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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
  
PUBLIC MEETING  
  
REGARDING WHETHER THE FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT SHOULD REESTABLISH A  
GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH  
THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY

Monday, June 30, 2014

6:26 to 8:02 p.m.

Waimea High School Cafeteria

9707 Tsuchiya Road

Waimea, Hawaii 96796

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PUBLIC MEETING

MS. CHANG: I think we're now going to move into the comments. But what I'd like to do is start off with just some what I call kind of protocols. I have a court reporter here. She can only take one person speaking at a time. So you'll come up to the mic, and if you could state your name so that she makes sure she's accurately taking down your comment.

If you want to provide your comment in Hawaiian, please free to do so. And I apologize that we do not have a translator here. But if you would like that translated, let us know, and we'll take the audio back and have it translated.

If you are uncomfortable coming up to the mic to provide your comment, in the back at the registration there were comment forms. Please feel free to take them home, complete them, and send them back.

Over the last seven meetings, and I can see tonight, just by your -- and I really appreciate that obviously all of you take this really seriously that you're here tonight. But I've got a lot of people who want to make a comment.

So, again, I know that -- I hope this doesn't offend anybody, but if you've been watching, following us, this is the protocol that we've had. You have two

1 minutes. And I know that's not enough, but I'm going to  
2 ask all of you to confine your comments to two minutes.

3           Kekoa is going to be up here with a timecard.  
4 He's going to the show you when it's one minute and then  
5 30 seconds. And this is kind of my style. I try not to  
6 get into your space, but as you get closer to your time,  
7 I'm going to walk up closer to you. When your time has  
8 pau, I'm going to gently put my hand on top of you, and  
9 it's pau. And so if you don't mind, because every time  
10 we take longer, it takes away time from the others. So  
11 again, do not intend to offend anybody, but I'm trying  
12 to get as many people as possible to share their  
13 comments.

14           Please note there's many different ways to  
15 provide your comments; email, fax, fill it up over here,  
16 leave it in a comment box and then provide your comment  
17 tonight. You can also attend another meeting. We will  
18 be in Kapaa tomorrow. So please come and join us there.

19           There will at 60 days that this comment period  
20 will be open, so it will close on August 19th. So you  
21 have up until 60 days to submit a comment.

22           What we've done in the other areas as well  
23 because we've had a lot of people -- we gained a really  
24 nice -- people just followed us. They felt really moved  
25 by the process and wanted to come. So what we've done

1 is in order to make sure that we hear the people who  
2 have not spoken, I'm going to ask those who have spoken  
3 at another island to permit the people who have not  
4 spoken to speak first. And then after that, if we have  
5 time, we're going to take people to speak a second time.

6 I know how imp- -- I mean, I really do know.  
7 This has been painful. I know it is painful for you to  
8 come up here and talk about this. It has been hard for  
9 all of us here, too. I care. I will tell you, I do  
10 feel very heavy when I leave the meetings 'cause I do  
11 feel the pain. But I would ask that everybody be  
12 courteous and respectful.

13 And the way that I'm going to handle the  
14 comments is you come up to the -- in the back you've  
15 signed up. I am going to call the people in the order  
16 upon which they signed up. I'm going to call the first  
17 five names, and then you come up over here. Please sit  
18 down right over here, and then you're going to -- you'll  
19 be called up to the mic.

20 What we've been doing in the other meetings as  
21 well is asking if there are kupuna here who would like  
22 to come up and make their comment now, I welcome that.  
23 I would ask you to come up and please come up and feel  
24 free to give your comment now, and then I'll go through  
25 the list.

1           If there are no kupuna, then let me call the  
2 first five people.

3           WILMA HOLI: I'll go.

4           MS. CHANG: You'll go. Okay. Please come.  
5 And after Auntie comes up, I have Gerald, and then I  
6 have Kelani Hanohano, I have Kekane Pa, and Randy  
7 Wichman.

8           WILMA HOLI: My name is Wilma Holi, and I'm  
9 from Hanapepe. First of all, I'd like to congratulate  
10 you, Esther, for your appointment and also for the many  
11 years of good work that you've done in Washington, DC.  
12 I know firsthand. I've been there many times doing  
13 consultation work, and I know what's involved.

14           But tonight I'd like to say to question number  
15 one, no; question number two, no; question number three,  
16 no; question number four, no; question number five, no.

17           And I'd like for everyone on the panel and  
18 those in the Interior -- Department of Interior,  
19 Department of Justice, State Department and the  
20 executive branch to do their due diligence in looking at  
21 the true history of Hawaii and the fact that we were  
22 never annexed and that our kingdom was done wrong and  
23 that it is a time for you to correct it and make  
24 everything pono.

25           In fact, ironically today back in history in

1 1873 there was a group of Native Hawaiians that met at  
2 Kaumakapili Church to discuss the treaty of reciprocity,  
3 reciprocity. Okay. And they were very unhappy with the  
4 terms of the treaty, and they felt that the Hawaiian  
5 government should not engage in any kind of signing of  
6 that treaty, and they also felt that this would  
7 eventually lead to annexation which proved to be true.

8           There were two crimes committed when the  
9 queen's -- when the queen was overthrown. The first was  
10 a crime of treason, high treason, and the second was the  
11 theft of lands that belonged to the government and to  
12 the crown.

13           And thank you very much for this opportunity to  
14 bear my testimony. Thank you.

15           MS. CHANG: Thank you. If you could, when  
16 you come up, if you could stand here so the court  
17 reporter sees you talking as well. Thank you.

18           GERALD MARKEL: Hi, aloha. I'm Naliico  
19 Gerald Markel. I speak for the Hawaiians that believe  
20 that this is our country. We are the specific  
21 population, and we have a right to self-govern. Last  
22 time we had government-to-government relationships was  
23 1893, December, with the State Department of the United  
24 States, and that agreement was never honored, and I  
25 don't see why they would honor anything now.

1 I start with number five, going in reverse  
2 order, that the President should honor existing treaties  
3 with our government. That's number one. Before we can  
4 move forward and do anything is [Hawaiian language  
5 spoken].

6 Number two, to get us going, we need a  
7 third-party oversight for funding, escrow over an open  
8 elections hope to be held in 2015 of the Native Hawaiian  
9 people that we can organize ourselves as long as we have  
10 funding and as long as we have outside international  
11 support and oversight.

12 We want those elections to elect a body of  
13 delegates and representatives to meet at our own  
14 constitutional convention in which our organic document  
15 will be reviewed and perhaps updated.

16 From that government that is created from that  
17 elections, we can say we do not want any help from a  
18 department that has been historically out -- mismanaged  
19 the affairs of the Native Americans and their own  
20 environment.

21 Also, the Secretary of the United States should  
22 be making things better for Americans and don't worry  
23 about us. We'll take care of ourselves. Mahalo  
24 [Hawaiian language spoken].

25 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Next I have Kalani

1 Hanohano, Kekane Pa, and then Randy Wichman.

2 KELANI KUMAI: Aloha. [Hawaiian language  
3 spoken.] My name is Kelani Kumai. I am from Koloa.

4 Answer to your five questions; one, just say no  
5 to the proposed administrative rule; number two,  
6 reconcile with the Kingdom of Hawaii; three, convene our  
7 Hawaiian legislature, recall the 120-year recess; number  
8 four, recognize us as a nation, lahui; number five, the  
9 result, prosperous coexistence and dual citizenship.

10 I am here today to convey to you a very clear  
11 message for you to take back to America. It is  
12 important that you comprehend the significance of what I  
13 say. My nationality is Hawaiian. Born in the occupied  
14 territory of Hawaii, I am a descendant of our native  
15 chiefly families and of Caucasian kamaaina, subjects of  
16 the Kingdom of Hawaii.

17 Hawaiians are not a race. Our native race and  
18 that of our aboriginal ancestors is Polynesian,  
19 descended from settlements of seafaring Polynesian  
20 populations our interdependent society developed for  
21 over a millennium of acculturation into a unique people,  
22 a nation, lahui. We are a nationality, constituents of  
23 a subjugated and occupied Hawaiian nation. We are not a  
24 tribe. We are not indigenous Americans. We are  
25 Hawaiians. Our patriotic forefathers Kue Petition of

1 1897 rejected annexation. Their descendants affirmed  
2 their loyalty to our Hawaiian Kingdom.

