawaiian government could pass adoption laws
7 that honor our cultural laws and our family would not
8 have to choose between what is legal and what is
9 right.

10 Our people are succeeding in many areas,
11 education, health, culture and the arts, but our
12 efforts are stifled by regulations not made for us or
13 with our ways in mind. A federally recognized Native
14 Hawaiian government could begin to exercise
15 authorities that enable our traditions in our own
16 communities, empowering us to once more to determine
17 our own collective future. Me ka aloha, mahalo.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CHANG: Next I have Frances -- is
20 it -- I think it's Single, and then I have Joe Tassil,
21 Peter Kama, and Kuilani Mahoe. Is there a Frances?
22 Am I not saying your last name correctly?

23 Okay, uncle Joe, and then I have Peter
24 Kama and Kuilani Mahoe.

25 Uncle, why don't you stay there. We'll

1 bring the microphone to you.

2 MR. TASSIL: No, that's okay.

3 Aloha kakou.

4 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

5 MR. TASSIL: I'll dispense with the name,
6 you already know.

7 I'm in favor of an independent nation. I
8 present my testimony, and I use the word "testimony"
9 with one word, that you have constantly been using
10 comment. It is my understanding when one makes a
11 comment, it's just a comment, but when one makes
12 testimony, one is asked to, under oath, by swearing of
13 gods that you will tell the truth, the whole truth and
14 nothing but the truth, so help you God.

15 My question is very simple, how much
16 weight will the word "comment" be when you will
17 address making solve that issue that faces the
18 Hawaiian community today? Versus if I was under oath,
19 how much weight would my testimony hold when it comes
20 to making solve the issue that we face today. Thank
21 you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. KAMA: Aloha.

24 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

25 MR. KAMA: My name is Peter Kama. You

1 know, I live in Waimanalo. I'm a native that grew up
2 in Hawaii and 17 years old I left and gone for 40
3 years. Served in the military for 21 years, fought in
4 the wars, and came home to Hawaii. The first thing I
5 encountered was homeless Hawaiians. In 1990 the state
6 did a survey and said there are 10,300 homeless
7 people, 50 percent of them were Hawaiians and 50
8 percent of them were 50 percent Hawaiians. That was a
9 dilemma that continues today.

10 My question really is associated with the
11 queries that you present. I would say yes to all of
12 these things, in deference to the fact that even
13 though we were overthrown illegally, that's not the
14 issue with this board. The issue is what can you do
15 for us in organizing, in making things better for the
16 Hawaiian people.

17 I challenge you that are we indigenous
18 people? If we are, then let the indigenous people
19 take charge of their own problems. If we were the
20 indigenous people and we can organize ourselves
21 through the help of the Bureau of Interior, then we
22 can take care of the lands instead of us -- instead
23 the state treating us like we're children and they
24 take 80 percent of the money comes in and they give us
25 20 percent and they don't give us the 20 percent

1 sometimes for 20 years.

2 Now, what is the role of the Bureau of
3 Interior? Are you providing oversight? If not, why
4 not? The state is supposedly providing oversight, but
5 they change directives every time the governor
6 changes. No continuity. What are you doing in
7 regards to continuity in seeing that the Hawaiian
8 program for Hawaiian Homestead is monitored, is
9 elevated, is raised to a program where it helps
10 instead of keeping -- we have, in this community,
11 lands that are sitting empty, one for maybe -- when is
12 the last time had the hurricane, it's empty for that
13 long.

14 Again, in summary, what can you do for
15 the Hawaiians in Hawaiian Homelands? Are we
16 indigenous people? And can you be an oversight?

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. CHANG: I have next Kuilani, and then
19 after Kuilani I have Kamakana, Kimo Kaleohano and
20 Ilima Lastimososa.

21 MS. MAHOE: Aloha. Aloha panel. Being
22 from Waimanalo and being young, I want to see us as
23 Hawaiian people to work hand in hand with the federal
24 government, but on our terms. Not on your terms, but
25 on our terms. It would be only fair because we had

1 our own nation before you guys came here. So our
2 people deserve to be the forefront of our building of
3 our nation. It's there. We just gotta put it into
4 motion and make sure that all us Hawaiians understand
5 what our role is in building our nation back, not
6 having it taken away, because our identity as
7 Hawaiians was ripped away from us and used as tourist
8 money makers out there and to me a`ole on that.

9 I feel that our children should benefit.
10 Yes, it might take two generations, three maybe, but
11 that's the beginning. We are starting the beginning
12 of making our motion to have our rights back to us
13 Hawaiian people, native people to this land. We have
14 no other place to go but here. This is our land. We
15 belong here. We don't belong any other place but
16 here, and I hear the frustration from our kupunas, our
17 keikis, of losing our identity, and for me I'm going
18 to fight for that identity and make sure that all of
19 us know and understand where we come from. Mahalo.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. CHANG: Kamakana, Kimo, Ilima, and
22 Joseph, Meleanna.

23 MR. AQUINO: Aloha. My name is Kamakana
24 Aquino. Aloha, my name is Kamakana Aquino. Aloha mai
25 kakou.

1 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

2 MR. AQUINO: Aloha Department of Interior
3 and Department of Justice representatives. Mahalo for
4 the opportunity to share this testimony with you.

5 I reside in Waimanalo Homestead
6 Association and have been an active community member
7 in my community since high school. I graduated from
8 Kamehameha Schools and have been involved in various
9 community organizations. And this community
10 involvement stems from my grandparents' and parents'
11 involvement in school and community.

12 After reading this notice, particularly
13 the background information, there are several -- I
14 feel that there are several incorrect and biased
15 statements regarding our history here in Hawaii. All
16 of these citations refers to federal and state codes,
17 regulations and statutes. As a young Hawaiian
18 scholar, I'm working towards my Ph.D. in education,
19 and this is where it should begin, with education.

20 The notice also mentioned that the
21 Republic of Hawaii ceded its land to the United States
22 and then a joint resolution by Congress annexing the
23 islands in 1898, not the Hawaiian Kingdom. And as the
24 frequently asked questions mentioned, that there has
25 been no formal organized government since 1893, so one

1 of the questions is how did this Republic of Hawaii
2 become a legitimate government after the overthrow,
3 and by whose authority did they cede back to the
4 United States?

5 So the United States Congress has enacted
6 more than 150 statutes that created programs and
7 services to the Hawaiian community and we thank you
8 for your help. Just one comment regarding the first
9 question. Yes, there should be an administrative rule
10 to help facilitate the reestablishment of a
11 government-to-government relationship, but proposing
12 an administrative rule, there needs to be clarity,
13 education and factual information with our history.

14 I'll just skip to the end.

15 Just thank you for sharing my manao, and
16 I encourage you to, before making a decision, to
17 listen to the (inaudible), the voices of our people.
18 I encourage you to read about our history and learn
19 about our culture and language, and I encourage you to
20 all ask questions, to seek information, and to become
21 familiar with our understandings, our perspectives,
22 our ways of life, our ways of knowing and being.
23 Mahalo.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. CHANG: Okay, next I have Kimo,

1 Ilima, Joseph Kahalewai, and Meleanna Meyer.

2 MR. KALEOHANO: Aloha mai kakou. My name
3 is Kimo Kaleohano. I'm kanaka maoli, and this is my
4 testimony regarding the specific questions posed by
5 the secretary of the interior.

6 Number one: Should the secretary propose
7 an administrative rule that would facilitate the
8 reestablishment of a government-to-government
9 relationship with the Native Hawaiian community? No,
10 the secretary should not. That would simply be
11 another agency in the United States federal government
12 participating in and furthering the prolonged and
13 illegal occupation of the Hawaiian Kingdom by the
14 United States.

15 Should the secretary assist the Native
16 Hawaiian community in reestablishing its government
17 with which the United States could reestablish a
18 government-to-government relationship? No, the
19 secretary should not. We already have a process for
20 establishing our government laid out by the Hawaiian
21 Kingdom Constitution.

22 Number three: Should the secretary
23 instead rely on the reorganization of a native
24 Hawaiian government through a process established by
25 the native Hawaiian community, and facilitated by the

1 state of Hawaii, to the extent such a process is
2 consistent with federal law? The secretary should
3 rely on the Native Hawaiian community, both kanaka and
4 non-kanaka, for the reestablishment of our government.
5 However, it should not be facilitated by the state of
6 Hawaii and it should not have anything to do with
7 constraints of federal law.

8 If so, what conditions should the
9 secretary establish as prerequisites to federal
10 acknowledgment of a government-to-government
11 relationship? It is my understanding that any issues
12 regarding government-to-government relations between
13 the Hawaiian Kingdom and the United States is a
14 responsibility of the State Department.

15 Finally, with regard to the question of
16 tribal status, I'd like to say that we love, honor and
17 support all of our native brothers and sisters. That
18 being said, we are not now, nor have we ever been, a
19 native tribe. We are Hawaiians, descendents of the
20 original inhabitants of the Hawaiian islands. We are
21 citizens, both kanaka maoli and non-kanaka maoli, of
22 the internationally recognized sovereign Hawaiian
23 Kingdom. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. HO-LASTIMOSA: Aloha.

1 AUDIENCE: Aloha,

2 MS. HO-LASTIMOSA: My name is Ilima
3 Ho-Lastimosa and aloha welcome to all of you. All I
4 need to say is that I represent my kupuna who have
5 passed long ago and have fought for sovereignty for
6 many years, and whatever happens in this, I just want
7 it to be a blessing to everybody, especially to our
8 children who are not here. Mahalo.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. CHANG: Joseph Kahalewai and then
11 Meleanna Meyer. And is it Charlene Kalama and Colette
12 Machado. Maybe Joseph? Meleanna?

13 MS. MEYER: Aloha mai kakou.

14 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

15 MS. MEYER: (Speaking in Hawaiian.)
16 Mahalo, Waimanalo, but, you know, Kailua no ka oi,
17 yeah? Just kidding. But you guys get the best beach,
18 okay. So that's all I gotta say.

19 I just want to say that I have read and
20 studied and studied and read enormous amounts of
21 material, and I would like to let you all know that we
22 all know. And the complexities of U.S. law are
23 extraordinarily difficult because the system is
24 against our being who we already know we are, which is
25 sovereign. So the issues really aren't about

1 sovereignty because, you know, as I read, what I find
2 out is that what we really seek is our freedom to
3 exercise our rights. And freedom is different because
4 if you're already sovereign, the conversation of
5 sovereignty is kind of ridiculous if you think about
6 it. Okay? So this whole notion of all of you here
7 tonight is what really moves me the most, because you
8 all, we all make the difference. We are the ones who
9 can make the difference. We can choose, we can go
10 forward, because we know, we are getting educated. I
11 am so proud of our people, but you know there's so
12 much need in our community and that's what the United
13 States needs to know. There's been no handout that
14 could -- that could support any kind of illegality
15 that has already gone on historically.

16 So you guys need to know up there that
17 we're makaukau, we are getting ourselves ready to do
18 all the things that we need to do, and I'm confident
19 in the people. And you guys need to know that we do
20 not want to talk to Department of Interior people. We
21 want to talk to the State Department because we
22 already exist, we want to talk on an equal footing.

23 Thank you very much. Mahalo.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. CHANG: Next I have Charlani. And

1 then I have Colette Machado and then Kawakine
2 Kamake-Ohelo after that.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aloha. Charlani
4 Kalama is my kumu hula and she had to leave to take
5 care of some Waimanalo Village business. Aloha
6 aunties. And so I am borrowing Waimanalo for Kalihi
7 because that is where I come from, and the only
8 meeting they had in Honolulu was this morning and I
9 was working, so I sneaked some computer time and got
10 to hear some of the meeting's proceedings.

11 I am saying no to inquiries and to your
12 questions, and one of the reasons I am saying no and
13 the only thing that I will sign is a Ku`e Petition.
14 That is the only thing that my kupuna signed and that
15 is the only thing that I will put my name to. I will
16 not put my name to a roll call that tells me if my
17 name is not there then I lose everything for my
18 children and all of my descendents. I don't think
19 that that's fair. I'm so sorry for those of you that
20 support it. I support you, but my name is not going
21 on that list.

22 The other reason I do not support this is
23 because in one breath the state of Hawaii Department
24 of Education gave the director, or whoever she is, the
25 president of the Board of Education a raise. In the

1 next breath the Hawaiian charter school that my kids
2 attend, that teachers are here in the audience, got
3 told they going to shut down. How can they have money
4 for one thing and not money for the other thing. This
5 is why my answer is no.

6 I love seeing all the Hawaiians here. It
7 got me so excited and I really feel, I really feel a
8 lot of aloha for all of us, not for just you but for
9 all of us. And I hope this inquiry goes the way we
10 want it to go. Meleanna is right, we are already a
11 people, we are already a nation, there is no need for
12 this, for this route. Mahalo.

13 MS. MACHADO: Aloha to all of you. This
14 is my hana hou speech because this morning at the
15 state capitol I -- I got yelled at and booed, but let
16 me begin by saying, aloha maika`i. I am Colette
17 Machado and I serve as the chair of OHA at the
18 pleasure of the board of trustees. That means that
19 they elect me to represent them, all eight of them.

20 Let me begin by saying OHA is a
21 quasi-autonomous entity, a trust established by the
22 people of Hawaii through our state's constitution.
23 During OHA's first 20 years, the reconciliation
24 process between Native Hawaiians and the United States
25 was bolstered by the 1993 Apology Law and the Mauka to

1 Makai Reconciliation Report issued by the Department
2 of Interior and Justice in 2000. That report
3 acknowledged that as a matter of justice and equity
4 the Native Hawaiian people should have
5 self-determination over their own affairs within the
6 framework or federal law as do Native American tribes.

7 The process to establish a
8 government-to-government relationship between Native
9 Hawaiians and the United States government is an
10 essential step to ensuring that schools, scholarships,
11 care homes for elders, service for at-risk youth and
12 other similar programs serving Native Hawaiians can
13 flourish and that our Hawaiian trusts and related
14 programs will be protected for the -- from further
15 legal challenges. Our trustees have vowed to protect
16 these programs in perpetuity.

17 I stand here as OHA's chair to strongly
18 urge that the federal government move forward with a
19 process to reestablish a government-to-government
20 relationship with the Native Hawaiian people. I also
21 urge that it be a pathway that is open to that
22 direction of when and how to walk down that path and
23 to let -- wait, Dawn, let me finish, one more
24 paragraph, that four more sentences -- that path is
25 left to our people. Such a path could complement the

1 nation-building framework approved by OHA earlier this
2 year.

3 Okay, so that's it.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. CHANG: Next we have Kawakine
6 Kamake-Ohelo and then after that we have Earl Kawaa,
7 Bernard Kalua, Kihio, Paul Akau and Wynette McMillan.