3 The egregious, unethical facilitation of the  
4 1983 coup enabled by U.S. Marines described by then  
5 President Grover Cleveland as illegal and as an act of  
6 war in his letter of intent to restore our queen  
7 continue to besmirch the honor and integrity of the U.S.  
8 Congress and Constitution.

9 Do not marginalize us. Repatriot and restore  
10 to us what is ours, acknowledge our inherent  
11 sovereignty, encourage and coexist with reorganize of  
12 our nation, the Kingdom of Hawaii. Thank you. Please  
13 learn from your visit. Aloha.

14 KEKANE PA: I'd rather face my people  
15 instead face them. Aloha everybody. Nothing personal.  
16 But my name is Kekane Pa, Hawaiian national. I am  
17 against the following actions by the U.S. Federal  
18 Government, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the  
19 State of Hawaii, including the Office of Hawaiian  
20 Affairs, OHA, and all the agencies supporting federal  
21 recognition and its heinous implications to the Native  
22 Hawaiians and the nation of Hawaii.

23 I support total independence. I say no to  
24 federal recognition, no to reclassifying our identity,  
25 alterations of Native Hawaiians to American Indians.

1 Act 195 language and legal terminology for the Hawaii,  
2 American Indians employed in the same context as Native  
3 Hawaiians. We need to study that, people. Interference  
4 by U.S. government on self-determination and elections,  
5 OHA, [Hawaiian language spoken] and any of Akaka clones  
6 or roll call. Lies, deceptions, theft, and fraud, by  
7 the U.S. government, State of Hawaii, OHA.

8 To prove my testimony, this is a Dateline  
9 report from 1972 which a lot of people in OHA refuses to  
10 respect Senator Inouye telling us our future. And let  
11 me read it to you guys. My last minute.

12 What is the true intent of Senate bill 1520 Act  
13 195 that brings these people here? To have the Hawaii  
14 people agree to give up their rightful claims to their  
15 national lands identified as ceded lands by the U.S.  
16 government. These national lands are the former  
17 Hawaiian Kingdom government crown and public lands.  
18 Through the passage of Act 195, the Hawaiian people  
19 approved and established a Hawaiian governing entity  
20 that is controlled by the U.S. federal -- department and  
21 OHA and Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the State of  
22 Hawaii.

23 Excuse me. May I summarize with this? It's  
24 very important, please. Okay. The people need to hear  
25 the truth of this one.

1           What's quote in Act 195, the previous U.S.  
2           legislation act prelude the Native Hawaiian  
3           reorganization act, also known as the Akaka bill, the  
4           the true purpose of this bill is to extinguish the  
5           aboriginal land title ownership of my people, the Native  
6           Hawaiians, and their national lands, quote, and I'll be  
7           go, Senator Daniel Inouye, the Hawaiian people would  
8           receive a cash compensation for extinguishing of your  
9           aboriginal land title ownership that provided to the  
10          Alaskan settlement with the means to be justified in the  
11          light of the Alaskan presidents.

12           Same as the Native American Indians, people.  
13          They will give you a federal recognition without telling  
14          you you're giving up your land, and there goes it.  
15          Refuse federal recognition.

16           LXG will conduct a fifth consecutive  
17          independent election on September 15, 2015. Get  
18          involved because OHA is telling you your future.  
19          They're going to sell you down the road.

20           MS. CHANG: After Randy, I have Robin  
21          Danner, Ted Blake, and Debra Kekaulua.

22           RANDY WICHMAN: Aloha, my name is Randy  
23          Navaha Wichman. In terms of the five questions, no.  
24          The federal government has not negotiated in good faith  
25          so far. So it's about time that the self-determining

1 nation process is decided by us. So in terms of the  
2 five questions, no.

3 Two points I really wanted to make. Number  
4 one, what is the Hawaiian Kingdom? It is represented by  
5 the citizens of the Kingdom of Hawaii. Who are the  
6 citizens of the Kingdom of Hawaii? Who are they?

7 Now, let's take that for a second. Who are  
8 they? They represent every single race on this planet.  
9 It was never about race. We're not Native Americans.  
10 Discuss it and talk to us about the Kingdom of Hawaii as  
11 a citizenship. Not one time have I ever heard the word  
12 citizenships, the citizens of Kingdom of Hawaii. You  
13 need to learn that word. It's not about Native  
14 Americans. It's not about race. It's about the  
15 obliteration of a citizenship.

16 The second point is about the fact of the  
17 lands. When the provisional government took over the  
18 lands, they did not create the wealth. They stole it,  
19 the two million acres, what they call the crown and  
20 government lands, were two million acres put in trust  
21 for the citizens of the Kingdom of Hawaii. That's a  
22 fact. Two million acres in trust for the citizens.  
23 Provisional government took it, territory took it. They  
24 did not create the wealth. They took it from the  
25 kingdom. Statehood, did they create the wealth? No,

1 they took it from the citizens of the Kingdom of Hawaii  
2 in trust.

3 Who are the descendants of the Kingdom of  
4 Hawaii? Most of these people in the room all claim an  
5 ancestor who are citizens. Make it about the  
6 citizenship of Hawaii, make it about the theft of lands  
7 and the return of our assets. Thank you.

8 MS. CHANG: Robin, Ted and Debra.

9 ROBIN DANNER: Aloha. For the record,  
10 Robin Danner, Hawaiian. On behalf of my family, the  
11 Koloa and Keiki lines of Kauai, I thank you for being  
12 here.

13 Yes, the Secretary should set rules for you,  
14 the federal government, to engage with us, Native  
15 Hawaiians.

16 Yes, the Secretary should assist in any effort  
17 that will result in greater self-governance by Native  
18 Hawaiians, particularly with your legal and technical  
19 expertise.

20 And, yes, the Secretary should support and  
21 respect the efforts of the tens of thousands of Native  
22 Hawaiians that have enrolled in the last three years to  
23 reorganize ourselves.

24 Setting rules, as you do with other sovereigns  
25 domestically and internationally is simply long overdue.

1 We want to express our cultural values and priorities  
2 through our own law making process. We want to be  
3 responsible for our elders and families. We want to be  
4 responsible for caring for our lands and waters as our  
5 konohiki of old have always done. And through this rule  
6 making process, we can expect other sovereigns like the  
7 county, the state, the federal government to respect our  
8 laws. Our self-governance takes away from no one. It  
9 adds to the solutions that Kauai needs. We want to help  
10 police and protect our children from the influences of  
11 drugs. We want to set educational curriculum that tells  
12 our epic story in the Pacific, and we want to codify our  
13 cultural practices like hanai and protocols with Wahi  
14 Pana, and even with agriculture big GMO issue in our  
15 community. We want to make our own laws for our own  
16 selves for that.

17 Your work today does not decide whether we can.  
18 Your work decide -- will decide if you, the federal  
19 government, will finally respect us as a sovereignty in  
20 our journey to recover from our very difficult past.

21 Our people have been on the move to do  
22 something about that injustice. We have been on the  
23 move for several decades now. You can see it in our  
24 charter schools, in your voyaging societies, in our  
25 homestead associations and civic clubs, in our

1 environmental and economic development projects, and you  
2 can see it in the tens of thousands that have  
3 voluntarily signed up to do the work to reorganize.

4 The question today is, should the federal  
5 government recognize what we can and are doing for  
6 ourselves? The answer, of course, is yes. Mahalo.

7 MS. CHANG: I have Ted and then Debra.

8 TED BLAKE: My name is Ted Blake, and I'm  
9 from Koloa. I just wanted to talk about something that  
10 I overheard here, and that's our culture and Wahi Pana.  
11 We have two [Hawaiian language spoken] that's  
12 circumventing the earth, and they're taking the message  
13 of sustainability and aloha aina, something our  
14 ancestors practiced for centuries before the words  
15 environment and sustainability was coined by the  
16 westerners.

17 The examples we have left, and one of the best  
18 is the Koloa field system in Poipu, are quickly getting  
19 overrun because we don't have strong enough laws. I  
20 look forward to the day when our government, the  
21 Hawaiian government, can make its own laws and enforce  
22 them so we maintain these little examples we have left  
23 of our culture.