8 THE WITNESS: Aloha kakou.

9 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

10 MS. KAMAKEA-OHELO: My name is Radine
11 Kawahine (spelling not provided) Kamakea-Ohelo, and
12 this evening I represent the present, which is myself,
13 and my sisters and brothers, my ancestors representing
14 the past, along with my children and grandchildren as
15 our future. My ancestors answered the five threshold
16 questions listed from, kala mai, for proposing an
17 administrative rule in facilitating the
18 reestablishment of a government-to-government
19 relationship, to establish a prerequisite to the
20 federal acknowledgment of a reorganized relationship
21 is presumptuous of the part of the Department of
22 Interior or the United States of America. Imaginary
23 or not, the U.S. government continues, even to this
24 day, with the military and economic threat over these
25 islands. Once upon a time they tried ignoring the

1 injustices and historically attempt to erase the
2 Native Hawaiians from existence. The if's are the
3 threats in the form of fear, weaponry, economics, and
4 power by the federal government plays a big role in
5 the suppose. The U.S. were to leave, we might be
6 taken over by another country, we will lose all
7 financial support, no reparations, we will lose the
8 so-called entitlements, as mentioned in the advanced
9 notice of proposed rule making.

10 The arrogance written on how Congress
11 enacted more than 150 statutes over many decades
12 recognizing the Native Hawaiian community was not
13 given to us on a silver platter. We, the Native
14 Hawaiian, through the tenacity and recognition by our
15 elders and our youths, wholeheartedly believe wrong is
16 wrong and no right can be begotten without a total
17 quality of state of being determined by the native
18 Hawaiians.

19 I'll be real quick.

20 The rhetorical illusion continues as a
21 series of public hearings being held to see how the
22 special political and trust relationship that
23 currently exists between the federal government and
24 Native Hawaiian community under federal law, not
25 Hawaiian sovereign law. It is another form of the

1 colonist structure that the settlers moved to
2 innocence in settling the guilt and collusion in the
3 illegal occupation of Hawaii. Like our native
4 American cousins, we, the indigenous Native Hawaiians,
5 have the intellect and heartfelt competence in
6 developing our future. We cannot and should not be
7 treated as Native American tribes. We continue today
8 to have a connection to our land, our epistemologies,
9 ontologies and cosmologies in determining and defining
10 ourselves beyond theorizing decolonization from the
11 U.S.

12 In conclusion, decolonization will take
13 on a different context; however, Native Hawaiians must
14 be able to exercise unilateral control over our own
15 policy instruments and the issues that are important
16 to us and to operate without outside influence in our
17 internal and external affairs. And secondly, the
18 Native Hawaiian governing structure needs to be free
19 to determine our own affairs regardless of our
20 government indifference to our choices.

21 To do this, the return of our lands
22 occupied by the federal government and to have the
23 federal government pay rent for these lands will be a
24 start in the decolonization and self-determination
25 process. Mahalo.

1 MS. CHANG: If I may, I apologize in
2 advance that I ask you to speed it, only because we
3 are on number 73 and we have 154 people. So that's
4 why I -- so e kala mai, if I tap you, you are really
5 close.

6 So I've got Earl Kawaa, Bernard Kalua,
7 Kuhio, Paul Akau, and Wynette McMillan.

8 MR. KAWAA: (Speaking in Hawaiian.)

9 When I was a young boy, I heard my father
10 and my great grand uncle talk about this day, the day
11 when Hawaiians would be gathering about to take
12 matters into their hands to lead the nation. I have a
13 written report to follow this, so I will make it short
14 because I don't want her tapping me and I don't want
15 that young man over there showing me the sign, but
16 what I can also tell you is that I have a long list of
17 things that I brought with me, but I won't.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. KAWAA: In short, it should be like
20 this: Let your report go back to whomever that you're
21 going to report to and say to them we are amazed by
22 the intellectual ability of the people that we have
23 just come to see.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. KAWAA: Second on that report would

1 say is they are capable of leading themselves. And
2 the third report it says we bow out and let them tell
3 us what they -- what we need to do. Mahalo.

4 MS. CHANG: That was Earl Kawaa.

5 MR. KAWAA: Oh, I'm Kawaa.

6 MS. CHANG: I now have Bernard Kalua,
7 Kuhio, Paul Akau, and Wynette McMillan. Thank you.

8 MR. KALUA: Aloha, everyone. I have a
9 question that was asked many years ago by our queen to
10 have her Kingdom reinstated. Apparently, no president
11 since the past when she asked Cleveland have rectified
12 what happened to us Hawaiians. And we had 37,000
13 Native Hawaiians that signed a Ku`e Petition, whom I
14 am a descendent of.

15 So as was said earlier, the only list
16 that I choose to have my name represented in
17 international court and amongst the United States is
18 that I want to place my name behind my kupuna and have
19 you folks go back to your leaders and please send the
20 right people, because I am in favor of
21 nation-to-nation, if our Kingdom -- in fact
22 Kingdom-to-nation, if our Kingdom is still alive.

23 Our (spoke in Hawaiian), the CEO of OHA,
24 had written a letter to John Kerry. I don't know if
25 we got one answer yet. There's been many questions

1 asked throughout history and it seems like the
2 important questions never get answered. So if you can
3 go back and get back to me and our people here about
4 our queen being reinstated. She's not here anymore.
5 We are the product of that hewa. We are disenchanting
6 with things that go on because of that, and until you
7 can rectify something that was done in the past, go
8 back that 100 years and right what was done to our
9 ancestors, our kupuna and our queen, then we never
10 gonna be whole. We never gonna be pono. So mahalo
11 for your time.

12 MS. CHANG: I have Kuhio, Paul and then
13 Wynette. Kuhio? Paul Akau, Wynette McMillan. Is
14 this Paul? Okay. So after Paul is Wynette and then
15 Kalai Waa.

16 MR. AKAU: Aloha takes forever. And we
17 have to mahalo as well. You know, uncle.

18 So first of all, I want to say my name is
19 Paul Akau. I've been a resident here in Waimanalo
20 since I was that small. And mahalo to Esther, who has
21 helped to perpetuate some of our resources around the
22 islands and around the nation and mahalo to you.

23 And it's an opportunity to mahalo because
24 we know that many things have happened in the past and
25 then in the present we stand here -- I was not going

1 to testify partly because I thought I have nothing to
2 say, but I do. I'm a native person. I'm an
3 aboriginal, and yet (spoke in Hawaiian), yeah. So the
4 word pono in Hawaii, it's not just doing things
5 righteously, but living righteously and being
6 righteous and doing the thing.

7 So my comment with Esther and how she's
8 been doing her things, the point was there's some
9 things in our lands that need to be cared for, and we
10 the people need to stand together in that caring as
11 well. But in the opportunity of reconciliation,
12 acknowledge that we are people have already things
13 established, how we are to malama and take care, and
14 in the organizing of our people, that we know what we
15 need to do, we know how to do, and you know who to
16 speak with.

17 We need to also be educated in our, how
18 can I say, in our ways and allowing our educational
19 ways to be acknowledged, that what we know and what we
20 do as we express it is acknowledged by the government
21 in all that we do. And e kala mai again, excuse me,
22 because I wasn't prepared, but I am, as a Hawaiian,
23 ready to stand up as an educated Hawaiian to share.
24 Mahalo nui.

25 (Applause.)

1 MS. CHANG: Is Wynette here? Then I have
2 Kalai Waa, Ricky Bermudez, I may be saying it wrong,
3 DeMont Conner. After DeMont I have Shane Pale, Kanoe
4 Cheek, and Kukana Kama-Toth.

5 MR. CONNER: Aloha. Saw you guys earlier
6 today at the capitol. Was awesome because everybody
7 said a`ole, except for the puppets.

8 Anyway, I here to want to let you know
9 that you recognize what you looking at over here?
10 You're in God's country. I come from Kalihi, I live
11 Nanakuli, but I love coming to Waimanalo because if
12 you look in the audience, all you can find is
13 beautiful and gorgeous people, because this is God's
14 country. So recognize that when you come over here.
15 Right there, uncle Joe, Waimanalo, I love coming to
16 Waimanalo.

17 You know I came in the door while you was
18 speaking, Esther, and I don't know if you didn't catch
19 my message earlier today, but it's offensive for you
20 to come here and tell us you want to help to fight for
21 us to get our self-determination, but then on the
22 other hand, out of the other side of your mouth you
23 talking about within the context of the federal
24 government. There is no such thing as that. That's a
25 false premise, okay, because there is no such thing as

1 self-determination if you controlling 'em.
2 Self-determination means I control, okay. So you need
3 to stop using that term because what you doing is
4 you're lying to us straight to our face and we no like
5 that, you know what I mean?

6 So maybe you can go back and tell your
7 boss that, a`ole, we no like this. What we like is
8 for, again, for those of you who was there at the
9 capitol, yeah, what I said, return the car. Aloha.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. CHANG: Kukana, Remi.

12 MS. KAMA-TOTH: Aloha. My name is Kukana
13 Kama-Toth. Honestly, kind I'm not here for really
14 speak to you folks, I here to speak to you folks,
15 okay. You know, for 30 years of my life I walked
16 around with my eyes shut, yeah, because we get busy,
17 yeah, us Hawaiians, we getting busy. We gotta pay our
18 bills, we gotta make pathways for our children, we
19 gotta try and find our way through the mess that we
20 live in, you know. And, you know, for me I have a
21 hard time listening to something like this because
22 it's like as long as there's -- like you guys talking
23 about one Hawaiian Kingdom, but then there's a state.
24 So it's like where the state gonna go? You know what
25 I mean? Like why even have one state if we get our

1 Hawaiian Kingdom. You know what I mean? So that's
2 something that, you know, just puzzles me.

3 But anyway, like I said, I'm here for you
4 guys, right? We gotta be maka`ala. We have to know
5 what's happening. We cannot just be sitting on top
6 our Facebook and just reading what other people
7 saying. You know what I'm saying? We gotta dig. We
8 gotta learn. We gotta educate ourselves. And you
9 know what the white man says education is one degree,
10 but us say education is just knowing. We gotta go to
11 the kupunas' feet. We gotta go and dig into the laws,
12 yeah? We gotta do something. We gotta know. You
13 cannot fight something if you don't know, you know.

14 And so I'm here to say that I'm a
15 maka'ala, Native Hawaiian, kanaka maoli of this land,
16 you know, and I'm maka`ala. I watching you, all of
17 you. Make sure you guys watch too, 'kay? Mahalo.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CHANG: After Remi we have Ben
20 Keliioholokai, Kalani, and then I have Constance, Keoni
21 and Dexter. Please state your name for the record
22 because I'm only saying first names.

23 MR. ABELLIRA: Aloha.

24 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

25

1 MR. ABELLIRA: My name is Remi Abellira.
2 My Hawaiian name is (spelling not provided).

3 What I have to share is these people, I
4 commend you once again, like I did this morning, for
5 coming. But they're really innocent. I'm speaking to
6 our people. Why are they innocent? Is because
7 they're pawns in a global strategic strategy. The
8 America that our queen addressed is no longer this
9 America today. It is a global agenda that usurped the
10 true America by a global banking community known as
11 the International Bankers and the Federal Reserve. We
12 cannot expect them to honor our Kingdom Constitution
13 when they don't even honor theirs. So think.

14 Now, once again, I commend you, and
15 within the jurisdiction of your federal government,
16 your department can do certain things. That is a
17 pathway that you're commissioned to come here and
18 decide. But you've heard the voice of the Hawaiian
19 community. We can stand on our own, our own knowledge
20 base, our own principles passed down by our kupuna.
21 We can do it on our own. Your federal jurisdiction
22 that you operate under has no jurisdiction over us.
23 If Kerry can fly to Iraq on the news and deal with
24 independent nations, he can stand here before our
25 people and deal with us. Why do Iraq, Afghanistan

1 have governments operating independently when we
2 don't? And we've been waiting patiently with aloha,
3 love, for 120 years. Much aloha and mahalo.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. CHANG: The next is Ben Keliiholokai,
6 Kalani, Constance, Keoni and Dexter. Is Ben here?
7 Are you Ben? Are you Kalani? Come up, Kalani, and if
8 you can state your name.

9 MR. KAHUIA: Don't start the time, yeah,
10 brah. Okay. You guys can hear me? Okay. Aloha mai
11 kakou.

12 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

13 MR. KALIMA: I'd like to greet everyone
14 who came to support the Hawaiian nation in this time
15 of redress to voice concern over the spontaneity of
16 this visit or to question the authority of this panel
17 of whom may be instrumental, or detrimental, in
18 correcting the past wrongs done upon our moi, Her
19 Majesty, our Queen, Liliuokalani, and her ancestors
20 that preceded her, our nation and all of its natural
21 resources that allow us to sustain ourselves since
22 before America was born, and our people, the kanaka
23 maoli, who are the first peoples who settled these
24 islands from Tahiti.

25 Aloha. My name is Kalani Kalima, and I'd

1 like to formally welcome you to our ahupua`a of
2 Waimanalo. In the moko of Koolau poke, in the moko
3 puni of Oahu, here the majestic Koolau mountain with
4 the peaks of Lanipo and Puu o Kona above us, here
5 blows the Limu-li-pu`upu`u and the `Alopali winds,
6 here falls the `A`ala-honua rains, from the springs of
7 Kapunu kane and Kapunu wahine to the waves of
8 Awawamalu and Makapu`u, aloha.

9 Our people at one time was at peace with
10 nature. The ocean was full with its bounty of sea
11 life, limu and life-giving salt. Our water was clean
12 and flowed from the mountain to the sea, traversing
13 the different landscapes and taro terraces to the fish
14 ponds that are unique to Hawaii. Our foodstuff were
15 plentiful and it sustained us because of aloha `aina,
16 or the national resource management that we had.
17 There were houses for all, while crime was almost
18 nonexistent. We had a vibrant civilization.

19 Now we fill your prisons and drug rehabs.
20 We fill your hospitals and cemeteries. No longer are
21 we in charge of saving sea life to sustain a future
22 for a thousand generations. We fight for the bits and
23 scraps that are left in the ocean. We fight the
24 current governments, both federal and state to
25 survive. We are the many on government assistance.

1 We are the many on the beaches as homeless. Our
2 elected officials, especially the legislative branches
3 in the county, state and federal governments, have
4 been integral to our continued meager existence.

5 I urge this panel to assist us as we move
6 on towards nation-building. I urge my people to stand
7 together because it is at these times that we would be
8 able to do what our kupuna wish, and that is, to
9 change our Hawaii for the betterment of all. As the
10 question proposed, I think you can assist but not
11 facilitate the reestablishment of a government. We
12 can do that ourselves. No, you cannot assist in
13 reorganizing the government that we create, we'll do
14 that ourselves. When we reestablish our government,
15 we'll make another constitution or whatever else we
16 choose to govern the people. No, we do not want the
17 state of Hawaii involved in the process. We will deal
18 with them at another time. Prerequisites: Just move
19 aside and let us come together.