24 The Koloa area most people are familiar with is  
25 Poipu. Most people recognize it as having dust and dogs

1 and koa. But at one time we supplied all of California  
2 with the sweet potatoes in the 1850s. We supplied the  
3 north with all their sugar during the Civil War. This  
4 is from a little island, and we know how to work the  
5 land because there are no problems. There are just  
6 solutions. And this is really important to me. Once we  
7 lose the fabric of our culture, everything else erodes.  
8 Thank you very much. Aloha.

9 MS. CHANG: I have Debra after this, and  
10 then after Debra, Iokepa Imaikalani. Iokepa. Did you  
11 -- you provided testimony in Makakilo? Would you mind,  
12 we're going to take the ones who haven't -- mahalo.

13 So after Debra, Debra please come up, I have  
14 Lee Contrades, Pono Kealoha, Shannon Bucasas, Rozlyn  
15 Reiner. Please come up. Go ahead, Debra.

16 DEBRA KEKAUALUA: Aloha everybody, my name  
17 is Debra Kekaulua for the record. Aloha Barack Obama  
18 and DOI panel.

19 Because lawful annexation is non-existent, this  
20 means in my mind that Obama cannot be president and/or  
21 anyone else engaging in a 501(c)(3) nonprofit category  
22 cannot lawfully represent Kanaka Maoli. That leaves  
23 [Hawaiian language spoken], an internationally  
24 documented and recognized Hawaiian Kingdom nation which  
25 has been in suspended animation. A hundred and twenty

1 years of regime changes as Kinzer's book Overthrow  
2 outlines, J. Kauanui book Hawaiian Blood outlines how  
3 America and her laws have crossed the lines several  
4 times over, yet the fraud continues.

5 One fine documentary called, Then There Were  
6 None, outlines what American law has done towards  
7 genocide. Kahali Smith paid the ultimate price as  
8 clearly Kanaka Maoli are also ongoingly and in a  
9 constantly corrupt manner of policies and procedures  
10 which includes every facet of the fake state, DLNR, OHA,  
11 DHHL, county, federal, and again the 501(c)(3) sellouts.

12 Kanaka Maoli do not want to be militarily  
13 controlled or eyed as strategic when China comes calling  
14 to collect U.S. monies due them on the largest Ponzi  
15 scam in history. Kanaka Maoli simply want restoration  
16 of what was all the lands, precious water, and regaining  
17 clarity with land titles proving that stolen is stolen  
18 is stolen.

19 On your island a non-native is banking grants,  
20 maneuvering in a way completely contrary to the wishes  
21 of Kanaka Maoli, rarely, if ever, engaging Kanaka  
22 outside the 501(c)(3) courts.

23 Robin Danner, who was just up here, a very  
24 audacious, controlling wahine, through her 501(c)(3) --  
25 I'm all right there -- statuses through her 501 CEO

1 statuses of HCDC, civic clubs, AHA, Kapuna counsel,  
2 AFARA and several others have virtually swept Anahola  
3 off its feet. And those that have tendered her  
4 manipulation and grant documentations more specifically  
5 in Obama's chambers speaking on behalf of all, when  
6 clearly she cares nothing about integrity, Kanaka Maoli  
7 people, only her chosen natives.

8 All together, the fraudulent U.S. government,  
9 their laws, their status quos, is evidence in the  
10 federal to county governments currently is no longer  
11 acceptable. These people can no longer represent we,  
12 the people, much less we, the Kanaka Maoli, or other  
13 indigenous peoples already U.S. controlled and  
14 dominated.

15 Just say no to federal anything or as it may  
16 relate to like-minded Robin Dannians who guarantees  
17 Akaka-tried status with or without DOI presenting and  
18 per recently leaked documents. That's her intent.  
19 Mahalo. Sorry.

20 MS. CHANG: I have Lee. And, Pono, thank  
21 you. He testified and he will come after. Shannon and  
22 Rozlyn, and then Mauna Kea Trask and Joe Manini. So  
23 Lee, Lee Contrades, yes. Please come up.

24 LEE CONTRADES: Aloha everybody. My two  
25 uncles were really into the radical age. First of all,

1 my Uncle Kahali died in the house. And, of course,  
2 everybody knew that where dad died, too. Henny Smith  
3 was my uncle as well.

4 But, you know, the laws were created for some  
5 people. For example, liberty and justice for some.

6 And my answer one through five is no. No,  
7 'kay. That's all I've got to say. Aloha everybody.

8 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. I have Shannon, and  
9 after Shannon, Rozlyn, Mauna Kea, Joe Manini.

10 SHANNON BUCASAS: I say mine going 2  
11 minutes, 10 seconds. [Hawaiian language spoken.] My  
12 name is Shannon Ohaialani Bucasas, and I was raised in  
13 Waimea Valley in Kekaha but currently living on Oahu.  
14 I'm an educator, and I've been teaching at Waimea High  
15 School for the past seven years as a history and  
16 Hawaiian studies teacher.

17 Native Hawaiians make up the majority of our  
18 student body being that the leeward coast has one of the  
19 biggest homesteads in Hawaii. Like many other schools  
20 with a high population of Native Hawaiians, Waimea High  
21 School has been categorized as a school needing  
22 restructuring according to your government standardized  
23 assessments. And because of this, we have in a pilot  
24 school or a guinea pig test site, I like to call it, for  
25 the numerous federal government education reforms.

1           We've had federal raise to the top money forced  
2 down our throats which has turned us into puppets rather  
3 than teachers. We've had numerous consultants from the  
4 continental U.S. coming into our schools telling me a  
5 Kanaka how to reach Kanaka students.

6           And what has your seven years -- or these seven  
7 years of your reforms gotten us? Seven years of low  
8 promotion and graduation rates, a high dropout and  
9 absentee rates and high teacher turnover rates, and  
10 reading and math scores that do not meet proficiency by  
11 your government standards. We focus educational on  
12 preparing students to take a test at the cost of a loss  
13 in education deeply rooted in our language and culture.  
14 We've allowed the education systems to be -- we've  
15 allowed the education system's failure to be  
16 internalized by our opio as their own personal failures.

17           As long as we are forced to have a relationship  
18 with the federal government, our opio and keiki will be  
19 forced to be in an education system that does very  
20 little to accommodate native knowledge.

21           For this reason, my answer to all of your  
22 questions is no. Federally recognized tribes on the  
23 continental U.S. have been fighting to increase tribal  
24 control over their schools because of these horrible  
25 reforms.

1 Ten seconds, I promise.

2 I do not want the future of our lahui to be  
3 stuck in an education system that strips them of their  
4 identities. And in order for us to build a lahui that  
5 is pono for us, we need Kanaka deeply rooted in the  
6 language, culture and knowledge of our kupuna. Not  
7 Hawaiians who walk out the door as high school graduates  
8 with a binder full of papers that says, Met proficiency  
9 by your government. Federal recognition will bind our  
10 students to the federal government's horrible education  
11 reforms.

12 MS. CHANG: Thank you. Rozlyn.

13 ROZLYN REINER: Aloha. I am Rozlyn Reiner,  
14 and I live in Kekaha. I have enjoyed the privilege of  
15 living on these islands for 36 years. I humbly and  
16 respectfully submit that I am but a guest living here by  
17 the grace of Kanaka Maoli and the sovereign Kingdom of  
18 Hawaii.

19 And as an American citizen and 36-year resident  
20 of Hawaii, I submit that I am strongly opposed to the  
21 U.S. Department of the Interior's proposed  
22 government-to-government relationship between the U.S.  
23 and Native Hawaiian community.

24 To all five questions proposed and to the  
25 proposed amendment to the administrative rules, I say,

1 No, no, no, no, no.

2           Instead I support the complete and total  
3 restoration of the Hawaiian Kingdom as a sovereign  
4 nation. The Hawaiian Kingdom's existence as an  
5 independent state among the family of nations is  
6 undisputed, affirmed and many times reaffirmed by  
7 conclusion of treaties including treaties with the  
8 United States. Until relevant evidence proves  
9 otherwise, the Kingdom of Hawaii as an independent state  
10 is presumed, thereby strictly prohibiting interference  
11 in the affairs of the Hawaiian Kingdom by the U.S.  
12 Department of Interior.