20 And in summary, you know, in court they
21 use prior precedent in order to guide decisions or to
22 strengthen a case. Our queen did the same thing. On
23 February 14, 1843, George Paulet took the sovereignty
24 away from His Majesty King Kamehameha III. He didn't use
25 violence as a means to retrieve that sovereignty, but

1 bided his time until it was returned on July 31st,
2 1843, known as La ho`iho`i ea. It is at this time
3 that he said, "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono," or
4 the sovereignty of the land will be perpetuated when
5 the sovereign is pono.

6 Another noteworthy event for our nation
7 was Ka La Kuokoa on November 28, 1843, when, through
8 the Anglo-Franco proclamation, our sovereignty was
9 recognized by France, Britain, amongst others. All
10 these events happened because of his practice of
11 nonviolence. Our queen believed that, like La
12 ho`iho`i ea, the United States would right the wrong
13 as Britain had done 50 years prior.

14 As Kaleakoa says, "We're all in the same
15 canoe." That's right. All of us. The many ways that
16 we have been divided over the years, we're all in the
17 same canoe. We will either sail together or we will
18 sink together. Kanaiolowalu separates us even more.
19 Only those that sign up will build a nation, leaving
20 the rest of us behind. That, no can. It's about
21 kakou. It's all of us or none of us. It should never
22 be some of us. Let us not stray from the future that
23 our keiki deserve. Let us not stray from the nation
24 of our ancestors. Let us not be divided by this or
25 any other process that they throw at us.

1 Yeah, we pau. It's time. (Speaking
2 Hawaiian.)

3 The elitist and the powers that be will
4 be humbled. The meek will rise. Each individual
5 shall unite and defend any aggression from abroad.
6 Mahalo.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. CHEEK: Aloha. My name is Kanoe
9 Cheek. I descend, my ohana descends from Kamehameha I
10 through his first wife, Kanekapolei. On that basis,
11 in answer to question number 1 is a`ole. In English
12 it means no. I just wanted to -- I'm going to write a
13 paper to mail to you. I wasn't going to speak
14 tonight, but something really struck me that I need to
15 share my manao.

16 Far be it from me, for me to tell you how
17 to do your job, but Department of Interior, surely you
18 can write a letter and say it's out of my hands,
19 Department of State. And the Department of Justice,
20 oh, my, gosh, Department of Justice, you surely can
21 investigate where is our Hawaiian money? All the
22 money we promised that we never receive.

23 Esther, you sit there like you not one of
24 us. I don't understand, but, you know, that's not my
25 thing right now. I prefer, I don't know -- even know

1 why you're here, but I prefer talking to who is in
2 charge, and I don't mean John Kerry and I don't mean
3 Obama. I mean who is in charge of this almighty
4 dollar? This dollar here, this is United States, but
5 over here, this all China, what the heck happened to
6 the money? Now you trying to come to us and tell us
7 like -- like we're stupid? No, a`ole.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. CHANG: Next I have Constance, Keoni,
10 and Dexter. Is Constance here? Okay. Keoni Kuoha.
11 And then after that is Dexter Kaiama, and then after
12 Dexter I have Pete Crackel. State your name.

13 MR. KUOHA: Ekala hui aloha aina, aloha.

14 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

15 MR. KUOHA: My name is Keoni Kuoha. I
16 stand here for myself, my brother Ikaika and my
17 brother Kaulana. I would get more ohana behind me,
18 but I, you know, didn't have much time to organize
19 myself this evening. I just have an answer for your
20 questions 1 and 2. And to question 2, no, thank you.
21 We don't need anyone else's work in our -- the work of
22 our lahui. I think we have a lot of work ahead of
23 ourselves, and this is where the conversation really
24 should be happening.

25 But since you are here and you're

1 representing the United States government, to your
2 question 1, I have a very qualified yes. And that's
3 because if I understand this correctly, you're asking
4 about a government-to-government relationship, and so
5 if it's a true government-to-government relationship,
6 you have nothing to do with this side of the
7 government, right, our government, but I would like
8 you guys to work with the state, the Department of
9 State, and figure out all the rules, all the policies,
10 and be ready when we come back and tell you what we
11 want as a lahui.

12 And that's my main point. Mahalo.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. CHANG: Dexter Kaiama. And after
15 Dexter again we have Pete Crackel, Lahela and then
16 Kawai.

17 MR. KAIAMA: Aloha mai kakou.

18 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

19 MR. KAIAMA: Aloha, board members.

20 Esther, good to see you again. I'd like to start out
21 with first thanking you, Esther, for at least
22 having -- how would I say, the effort to be
23 transparent about this process. I know that's always
24 been something that I can always say I trusted about
25 you, is that you allow us to be transparent.

1 That being the case, I also thank you for
2 setting up the convening of these hearings because
3 what you've done is you've awoken the people and thank
4 you for awaking the people. And I can tell and I
5 understand from the testimony today that what you
6 heard articulated in many ways but very well was a
7 resounding no to your questions. And I kakou and I
8 join in that resounding no. And you know why we join
9 in that resounding no, because we are aware and we
10 follow and we adopt the questions that was asked by
11 Kamana`opono Crabbe.

12 But the thing is we already know the
13 answer to those questions and we've been telling you
14 that we do know the answer to that question. And the
15 question is the Hawaiian Kingdom does continue to
16 exist as an independent nation among the family of
17 nations. We continue to have our Hawaiian Kingdom,
18 which has never been extinguished under international
19 law, and until such time that the United States can
20 show that it's been extinguished, the continuity is
21 presumed. And therefore the Department of Interior,
22 respectfully, actually has no place here.

23 The Department of Interior, I must ask to
24 cease and desist the further convening of these
25 hearings, because what you are doing is you are

1 interfering in the internal domestic affairs of the
2 Hawaiian Kingdom in violation of international law,
3 the laws of occupation and Hawaiian Kingdom law.

4 What we also know it is Hawaiian Kingdom
5 law that will protect all of our rights, all of our
6 entitlements. No federal law can protect our rights
7 and entitlements. So it is that awareness that our
8 people are becoming better and better aware and we
9 continue to become better and better aware. And as we
10 do, we become stronger as a lahui, and we collectively
11 will tell them, thank you, but a`ole.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. CHANG: Thank you. I have Pete
14 Crackel, Lahela, and Kawai, D'Angelo, Palani Vaughan,
15 and Captain Milton Coleman. I missed your name, why
16 don't you come up.

17 MR. BERMUDEZ: Aloha (speaking Hawaiian).
18 My name is Ricky Bermudez. I'm here to just to --
19 I've been here many times just through the process.
20 Basically we're spiritual people here and we really
21 love the land and want to take care of the land here.
22 We want to take -- we are people, kanaka. We have a
23 process that's already been in place for a very long
24 time. The Hawaiian government, the Hawaiian Kingdom
25 here, we always been here. I am sovereign. I do not

1 belong to the United States.

2 I do not understand the voter
3 registration. You have to be a U.S. citizen to vote.
4 That means most of us aren't voting, so you're not
5 hearing our voices. It's very important that we need
6 to change this. If you're talking about the process,
7 this is the first process, the voting process needs to
8 be changed.

9 It should take -- and plebiscite, too,
10 we've never had the third opportunity of our own
11 sovereign government. Our government is divided, the
12 Kingdom is divided into judicial, executive and the
13 legislature. It's divided into mokupuni, ahupua`a,
14 the mokus, that's the way it's always been divided and
15 it's ran by the local mo`i or the ali`i and then it
16 goes down to the people. So it's always been there
17 and we're still living that way.

18 I still live that way. I don't go to
19 your stores. I go up in the mountains. I work with
20 my fisherman friends, my farmer friends. We grow
21 taro. I have taro for a whole year. I can eat from
22 my yard for a whole year. I have food sustainability.
23 I take care of the land. We have dirty land here. We
24 have to take care of -- all the military bases over
25 here aren't paying any land -- any money. How come

1 they're not paying any money? We need to get some of
2 that money back. We have 550 with OHA, we need --
3 that's part of our money. We have allodial trust
4 title. We have benefits. We have all the money we
5 need, we just don't have the government. The
6 government has always been here, the Hawaii Kingdom,
7 you folks changed it illegally.

8 So we need to work on -- I think some of
9 the process we need to define things like the state of
10 Hawaii, U.S. citizenship, education. And number one,
11 too, we need to go to UN, like the Nazis, and address
12 the war crimes, the genocide and the treason that's
13 been here. That's one of the things. We need to get
14 the UN here and the State Department here.

15 So, yeah, the thing is I don't understand
16 this new state coalition because you involve the
17 governor. The governor has no genealogical ties to
18 us. He's a foreigner and he's running our nation
19 here, our state here. That's illegal. So everything
20 that's going down is illegal after crime after crime
21 after illegalities.

22 Thank you for your time. Aloha.

23 (Applause.)

24 MS. CHANG: D'Angelo. After D'Angelo,
25 Palani Vaughan and Captain Milton Coleman and Ruth

1 Bolomet.

2 MR. MCINTYRE: Aloha. My name is
3 D'Angelo McIntyre. I am not Hawaiian. I am
4 African-American, Native American. And the reason
5 that I caught the bus out here from Ewa is because as
6 a part Native American this rings a bell with me, and
7 I love and I feel sorry for my brothers sisters here
8 in the Pacific and I wanted what the Hawaiian people
9 want, and I hear a lot of them saying no to this.

10 And from my own research, from what I've
11 been -- what I've looked up, this is eerily
12 reminiscent of what is called the Dawes Act of 1886,
13 which authorized the United States to divide tribal
14 land amongst individuals, and I don't want anything --
15 I don't want the United States to determine anything
16 for brown people. I'm tired of the United States
17 determining what happens to brown people.

18 I think since we weren't able to
19 determine what was done for ourselves as I was stolen
20 from Africa and my Native American ancestors were
21 killed by the Anglos, that the Hawaiian people should
22 have the right to determine what they want for
23 themselves and to have you have the United States
24 government out of their land.

25 From what I understand, this is an

1 illegal occupation, and so the only thing that rings
2 sound to me is from Kaulana Na Pua, in the English
3 version, which my favorite verse is: "We do not value
4 the government sums of money, we are satisfied with
5 the stones, the astonishing food of the land."

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. CHANG: I have Palani Vaughan,
9 Captain Milton Coleman and Ruth Bolomet.

10 MS. BOLOMET: Aloha kakou.

11 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

12 MS. BOLOMET: I'm sorry I had to come
13 back. Two minutes wasn't enough time for me to be
14 Portagee enough, so that's half of me.

15 Anyway, the reason I came back is because
16 I see that we can keep talking about who we -- who we
17 are and try to get permission and recognition for who
18 we are, but we already know that. What I want to do
19 is start looking at rolling out a plan, and one of the
20 things that I see that we're all having problem with
21 that goes to court fighting for our lands, our kuleana
22 lands, is that your court people refuse to apply the
23 proper laws. We have cases after cases where we go
24 into court, we give them the laws, we follow the
25 rules, and yet little by little you find little

1 techniques to skirt the laws and to take away our
2 lands that are -- we are the vested lineal heirs to.

3 All of our lands are given to us in
4 perpetuity or to the awardees and we only have a
5 lifetime interest, which you keep giving to
6 foreigners, despite all the efforts that we make, all
7 the money that we pay and we keep showing up to
8 summons. It's like you go through the motions of
9 pretending that you're serving us, when all you're
10 doing is having us show up to say, you know what, you
11 guys, we're taking it from you anyway. You've all
12 seen this, right?

13 AUDIENCE: Right.

14 MS. BOLOMET: So what we need you guys to
15 do is to get your judges off our benches, because
16 those courtrooms are on our lands. You guys are
17 trespassing onto our lands, applying your laws to
18 things that belong to us. We need you to take care of
19 that. That's not anything we need to take care of.
20 We need to get our people, who are very intelligent,
21 you can hear how everybody here knows the laws, knows
22 our rights, all I'm saying is let's get everybody --
23 get your people off and our people moved on. Thank
24 you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MS. HOLMWOOD: Aloha mai kakou. Gosh,
2 this is a fabulous crowd. I love it. I've never seen
3 anything like this in Waimanalo before. This is
4 wonderful. Lahela Jarrett Holmwood, you can just say
5 Lahela Jarrett, native Hawaiian, born and raised here,
6 not in Waimanalo. But currently I live on the Big
7 Island, but because I work here on Oahu part-time, I
8 am here and I am here to give testimony tonight. I
9 would normally be giving it in Waimea.

10 Question number 1, I say yes, the
11 secretary should propose an administrative rule on a
12 government-to-government basis, as we heard prior to
13 this. 2 and 3, no, don't interfere with us Hawaiians
14 trying to make our own rules and get our own things
15 going. We know what that is. And questions 4 and 5,
16 yes, rely on us as Native Hawaiians to know what we
17 want and to go after what we want and to actually
18 write what we want in a constitution that we agree on,
19 not that the federal government agrees on. Okay,
20 that's it.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. CHANG: Next is Palani Vaughan. And
23 then after Palani Vaughan I have Israel, Sabu, is it
24 Karl, Kealohilani, Joshua, Kawika and Kanoa Wong.

25 MR. VAUGHAN: Aloha, I saw you all this

1 morning at the capitol, and I would have sung then but
2 Liko Martin did such a wonderful job with his
3 composition Red Ribbons.

4 I grew up in Waimanalo, and was always so
5 wonderful to be Hawaiian and be here (inaudible). How
6 many of you even heard of Gabby Pahinui and the Sons
7 of Hawaii? He was -- the Sons of Hawaii originated
8 out here in the Waimanalo sugar plantation, that's
9 where the name was coined, and they were supporters of
10 our King Kalakaua. The Sons of Hawaii continue today
11 through all of us, but we're now sons and daughters of
12 Hawaii.

13 I grew up not knowing anything about the
14 overthrow. I learned -- the honest truth is I learned
15 it while I was playing with the Sons of Hawaii and
16 singing Queen Liliuokalani's songs, and this elderly
17 Canadian couple in the audience pulled me down to talk
18 story, and said, "You love to sing her songs."

19 I said, "Yeah, she was a beautiful
20 composer."

21 "Do you know anything about the
22 overthrow?"

23 And I said, "No, I don't." And I learned
24 from them, they gave me the Queen's book, *Hawaii's*
25 *Story by Hawaii's Queen*. And so I composed this song

1 in remembrance of our queen.

2 How long must Queen Liliuokalani wait for
3 121 years of injustice to terminate?

4 How much longer will America take to act
5 upon its 1993 Apology Law and return the Kingdom of
6 Hawaii to our queen that it took from her on January
7 17th of 1893 with illegally landed blue-jacket U.S.
8 Marines?