13           The attempt to establish a government-to-  
14 government relationship with the Native Hawaiian  
15 community is seen as intervening in the internal and  
16 domestic affairs of the Hawaiian Kingdom in violation of  
17 international laws, the laws of occupation, U.S.  
18 constitutional law, and the laws of kingdom of -- and  
19 laws of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

20           The previous relationship with the U.S. and the  
21 Kingdom of Hawaii was with a multi-racial, sovereign  
22 government. Native Hawaiians have never been a tribe,  
23 and developing a government based solely on race  
24 violates the U.S. Constitution. Mahalo.

25           MS. CHANG: I have now Rozlyn -- that was

1 Rozlyn. Mauna Kea Trask, Joe Manini, and Sam.

2 MAUNA KEA TRASK: Aloha. My name is Mauna  
3 Kea Trask. I'm a Native Hawaiian and Hawaiian national.  
4 When I was 17 I first heard the three main theories of  
5 the current state of the sovereignty movement. They  
6 are, one, the illegality of the overthrow negates the  
7 current government of Hawaii, and, therefore, we still  
8 exist as an independent, sovereign nation; two, we don't  
9 need federal recognition; and three, international law  
10 is the venue to establish sovereignty.

11 This made sense to me back then and gave me  
12 hope. However, after studying this issue for the past  
13 17 years and graduating from law school, I learned that  
14 this is all wrong. Case law states that after the  
15 overthrow, the constitution of 1894 expressly abrogated  
16 all prior constitutions. And pursuant to the Organic  
17 Act, the United States annexed Hawaii as a territory  
18 expressly repealing the constitution of the Republic of  
19 Hawaii and substituting its own fundamental law, State  
20 v. Lee Hawaii 1999.

21 The Ninth Circuit of the Federal District Court  
22 of the District of Hawaii and Hawaii State Courts have  
23 all held that the laws of the United States and the  
24 State of Hawaii apply to all individuals of the state.  
25 United States v. Lorenzo held that the Hawaii Federal

1 District Court has jurisdiction over Hawaii residents  
2 claiming they are citizens of the Sovereign Kingdom of  
3 Hawaii.

4 In State v. French held that presently, quote,  
5 There is no factual or legal basis for concluding that  
6 the Hawaiian Kingdom exists as a state in accordance  
7 with recognized attributes of state sovereign nature.

8 The courts have consistently treated Native  
9 Hawaiian claims as, quote, Domestic rights and duties  
10 falling outside the purview of the international law.  
11 State v. Marley, Hawaii Supreme Court 1973 citing U.S.  
12 Supreme Court 1941.

13 I do not like the current state of the law, and  
14 that is why I support federal recognition of the  
15 Hawaiian people and establishment of such a process. I  
16 support the recognition of the reorganized Hawaiian  
17 government that emerges out of the state's Act 195  
18 process, and I believe that Native Hawaiians who comply  
19 with this act's qualifying criteria should be allowed to  
20 participate in the nation-building process.

21 I would never support a process that I thought  
22 would hurt the Hawaiian people, and I am willing to  
23 consider any option in protecting us. Mahalo.

24 MS. CHANG: Thank you. I have -- is Joe  
25 here? Joe Manini. Is he here?

1                   JOE MANINI: Mr. Chairman, ladies and  
2 gentlemen, all interested parties, to the Interior  
3 Department of the United States of America: The  
4 Interior Department has failed to prove that they have  
5 international rights over the international lands or  
6 international orders of the archipelago of Polynesia of  
7 which Hawaii is a portion of.

8                   Now, I represent the Kanaka Hui lands, which is  
9 the administrative part of the Kanaka nation. The  
10 Kanaka nation is a big administration. The Hawaiian  
11 Kingdom was formed by the foreigners, but the Kanaka  
12 nation stood way ahead of that. We came here in 200  
13 B.C., and we established surveying the whole place.  
14 That's why we have the deed that surveys the  
15 archipelago. And in the deed shows that United States  
16 cannot take Tonga, they cannot take Polynesia, they  
17 cannot take [Hawaiian language spoken], they cannot take  
18 all islands in there. They have no right to.

19                   'Cause, in fact, the very land that the United  
20 States owns is international lands. It is international  
21 lands. You've got to study. That's the trouble. You  
22 see, everybody don't study because they think the  
23 Hawaiians or the natives are ignorant. The natives are  
24 brilliant. They know where the natives come from, the  
25 Egyptian Hebrew. They're not stupid. They're brilliant

1 people. It's just that they're not a fighting nation.

2 But the governor of the State of Hawaii was  
3 telling the court in [Hawaiian language spoken]  
4 association versus Hawaiian Homes Commission. They was  
5 told that they had to return the land, all executive  
6 orders as of 1952. So far in 1952 they not returning it  
7 in executive orders. That's why it involves the land up  
8 Kokee area because Kokee Park is an executive order of  
9 1952 and should be returned by Abercrombie to the legal  
10 owner of the land, and I am the legal owner. You're  
11 talking to the legal owner.

12 So you're not supposed to give the legal owner  
13 two minutes to talk. You give the legal owner more than  
14 two minutes to talk. If you're not, then I would say  
15 you're racial, you're prejudiced. You mean for this  
16 committee to talk, they can talk half an hour, and I sit  
17 over there and listen. And when the legal owner of the  
18 land wants to speak, he gets two minutes. Because you  
19 want to determine it. I'm saying that you don't have  
20 the right to determine it because you don't have the  
21 right for international lands and international orders.  
22 That's what we own.

23 And until you can prove that you have the  
24 right, then you can come around and say, I agree to  
25 ordering this or I agree to the Hawaiian Kingdom doing

1 certain thing. The Hawaiian Kingdom and the Kanaka  
2 Kingdom is two different things. That's why I wanted a  
3 little bit more time because I like to show you the map  
4 because everybody know how to determine who is who.  
5 They're still wondering, all our scholars. You can  
6 help me open. It's upsidedown.

7 If you look, four brothers married four sisters  
8 that constitutes the Kanaka nation. The red stripes  
9 represent the men, and gold stripes represent the women  
10 that form our Kanaka nation. This canoe is a migration  
11 canoe. If you look good at the canoe, you can see about  
12 60 or 70 people on top. It's not one made from small  
13 trees. The trees had to of South America.

14 And so this the Kanaka nation. You get the  
15 Hawaiian Kingdom. But you conquered the Hawaiian  
16 Kingdom. I know because you're saying that the  
17 Hawaiians don't own anything. That's right because I am  
18 Hawaiian homelands and I paying the lease on it.

19 If you folks don't want me talk, that's all  
20 right. But, you know, some day I'll be talking in  
21 court, and I'll have the full time.

22 But the United States had better listen,  
23 because it's still the United States. It's not to the  
24 State of Hawaii. Thank you.

25 MS. CHANG: Thank you, Uncle. After I have

1 -- mahalo. Uncle says he's going to come to Kapaa to  
2 finish the rest of his statement. So mahalo. I  
3 appreciate that. Next I have Sam. I'm sorry. I cannot  
4 read your last name, Sam. Anybody Sam that's signed up  
5 was No. 26. If not, I have Kahea Faria, and then  
6 Liberta Albao, Malia Chun, Stewart Akana, and Yolanda  
7 Niau-Blevins. Please come up.

8 KAHEA FARIA: Aloha mai kakou. Thank you  
9 all again for being here. My name is Kahea Faria. I'm  
10 just going to go right ahead and answer your five  
11 questions with some comments.

12 Question number one, the answer -- my answer to  
13 that would be a no and a comment. We do have already a  
14 government-to-government relations between Hawaiian  
15 Kingdom and the United States that was established in  
16 1844 with the Secretary the State John Calhoun. So  
17 that's already been established. It doesn't have to be  
18 reestablished.

19 Number two, it's no for the same reason. We  
20 already have one established.

21 Three, a no, and I have three comments with  
22 that one. The first one is for the United States to  
23 engage properly with Hawaii through Hawaiian Kingdom  
24 law, and that's the 1864 constitution that was ratified  
25 by law or Kamehameha V.

1           Also, we are all engaged, including you, are  
2 all engaged in this process because it is a kuleana,  
3 it's a responsible. As the occupying --

4           Thank you. Oh my gosh, 30 seconds.

5           Okay. As the occupying state, the United  
6 States, we're asking you to begin administering Hawaiian  
7 Kingdom laws immediately. That is the 1864  
8 constitution.

9           And then my third point, assist, you may assist  
10 us just as you are assisting what you are doing in Iraq  
11 as we educate and reeducate our people on our history  
12 and our -- sorry. You're making me all nervous.

13           But number four and five is also a no. But I  
14 do have one question. Sorry, just one question.

15           So as we near the date when the 1844  
16 acknowledgement of Hawaii being an independent nation,  
17 as we near that date, that was July 6, 1844. That's on  
18 Sunday. I ask you, the distinguished members of the  
19 Interior and Department of Justice, I know you say you  
20 have limitations, but in what ways may your department  
21 aid in bringing the USA into proper negotiations with  
22 the Hawaiian Kingdom? Which we are -- not only is  
23 aboriginal population but the source of its history, its  
24 culture, identity and laws. Thank you so much.

25           MS. CHANG: I now have Liberta, Malia,

1 Stewart Akana, and Yolanda Niau-Blevins.

2 LIBERTA ALBAO: Aloha, my name is Liberta  
3 Albao. I want to thank the DOI for starting this  
4 process. Welcome you. I'm excited because you brought  
5 excitement to Hawaii nei. Throughout the state, through  
6 your hearings, and I want to thank you for that. I  
7 didn't -- and I thank for everybody that came out to  
8 this process, see Native Hawaiians together although we  
9 agree to disagree, and agree to disagree and all and  
10 hear everybody's testimony.

11 But I think we need to come together. We need  
12 to have dialog. This is just the beginning. So I want  
13 to thank you for starting this process. Mahalo.

14 MS. CHANG: So, Malia. Okay.

15 MALIA CHUN: Aloha [Hawaiian language  
16 spoken]. But it's unfortunate that you wasted time and  
17 money because the answer to your questions is the same  
18 answer that you got in 1897 from 38,000 kupuna. A'ole,  
19 a'ole. No to annexation and no to your questions.

20 It seems arrogant for the federal government to  
21 presume that after stealing our hale would we accept a  
22 broken rice cooker in place of true freedom. We do not  
23 need your recognition. We are a nation that exists on  
24 an international level. It's just a nation that has  
25 been suppressed and dormant for 121 years, but we're

1 waking up. Believe me. It's not a question of if our  
2 nation will thrive again, but when.

3           What 121 years has taught us is that the  
4 oppressor will never willingly free the oppressed. Our  
5 kupuna -- our kupuna would rather [Hawaiian language  
6 spoken] than be slaves to American imperialism.

7           The real questions, Kanaka and citizens of  
8 Hawaiian, that we need to ask ourselves is, number one,  
9 what are ways that we can assert our nationalism today?

10           Number two, how and when do we collectively  
11 come together to build a sound united structure for our  
12 keiki?

13           And number three, kupuna and makua, what are we  
14 doing to prepare our keiki to inherit that kuleana?  
15 Mahalo nui.

16           MS. CHANG: Mahalo. I have Stewart,  
17 Yolanda, and after Yolanda, I have Van Warren.

18           STEWART KOPA AKANA: Aloha kakou, my name  
19 is Stewart Kopa Akana. A lot of bubbles floating around  
20 in here, huh?

21           The things I've got to say is that the  
22 Secretary needs to show proper, lawful jurisdiction by  
23 showing evidence of a treaty of annexation with the  
24 Hawaiian Kingdom, this is national lands, before we can  
25 even attempt to answer these questions.

1           Question two does not identify the lawful  
2 owners of the Hawaiian Kingdom land that will permit our  
3 government to rule it. The Native Hawaiian community  
4 identifies Americans in disguise and not the Kanaka  
5 Maoli.

6           Question four and five say to recognize our  
7 government. The Hawaiian Kingdom government still  
8 remains intact under international laws and cannot be  
9 reorganized by a foreign agency.

10           Question six, a'ole. Get a treaty to annex or  
11 commit genocide. Thank you.

12           MS. CHANG: Okay. I now have Yolanda. Is  
13 Yolanda here? After Yolanda, we have Van and Puuohu.

14           YOLANDA NIAU-BLEVINS: Aloha [Hawaiian  
15 language spoken], Yolanda [Hawaiian language spoken]  
16 Niau-Blevins.

17           I am against the following actions by the  
18 United States Federal Government, the United States  
19 Department of Interior, the State of Hawaii including  
20 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, OHA, and all other  
21 agencies supporting federal recognition and its heinous  
22 implications to Native Hawaiians and the nation of  
23 Hawaii. I support total independence.

24           I'm saying no, no, no, a'ole. A'ole to the  
25 federal recognition reclassification or identity

1 alteration of Native Hawaiians to American Indian. Act  
2 195 language and legal terminology for American Indians  
3 employed in the same context as Native Hawaiians.  
4 Nation within a nation status. I'm saying no to  
5 interference by the United States government in  
6 self-determination and elections. [Hawaiian language  
7 spoken] and any other [Hawaiian language spoken] or roll  
8 call.

9 Lies, deception, theft, and fraud by United  
10 States government, State of Hawaii and OHA, abdication  
11 of our sovereign inherent rights. We will not give up  
12 our rights.

13 As a Native Hawaiian, I was born and raised in  
14 the state of Hawaii. This is my home. This is our  
15 land. We fight to stand strong for all Hawaiians and  
16 our generation that is new to come. Mahalo.

17 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Van, I have Van, and  
18 then I have Puuohu and Luwella. You are next, but would  
19 you mind going after? Thank you. So after that I have  
20 Cheri Matsusaka. Please go ahead, Van.

21 VAN WARREN: Aloha kakou, my name is Van  
22 Kawai Warren. My ohana comes from Milolii, Big Island,  
23 all the way to Waianae. I just found out I got ohana in  
24 Waianae. I am Hawaiian. They are here because they  
25 recognize us already. We are recognized because we

1 never left, okay.

2           The answers to all their questions is no, of  
3 course, right? They had over 120 years, the federal  
4 government, since the illegal overthrow, right? And  
5 look at -- they have the census reports of the status of  
6 the Hawaiian people or the Hawaiian Kingdom. So over  
7 that 120 years it shows -- the proof is in the census  
8 reports right there.

9           State of Hawaii, Department of Hawaiian  
10 Homelands, Department of the Interior, I believe you  
11 folks were responsible for the Department of Homelands  
12 -- Hawaiian Homelands Act here, grossly neglected for  
13 the past hundred years, okay. So now you guys are  
14 trying to instill fear [Hawaiian language spoken],  
15 instill fear in the people of Hawaii that we cannot be  
16 who we are, right?

17           And I say the people that live here is the  
18 Hawaiians. The Hawaiians, our ohana on the mainland, if  
19 they want to come and be part of it, you have to live on  
20 this aina right here 'cause this aina feeds us, okay.

21           To take that to the next level, the federal  
22 government have all of these resources. We were a  
23 sustainable nation, 700,000 to 900,000 people. Look  
24 what the federal government, the state government has  
25 allowed to happen to our aina. We're going to give them

1 some more time to do that? I don't think so. As  
2 chemicals run into the ocean, where is the EPA? Okay.  
3 Where was the federal government to help the Hawaiian  
4 Homes Act over a hundred years ago?

5 Right here, this is -- we have questions and  
6 answers. This is for you, Rhea. This was the  
7 Department of Interior, a referenced copy of the  
8 Hawaiian Homes Act, amendments that was dated  
9 December 12 -- not to change the subject at [Hawaiian  
10 language spoken] on that, but there was -- you brought  
11 up that you apologized for the process for this meeting  
12 tonight.

13 So my question to you folks is, what was the  
14 process in December 2012 on this Hawaiian Homes Act,  
15 because we want to know why the homesteaders and the  
16 beneficiaries, they didn't know that there was a process  
17 going on on the changing, the amendments of the act.  
18 Granted the act needs to be changed to the nation, of  
19 course. But since they're here, we have the honor, I  
20 would like them to explain what was the process to come  
21 out with this amendments that is -- that was showed up  
22 on your desk? And if we get that question answered, I  
23 would appreciate that. Mahalo. Aloha.