9 How long? How long?

10 And I want you to just remember we ask
11 that question how long must our queen wait? How much
12 longer for the injustice to be corrected? And that's
13 all I'm asking, and it's -- I think we're also
14 demanding it in our way, in our voices. We Hawaiian
15 people are very soft and you'll see us smiling and the
16 passion is inside our hearts. Mahalo.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. CHANG: I have Captain Milton, and
19 then after I have Israel, Sabu, Karl, Kealoha, Joshua,
20 Kawika and Kanoa Wong.

21 MR. COLEMAN: Aloha kakou.

22 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

23 MR. COLEMAN: A hui kanaka. My name
24 is -- I put the captain in there so it would get your
25 attention. So the captain, just put on the fasten

1 seat belt sign. Buckle up.

2 You know, I know that's not too much time
3 to share, there's a lot of things to share, but really
4 what I want to say is that I watch body language a
5 lot, you know, I got to read people in that way, and I
6 know you feel a little uncomfortable, but I want you
7 to know that, you know, our people feel uncomfortable
8 in our own home, and that's something that's not
9 right. I know you feel comfortable because you get
10 paid, you getting paid to be here. Well, guess what?
11 God has humbled me and I haven't been paid. I'm not
12 being paid to be here.

13 But what I would like to ask is that you
14 really search the truth, the truth, the historical
15 truths that took place here. And don't use what they
16 give you, don't rely on the books that are given to
17 you, you need to get the books that are being written
18 now after research has been done and the facts. You
19 know, you'll see it, it's nothing emotional, it's
20 factual. It's based on research, dissertations,
21 Ph.D.s, people have been tested, it's -- there's no
22 question about this. So I would ask you, you know, to
23 please use the truth as your rod. You know, don't go
24 based off of what you heard or what people told you.
25 You need to find out for yourselves.

1 And I'm sorry that -- I know you had a
2 little gathering, Esther, I didn't get to meet you. I
3 actually passed you. We were out sailing our wa`a on
4 Saturday, yeah.

5 You know, a lot of people know that the
6 school that I'm associated with, that I work for,
7 we're the ones teaching this history to our students.
8 And what happens? They try to shut us down. It's
9 kind of ironic, but we've gotta keep going. Like our
10 queen said, like Kamehameha V said, onipa`a, we're
11 going to stay true to our an ancestors.

12 Even all of our an ancestors, Christians,
13 yeah, you need to understand this, they were
14 Christians, and they understood that they had to stand
15 up for truth. They were against annexation, but they
16 were Christians and Hawaiians. You need to find out.
17 There's research that was done. They dug up all the
18 papers, all of their writings, they believed in the
19 truth. That's what they were formed on. There was
20 nothing to be avoided. You have to stick with the
21 truth. Please. The truth, that's what we want to
22 answer to, there's nothing else.

23 You know, I just want to tell you that I
24 have family that worked for the Department of
25 Interior, and if they were alive today, I know that

1 they would stand with us. I know that for sure. If
2 you'd like to talk to me about that some more, I'm
3 open.

4 Please don't let your emotions or
5 everything that you learn, please look for the truth.
6 That's all I'm asking. We have a lot of children that
7 are coming up, they need to know the truth. They're
8 learning the truth and they feel better about it.
9 It's not about blame. It's about truth. That's
10 what's going to be the deciding factor in the end,
11 yeah, the truth. Mahalo.

12 (Applause.)

13 MS. CHANG: Do we have Israel? Sabu?

14 ISRAEL: I know you guys might have seen
15 me earlier today. Aloha. I felt it was more sincere
16 that I bring my keiki, my son. Once again I'm a
17 father of seven. This is just the oldest. And the
18 reason why I brang him was because he is already
19 experiencing problems with, like, DLNR already. Like
20 they made him cut the net, all that kind stuff. They
21 told me that it was a lesson for him, a good lesson to
22 learn, but I looked at it as it was like something I
23 not going to discourage him from ever doing it again.
24 So the reason why I'm here is so he can voice his
25 opinion, but for me definitely no to administration

1 rule change. The DOI, we don't want it, a`ole.

2 UNIDENTIFIED BOY: Aloha. (Spoke in
3 Hawaiian).

4 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

5 UNIDENTIFIED BOY: Kanaka maoli (spoke in
6 Hawaiian). I come from Kukaniloko, and I don't like
7 DOI.

8 ISRAEL: And that's pretty much why I'm
9 here, just to -- I figured it would be more sincere,
10 and I see you guys have the comments on the paper, I
11 don't if that means anything to you guys because back
12 then it didn't mean anything, palapala never meant
13 anything, so I figure it would be better if it was
14 verbal. Thank you for letting me speak.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. CHANG: Thank you very much. Next I
17 have Sabu, Karl, Kealohilani. Oh, just you. State
18 your name.

19 MR. KEKOANUI: Aloha. You guys probably
20 saw me from earlier today at the state capitol. My
21 name is Sabu Kekoanui again. And I'm just here to say
22 no to the administrative rule change.

23 I just wanted to let all you kanakas
24 know, we all gotta stand together and we gotta fight
25 together. Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. CHANG: Is that Karl? Okay.

3 MR. AHQUIN: Aloha.

4 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

5 MR. AH QUIN: `O ko`u inoa Karl (spelling
6 not provided) Ah Quin. I came here today to say a`ole
7 DUI -- I mean DOI, oh, that too. No administration
8 rule change. (Speaking Hawaiian). Mahalo.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. CHANG: Joshua Kaakua, Kawika Souza,
11 Kanoa-Wong. Okay, we have gone through 189. I have
12 greatly appreciated your courtesies. Oh, these are
13 the children? Oh, okay.

14 MS. CHANG: State your name for the
15 record.

16 MR. SOUZA: Aloha mai kakou.

17 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

18 MR. SOUZA: (Speaking Hawaiian.) I'm
19 here tonight to show you folks that one big thing I
20 hear about is, you know, oh, you guys all divided and
21 you guys gotta come together and you know, look at
22 this, this is my people, our people, different walks
23 of life, different organizations together as one
24 saying no, we no like this. It's no good for us.
25 It's no good for our keiki. Sorry, getting a little

1 bit emotional, make my heart sore, make me sad. You
2 know, I see this kind of stuff, I see what's happening
3 to our people. The state motto, Ua mau ke ea o ka
4 aina I ka pono, right, the life of the land should be
5 perpetrated only in righteousness. Our land is dying,
6 so our people is dying, because we are part of the
7 land. You know what I mean? Oh.

8 Anyway, my name is Kawika. Thank you for
9 letting me speak. Aloha everybody.

10 MS. CHANG: Thank you. Do I have some
11 children, some keiki that want to come up? You want
12 to come up? Did you sign up? Did I miss -- what was
13 your name?

14 MR. PALE: Shane.

15 MS. CHANG: You must have gone outside
16 while I called your name, but I do remember calling
17 your name.

18 MR. PALE: Aloha, everyone. My name is
19 Shane Pale from Molokai. I live in Kulioo now. Aloha
20 to the staff as well as the Waimanalo community.

21 To the five questions: No, no, no, no,
22 and no. That's the short answer. Basically I just
23 wanted to just state that what you should be
24 supporting is true self-determination which was
25 defined by the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous

1 Peoples, where native -- indigenous peoples have the
2 right to freely determine our own political status,
3 our own culture, economics, as well as our -- I
4 forget, but it's in there.

5 But I just wanted to just point out one
6 thing. There's a lot of issues that we as Hawaiians
7 need to discuss before we even get to this point. We
8 have all these different proposals for sovereignty,
9 independence, and these are things that we really need
10 to discuss as a Hawaiian community.