24 We've got to take care of the water and the  
25 land or we're not going to have one nation. And the

1 federal government and the State of Hawaii, Department  
2 of Health is sure ain't doing a good job of it.

3 MS. CHANG: Thank you. Okay. After Van, I  
4 had Puuohu. Okay. And then after that, I have Cheri  
5 Matsusaka and Thomas Ferreira. Thomas was number 56.  
6 The next person is 60, Kamuela Aea. Cheri, are you  
7 Cheri? Okay. Yep, please come up.

8 CHERI MATSUSAKA: Aloha. I am Cheri  
9 Matsusaka. I'm speaking on behalf of my children and  
10 the generations to come and even on behalf of my  
11 ancestors who didn't have a voice.

12 For every question my answer is no, to every  
13 single question. I don't have to give you a history of  
14 what actually took place. You already know. But really  
15 on behalf of the generation, it was wrong what happened.  
16 And I'm here to say no, we do not want to become Native  
17 Americans. I am Kanaka Maoli. That is who I am. That  
18 is how my identity, and it has been stolen. I am Kanaka  
19 Maoli. Mahalo.

20 MS. CHANG: Thank you. After Cheri, do we  
21 have Thomas Ferreira? Do I have Kamuela? Kamuela is --  
22 after Kamuela, Kimokeo Kahalewai. Did you testify at  
23 another meeting? If not, after Kimokeo was Makai and  
24 then Randi Si. Please go ahead.

25 KAMUELA AEA: Aloha, my name is Kamuela

1 Aea, and I'd like to thank the -- well [Hawaiian  
2 language spoken], thank the kupuna before us, and I'd  
3 like to just reiterate what Kupuna Holi said, a'ole,  
4 a'ole, a'ole, a'ole.

5 I was privileged to be raised by a -- when you  
6 talk about the Kingdom of Hawaii, by someone who was  
7 born in the Kingdom of Hawaii, my tutu. And I was born  
8 in the territory. And as Hawaiians, we've always kue.  
9 The kingdom has never left. I think during this  
10 parenthetical dispensation of this occupation, we have  
11 always recognized ourselves as being part of the Kingdom  
12 of Hawaii, and I've never considered myself part of  
13 America. Thank you.

14 MS. CHANG: Thank you. Makai, Makai M.,  
15 Randy Si, Lawrence, Ma Medeiros -- Max Medeiros, Renee  
16 Medeiros, Lyn McNutt. Are you here? Please come up.

17 MAKAI: Makai from Kekaha. Mine is real  
18 quick. I'm going not to answer any of the questions  
19 because I didn't even read 'em. But really basic and  
20 simple, we're just sick in the lies, living in a lie.  
21 We just want to live in the truth, and we know what the  
22 truth is. Everybody knows what the truth is already.  
23 So I don't know why you guys are playing these games,  
24 like trying to make a government-to-government thing,  
25 wasting time and money when we all know what the truth

1 is. We all know what's right, we all know what's pono,  
2 and that's -- it's only one way. So let's not waste our  
3 time doing all these games and educate everybody and do  
4 what's right.

5 And if there was wrong in the past, everybody  
6 knows January 17, 1893, there was an illegal overthrow  
7 of the Hawaiian Kingdom. And, you know, we can't just  
8 keep on thinking that nothing happened. We ought to do  
9 what's right and fix the problem. The problem is it's  
10 illegal what the U.S., you know -- we've got to be  
11 recognized as a nation.

12 Since 2010 I went to United Nations, and we  
13 took the flag that went down in the illegal overthrow to  
14 the Smithsonian and showed it there. And went to the  
15 United Nations in 2010 and were recognized. So -- and  
16 that's all I've got to say.

17 MS. CHANG: Malaho. Thank you. After  
18 Makai, I have Randy. Is Randy here? Lawrence. Max  
19 Medeiros. This is Max, and then Renee. So if I could  
20 get Max Medeiros.

21 MAX MEDEIROS: Aloha. I just want to thank  
22 the federal government to coming to Hawaii to hear us,  
23 our plea. And I think it's kind of noticeable that  
24 you're gathering us all together and we're talking the  
25 same language that we all knew that our ancestors was

1     overthrown and you guys was part of that process. And  
2     then we want to be free from your oppression, and we  
3     want to be our same people as we was in the past. We  
4     want to be us Kanaka Maolis. We want to care for our  
5     own aina, our land, our water, our sea.

6             And I just wanted to share that we had a  
7     process, that we had reelections, and we had people that  
8     came together to free us in gathering us together as  
9     Native Kanaka Maolis. And I just pray that we can be  
10    free again and hopefully that we all come together.

11            And I just say no to all the five questions,  
12    and you guys have no jurisdiction here. And I just  
13    thank you for this opportunity. Mahalo.

14            MS. CHANG: Mahalo. After Renee, if Panohu  
15    could come up. Renee.

16            RENEE MEDEIROS: Aloha everyone, my name is  
17    Renee Kanoi Bonnie Medeiros. I have spoken with the  
18    Department of Interior in 1999 with, I think, it was  
19    Jer- -- Berry, yes, with John Berry. And it's the most  
20    -- and I just welcome you folks to our island. These  
21    are foreign soils. This is Hawaii nei.

22            What I speak now I have spoken 14 years ago,  
23    and it's the same thing. And as my husband had said, we  
24    are -- you have brought unity. You have brought a voice  
25    that all of us are finally getting educated, and it's

1 coming out. And I am here preserved by my ancestors  
2 that signed that Kue Petition. My grandfather was  
3 11 years old. My great-grandfather, the whole ohana was  
4 there in 1897 in that Kue Petition. That made me a  
5 Hawaiian nationalist. I know who I am, and I am very  
6 proud.

7 And I do have the name Medeiros, do say a'ole  
8 to all the five questions for the record, and also for  
9 the -- I'm simply trying to state the facts. The  
10 Department of Interior has no legal standings. They  
11 have no jurisdiction. Stop the manipulation of power,  
12 stop interfering and undermining the political rights of  
13 the Hawaiian Kingdom, the birthrights to exercise a  
14 Hawaiian nationalist, stop bringing foreign confusion  
15 and dividing our people. Comply to international law  
16 and United States law. Comply to the rule of law, due  
17 process international law. The United States is  
18 compelled to follow international law and mandate the  
19 laws of the occupied nation and not the laws of the  
20 occupier. The United States by doing so is in  
21 violation.

22 We, too, as Kanaka Maolis, want to enjoy our  
23 freedom, our liberty and our justice here on Hawaiian  
24 nei. Aloha.

25 PANOHU NALEMU KEKAELU: Aloha, my name is

1 Panohu Nalemu Kekaelu, III. I just come up here to  
2 represent me, my people, my kids, and, you know, my  
3 ancestors that have gone away.

4 My grandpa, he was waiting for this today to  
5 happen, and only today we can actually share this moment  
6 with all our people. I'll say what you guys have done,  
7 you know, it's sad.

8 All I can say is, again, we're Kanaka Maolis.  
9 We're not one tribe, we're not Indians, and nothing bad  
10 about the Indians, you know; unfortunately, they got --  
11 they got raped. They got turned into Native Americans,  
12 kind of what you guys are trying to do to us right now.  
13 I'm so against it. We're not American. We never were,  
14 yeah. We're Kanaka Moali again. We come from this  
15 land. We come from no place else, you guys, all right.

16 So all I ask for you guys to do is have  
17 sincerity for our people, yeah. Again, I'm a Hawaiian,  
18 I was born a Hawaiian, I'm going to die a Hawaiian, you  
19 guys. Kanaka Maolis to the end, yeah. What you guys do  
20 to us in Hawaii is sad, yeah. Some of you guys know who  
21 I'm talking about, and it's upsetting because all I'm  
22 trying to be is an Hawaiian, and you guys are stopping  
23 me from doing that.

24 What's up? You know. When is this all going  
25 to change? When do we see what's good for our people?

1 You guys have no interest for our people at all, not at  
2 all. That's why I stand up today, 'cause I like make  
3 sure my kids get a better future than what we had.  
4 Thank you, my brother.

5 But again, please, please, yeah, look at our  
6 people. We're dying. We're hurting. We need help.  
7 Not from you guys, though. We can help yourselves,  
8 yeah. Mahalo.

9 MS. CHANG: Mahalo. Okay. I have Lyn, Lyn  
10 McNutt, and Rupert Rowe.

11 LYN MCNUTT: Aloha, my name is Lyn McNutt.  
12 I'm not Hawaiian. Sorry. But I am a residence here  
13 with three generations living here with businesses here  
14 and with family here and with lots of friends here, and  
15 I consider myself a memb- -- a subject of the Kingdom of  
16 Hawaii.

17 One thing about living long is you've seen a  
18 lot before. I worked in the Arctic for 40 years. I  
19 have seen all of this before. I have seen exactly this  
20 before. I lived in Alaska during the Alaska Native  
21 Claims Settlement Act. I lived in Quebec during the  
22 settlement act in Nunavut. I lived in Canada and was a  
23 policy analyst during the Nunavut, changes to the  
24 Northwest Territories.

25 There's a couple things I'd like to point out

1 that has always been a solution lately, which is not the  
2 solution for the tribes. And by the way, I really  
3 object to there being no native Alaskan tribes in this,  
4 and I think I know the reason why. And the reason is  
5 that the solution is cash payment, creation of a  
6 corporation which is then run by a board of directors.  
7 And by creating the corporations, they are for profit  
8 with private shares cannot be sold for 20 years. But,  
9 you know, 20 years have gone by in Alaska. The people  
10 don't own the corporations anymore. And so by doing  
11 this, you are doing total assimilation.

12 Now, Alaska needed -- you needed this done in  
13 Alaska because of the pipeline. They could not get the  
14 pipeline through without the land claims. They needed  
15 it in Quebec because they found minerals. My question  
16 is, why do they want it here? So as Lyn McNutt, a  
17 resident of Wailua, my answer is all five no.

18 MS. CHANG: I have Rupert Rowe. If Rupert  
19 is here. After Rupert, I have Kawai Mawae. And Kealii  
20 Lopez, if you don't mind, we're going to take you  
21 afterwards. Mahalo. And then after Kahai -- maybe it's  
22 Kehale, Kahale, Anne Punohu and Ted Leone.

23 RUPERT ROWE: Aloha kakou, I got a couple  
24 questions that I need to be clarified. First of all,  
25 what ever happened to the treasury of the Kingdom of

1 Hawaii? Where did it went after this overthrow took  
2 place? Key instrument.

3 Number two, you stole our nationality by making  
4 us become a blood quantum, only an animal that you use  
5 to identify the quality of that bred

6 Number three, we are wards to the citizen of  
7 the state.

8 Number four, we can't forget our [Hawaiian  
9 language spoken] of the past.

10 Number five, we have the palapala sila nui,  
11 which is an international identification of land in  
12 Hawaii.

13 Number six, you take the laws of the revised  
14 statutes, which was the laws of the Kingdom of Hawaii.  
15 And then now today you come here to ask us that you want  
16 recognition.

17 How is recognition possible with all the crimes  
18 that was committed? Who is the person that is at fault?  
19 America is a land where it strangles a small nation and  
20 steals its wealth because we were not powerful enough to  
21 fight America. I think you should look at our past and  
22 understand we have a future. Aloha.

23 MS. CHANG: I have next Kahale Mawae, Ann  
24 Punohu, Ted Leone, and Ken Taylor. This is the end of  
25 the list of people who have signed up. After that, I'm

1 going to go and take those who have signed up a second  
2 time. So go ahead.

3 KAHALE MAWAE: Aloha mai kakou. You know,  
4 the first time -- my name is Kahale Mawai for the  
5 record. I am also a subject of the Hawaiian Kingdom,  
6 and I am a living impression of the enduring occupation  
7 of the United States military. I returned -- we got off  
8 on the wrong foot in Makakilo [Hawaiian language  
9 spoken]. But I never answered the questions, and I  
10 realize because I spoke about demilitarization and what  
11 is happening across our aina.

12 And for me, my answers for you, because we did  
13 get off on the wrong foot, and I didn't answer your  
14 questions properly and formally before you. And Esther  
15 [Hawaiian language spoken] for being our Native Hawaiian  
16 representative on this panel. And to the others,  
17 there's a few panel members that are missing this  
18 evening.

19 But I think what's telling of all of this and  
20 coming home to Kauai and seeing all these beautiful  
21 Kanaka in the room tonight and looking into everyone's  
22 faces and hearing the same word, which is deoccupation  
23 that we are a lahui in our hearts and in our souls, and  
24 we are united.

25 So to you, since I didn't get to answer in

1 Makakilo 'cause it was hot in that room that night,  
2 right? A'ole, a'ole, a'ole, a'ole. I realize you don't  
3 have a translator for Hawaiians. You do have a pau  
4 sign, though, which I find hilarious. But I shared that  
5 sentiment already. Mahalo.

6 MS. CHANG: Is Anne here? Anne Punohu, Ned  
7 Leone, and then Mr. Taylor.

8 ANNE PUNOHU: Aloha, my name is Anne  
9 Punohu, and I am here with the permission of my Hawaiian  
10 ohana who traveled with me from [Hawaiian language  
11 spoken], and I am from the moku of Kawaihau, but my piko  
12 is in [Hawaiian language spoken]. However, I am  
13 Kanakaole, but I am true hanai, which is also somebody  
14 of status within the ohana.

15 However, I do not have Hawaiian koko nor have I  
16 ever claimed to. However, I've been hanai since I was  
17 12 years old, I've lived here all of my adult life and  
18 part of my teen life, and I have been cared for by  
19 Hawaiians almost my entire life. It's the only culture  
20 that I know.

21 In my hand I hold every single signature from  
22 every single Hawaiian on Kauai that signed the  
23 anti-annexation petition in 1897. Every name here in  
24 this room, and you'll meet them all over Kauai because  
25 all of the ohana lines are strong. The genealogy lives.

1 Nothing is dead. Everything is alive. The kingdom  
2 lives. The people live. The country lives. [Hawaiian  
3 language spoken] lives. Nothing has been gone and  
4 nothing has been destroyed.

5 And the most important thing I want to tell you  
6 is, I am Native American. I was taken away by the  
7 Department of Interior at the age of three years old and  
8 adopted out. Nobody has a bigger beef with you than I  
9 do. But today I am terrified to face the people that  
10 took me away from my ohana almost -- over 50 years ago  
11 and tell you that Native Hawaiian are not Native  
12 Americans. They are Polynesians. They are their own  
13 race of people. They are not Native Americans. There  
14 is -- you cannot compare the two.

15 This was a country. These were not clans.  
16 This is not -- we don't need a Hawaiian roll. There is  
17 no need for DHHL. There is no need for OHA. There is  
18 only the need for the people to restore their government  
19 as it was.

20 I also have in here the 1893 copy of National  
21 Geographic which talks about the Hawaiian Kingdom, the  
22 country of Hawaii and Hawaii's monarchy. And the  
23 descendants of those monarchy sit in this room today.  
24 There is plenty alii in Hawaii. [Hawaiian language  
25 spoken.]

1 MS. CHANG: I have Ned Leone, and then I  
2 have Mr. Taylor, and I have Shanelle Santos.

3 NED LEONE: Hi, my name is Ned Leone. I am  
4 not a Hawaiian. I've lived on this island for 46 years,  
5 and I say that the government that's in charge now are  
6 very bad stewards to this island. The government in  
7 charge right now is very bad stewards to this island in  
8 every way.

9 I'm here for my grandkids. I have six, three  
10 of them are of Hawaiian blood. And I'm here for them to  
11 say no to your questions. Thank you.

12 MS. CHANG: Mr. Taylor, Shanelle Santos,  
13 and the last person I have is Nalani Kaneakua.

14 KEN TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you for  
15 being here this evening and this opportunity. My name  
16 is Ken Taylor. I'm obviously not a Hawaiian, but I'm  
17 here this evening on behalf of a lot of my friends and  
18 neighbors that are Hawaiian.

19 And I will first address your five threshold  
20 questions. Number one, no; number two, no; number  
21 three, no; number four, no; number five, no.