11 One thing I wanted to point out that
12 really gets over -- over -- missed, and this is one
13 issue that I wanted to express tonight, is tourism.
14 You know, in spite of the land, land issues, the
15 military, tourism is really important for Native
16 Hawaiians in this sense, is that the whole industry
17 makes billions and billions of dollars off of Native
18 Hawaiians. And the way they do that is they exploited
19 Native Hawaiians by our culture, our language, our
20 people. They make billions and billions of dollars.
21 The state of Hawaii -- Waikiki basically is run by
22 multinational corporations that benefit from Native
23 Hawaiian identity, Native Hawaiian culture. We need
24 to put a stop to that, and that is exactly what I
25 wanted to bring up.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. PALE: A lot of times all these
3 issues does not get covered. We hear a lot of stuff
4 from everybody coming up talking about laws, the
5 Kingdom laws and whatnot, when we really look at
6 what's really going on, the tourist industry is
7 something that we've really got to look at, as well as
8 the military. Billions of dollars coming into Hawaii,
9 all this money does not stay here, it goes outside of
10 Hawaii. We, as Hawaiians, by virtue of our right to
11 self-determination, we need to address that, that one
12 issue. Billions of dollars, and if you look at all
13 the issues that we have, it really come down to money.

14 I felt the tap. I see the sign.

15 But basically that's what I want to share
16 with you tonight. The short answer, again no, no, no,
17 no and no. Aloha and thank you for listening.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. CHANG: Okay, I have Kanoa Wong. And
20 then after Kanoa Wong I have Leona Kalima.

21 MR. WONG: Aloha. Aloha (spoke in
22 Hawaiian), aloha.

23 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

24 MR. WONG: First I'd like to say welcome
25 to our islands and our home, and I hope you guys can

1 open your ears, open your hearts, open your minds to
2 the manao or the thoughts that are going to be shared.

3 To question 1, I say yes, with one
4 clause. You should be working
5 government-to-government with our Hawaiian Kingdom
6 government. And it should be on our terms. 2, 3, 4,
7 5, a`ole loa. We are an ohana, now residing in the
8 ahupua`a of Kailua and coming back home to Waimanalo.
9 We love our land. We've seen the desecration that has
10 happened to it for the past how many years. I can
11 only imagine it getting worse unless we do something.
12 I hope that you guys can help us do something. Listen
13 to the voices of the people because we all come to
14 talk, to share our aloha for our `aina.

15 My keikis have a few things to say. This
16 is Puamana, this is Kealoha`aina, and this Haipo.

17 UNIDENTIFIED BOY: A`ole. Aloha `aina.

18 UNIDENTIFIED GIRL: Aloha `aina. (Spoke
19 in Hawaiian).

20 UNIDENTIFIED BOY: Aloha `aina.

21 MS. CHANG: I now have Leona Kalima.

22 MS. KALIMA: You got my testimony this
23 morning, but all of you, okay, I want the federal
24 government to recognize Hawaii's true history. Yes?

25 AUDIENCE: Yes.

1 MS. KALIMA: I want the federal
2 government to pay for the process for us to get our
3 nation back.

4 AUDIENCE: Yes.

5 No way.

6 MS. KALIMA: Dexter, they gotta go
7 around, man, they gotta hear our people's voice, they
8 really do. All islands, and I think they'll get the
9 same consensus, okay?

10 What I'm concerned about is the
11 consultation with native Indians, Native Americans,
12 what's that about? We got to convince them? They
13 gotta like us? What is that about? And then if you
14 guys can hui together, send me, I want to go listen to
15 this, we should be listening to what they talking to
16 the native Indians about, and it shouldn't be behind
17 closed doors. So be concerned, ask for money, I am.
18 Okay. Send us. Send some of our people to go listen
19 what's happening over there, okay, and that I haven't
20 heard in this morning's hearing and tonight. Okay,
21 people?

22 And you know what? We really gotta have
23 a process, because with the coming of Kakaako, our
24 demographics are going to change, gang, and no more
25 we're going to be the one fourth minority already, so

1 get your acts together, imua.

2 MS. CHANG: Okay. The last person I have
3 is S.L. Frank. She's going to close us tonight.

4 MS. FRANK: Aloha mai kakou.

5 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

6 MS. FRANK: Esther, I salute you. I know
7 sometimes you probably have been receiving negative
8 things, but that's okay, it comes along with all the
9 good, okay.

10 And thank you, all of you, for coming. I
11 really don't remember you by name, I just kept hearing
12 the DOI. See I'm from DOE, so DOI.

13 Anyway, I had -- I really had no
14 intentions of getting up here, but as I listen to all
15 of our ohana, I realize I needed to say little bit. I
16 know you realize that we have a diversity of opinions,
17 okay, we talk a lot about other stuff other than what
18 you've requested of us, and that's because we've been
19 suppressed for so long, we're taking advantage of the
20 fact that we actually have you folks here. So we hope
21 that you gonna listen. Okay?

22 My little comments on this is I kind of
23 thing that, number one, that I would like to have this
24 thing happen, I really would, but I really don't know
25 what government-to-government relationship with the

1 Hawaiian community is, okay? Because I wasn't around
2 when we had it. I'm not really well versed in all of
3 this back history, I really am not. That's not my
4 bag, but I like to see this happen.

5 Should the secretary -- no, they don't
6 need to help us. We can do 'em, right? We can do
7 'em. Okay.

8 And then should the secretary also rely
9 on the reorganization and blah, blah, established by
10 us, I totally agree with my ohana in that, yeah, they
11 should do that, but we can stand on our own feet,
12 okay, and I'm going to -- I just reiterating what was
13 said earlier, we are well capable of taking care of
14 ourselves, you've just gotta give us the space, the
15 time, we'll find a place.

16 And then the last line, should the
17 secretary -- on what conditions should the secretary
18 establish, no conditions, we gonna do that part. I
19 really have to reiterate what other people said, we
20 still can do it, okay, we have enough of us who are
21 street smart, intelligent smart, any kind of smart
22 that when we get together we will come up with the
23 actual plan and we will tell the government, namely,
24 DOI, what to do, okay, for us, because we don't need
25 anybody to come in here to tell us what to do. We are

1 well capable of thinking for ourselves on our own
2 feet, right?

3 AUDIENCE: Right.

4 MS. FRANK: Mahalo.

5 MS. CHANG: I want to applaud you. We
6 went through 212 of you and there's many, many more of
7 you here. Mahalo to all of you. I know you got my
8 little tap on the shoulder, I appreciated all of your
9 courtesies to me, to the panel and to each other.

10 I wanted to tell you that there are
11 numerous opportunities for you to comment on this
12 ANPRM. One of them is at tonight's meeting. Another
13 one is listed -- we have 13 more meetings. If you can
14 attend, tomorrow we're in Nanaikapono, Wednesday
15 Heeia, and then Thursday we're in Kapolei.

16 All of the citations listed in the draft
17 ANPRM will be available on the Department of
18 Interior's Office of Hawaiian Relations website.

19 Wait, could you please wait. I'm going
20 to ask Rhea or Sam if they want to make some closing
21 remarks, but please check the websites because the
22 transcripts will be on there.

23 (The proceedings adjourned at 8:44 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Jessica R. Perry, Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of Hawaii, hereby certify that the proceedings were taken down by me in machine shorthand and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form under my supervision; that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and right transcript of the proceedings had in the foregoing matter.

I further certify that I am not attorney for any of the parties hereto, nor in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED this 23rd day of July, 2014, in Honolulu, Hawaii.



Jessica R. Perry, RPR, CSR No. 404