22 Why do I take a no? On the back of this press  
23 release, what you have coming up, some consultation in  
24 Indian country. I don't think there's any Indians in  
25 the room, but if there is, forgive me for not

1 recognizing you. Maybe I should show a show of hands.  
2 All the Indians put their hands up. One Indian. Thank  
3 you.

4 I was born and raised in California. I've seen  
5 how the Indians were treated. These people don't  
6 deserve to be treated that way, never, ever.

7 As I said at the beginning, thank you for being  
8 here this evening. Now it's time to go home. Take the  
9 next step, the potential next step, no action. Thank  
10 you.

11 MS. CHANG: So I have Shanelle Santos, and  
12 then the last person is Nalani Kaneakua.

13 SHANELLE SANTOS: Aloha kakou, I am  
14 Shanelle [Hawaiian language spoken] Santos. I was born  
15 to the [Hawaiian language spoken]. I reside upon the  
16 ancestral lands of my now kupuna. I am a descendant of  
17 Kanaka Maoli, Hawaiian nationals who signed the Kue  
18 Petition protesting the annexation of [Hawaiian language  
19 spoken] to the United States of America. I, as well as  
20 my keiki, stand behind our now kupuna in protest. We  
21 are and always will be against the annexation,  
22 occupation, and any process under the jurisdiction of  
23 the United States of America.

24 Therefore, I say no to all questions that have  
25 been proposed in the notice from the Department of

1 Interior. The only yes I have for the DOI is to report  
2 to the Secretary and to the President of the United  
3 States of America that we the people of Hawaii demand  
4 for the immediate deoccupation of the Hawaiian Islands.  
5 Lahui, lahui.

6 I have a 2014 Kue Petition that supports our  
7 now kupuna in protest against the annexation of Hawaii  
8 and along with our protest against the occupation of  
9 Hawaii. So come check me out if you're still part of  
10 aloha aina. Mahalo.

11 MS. CHANG: Is Nalani here? Okay. And  
12 after Nalani, I am going to call those who have  
13 requested to speak again.

14 NALANI KANEAKUA: Aloha, my name is Nalani  
15 Kaneakua. I'm from Anahola.

16 Federal recognition is happening right now on  
17 Kauai. It's happening in Anahola. Organizations like  
18 HCDC, OHA, or I should say, aha, there goes our land.

19 Robin Danner, she's the one in charge. She's a  
20 Kauai Hawaiian roll commissioner for Kauai. She's  
21 caused a big rift between our people in Anahola. She's  
22 caused great division in Anahola.

23 I say no to federal recognition. I say no, no,  
24 no, no, no. Mahalo.

25 MS. CHANG: I am now going to go over those

1 who have -- who have provided comments before. Iokepa  
2 -- Iosepa, Iokepa Ikalamai - -- I'm so sorry. I can  
3 hardly read. Iokepa Imaikalani, Pono Kealoha, then I  
4 have Luwella Leonardi, Kimokeo Kahalewai, and Kealii  
5 Lopez. All right. So who was the first one I called?  
6 Iokepa, are you here? Okay. Thank you. So the next I  
7 have Pono, and then Luwella.

8 PONO KEALOHA: Aloha, again aloha. Right I  
9 reside off of the island of Oahu, [Hawaiian language  
10 spoken]. My name is Pono Kealoha. I cover a lot of  
11 different issues dealing with Kanaka Maoli. I am Kanaka  
12 Maoli [Hawaiian language spoken]. I am Hawaii.

13 Now, nothing personal, yeah, but this little  
14 circus that you guys are doing, we're standing on the  
15 Kue Petition, our [Hawaiian language spoken] kupuna that  
16 spoke up for us, our ohana, yeah. They gave you a  
17 direct answer. They stopped you from trying to perform  
18 prostitution of our sovereign nation twice in  
19 Washington, DC back in 1897, okay.

20 That was the recognition right there by you  
21 guys not doing it, even though you couldn't. But trying  
22 to do that, would be same as doing it to China since we  
23 were up in the forefront with the other powerful nations  
24 like France, Britain, and the United States. Okay.

25 Now, another thing is, with the head of this

1 board, her ties to the corporate United States of  
2 slaves, or so our moderator, where does her fingers go  
3 as far as federal grants and other stocks that she might  
4 have and profits making off the side, trying to sell out  
5 our aina, our children's aina, our health, and our  
6 kingdom, you know? Again, everything is no. You guys  
7 go back home. Mahalo. Aloha.

8 MS. CHANG: I have next Luwella, then I  
9 have Kemokeo, and then I have Kealii Lopez.

10 LUWELLA LEONARDI: Aloha everyone. It's so  
11 awesome to see you tonight. My name is Luwella  
12 Leonardi, and I reside in the moku of Waianae. I'm --  
13 actually my [Hawaiian language spoken] is from [Hawaiian  
14 language spoken], and my grandchildren and my great-  
15 grandchildren were born and raised and they're being  
16 raised here on the island of Kauai.

17 I am so concerned. I'm a great-grandmother,  
18 three. I am so concerned for the future. On Oahu we  
19 deal with the issue of nuclear every day, 24/7. And  
20 that is the prime of this meeting. We breathe in  
21 depleted uranium every day because of live firing. And  
22 that is the prime of this meeting.

23 Right off of Kauai there's a rift. That is a  
24 nuclear waste dump. And my great-grandchildren will be  
25 dealing with that dump daily.

1           We need to shift, move forward and make sure no  
2 nuclear proliferation treaty get past us.

3           My stepfather is a Guamanian. Today we call  
4 him Chamorro. His name is John Mendiola. He grow up on  
5 a Hawaiian homestead in Papakolea. Angel Santos was a  
6 great friend of ours. He is a Chamorro from Guam.

7           Again, we must not let nuclear policy slip  
8 through our fingers. We must [Hawaiian language spoken]  
9 and pay attention to what's the wider problem, the world  
10 problem. And that's the problem, the prime problem.  
11 This is a plan to plan, and nuclear is the prime  
12 problem. Mahalo.

13           MS. CHANG: I now have Kimekeo and then  
14 Kealli Lopez. And then after that, what we -- since  
15 we've got some time, we'll take some questions. Yeah.

16           Well, let me have Kimokeo. Did Kimokeo want to  
17 test- -- provide a comment? And then Kealii Lopez.

18           And then I'm going to ask -- because what we  
19 did have was opportunities, the panel stayed and they  
20 had one-on-one conversations or took questions. So is  
21 Kimokeo -- Kealii, why don't you come up and while  
22 Kimokeo is on his way.

23           KEALII LOPEZ: Aloha mai kakou. I, too,  
24 hail from the moku of Waianae. One, I wanted to say  
25 mahalo for being here and thank you for taking the time

1 to do hear what we have to say.

2 I know many people are worried about what the  
3 results of these hearings and the outcome will be. I,  
4 too, worry about what that is.

5 I especially wanted to thank you, Esther, for  
6 working hard on our behalf. As we all know as Hawaiian  
7 leaders, we're not always an easy group to lead, but  
8 we're a beautiful group to lead. So it's hard, but we  
9 and our generations to come are all going to be worth it  
10 and are currently worth it.

11 It's hard to say stuff that people don't really  
12 like and isn't popular. But given my name and my  
13 family, I feel like I have to. Because of the lack of  
14 discourse and willingness of those who believe only they  
15 know what is best for Hawaii nei while trying to  
16 discourage or silence others for speaking in favor of  
17 options that they are critical of, it's important as  
18 part of our looking at independence that we actually  
19 hear and listen to everyone. And when I say listen, I  
20 mean with an i'o really open instead of shutting each  
21 other down because you don't like what we have to say.

22 Our history is undisputed. Many of the young  
23 people here have a better understanding, and I believe a  
24 deep understanding of our history. If, in fact, it is  
25 raw. Even though it happened in 1893, it's as if it

1 happened yesterday. However, many say, let us determine  
2 our future, not of the Department of the Interior.

3 But they aren't -- but those people who say,  
4 let us determine, my concern is that not many of you are  
5 willing to hear what the rest of us have to say.  
6 Because of this many voices are not safe to be heard.  
7 And, in fact, perhaps administrative rule making is a  
8 good thing.

9 It has been over 120 years since the overthrow  
10 of Hawaii's queen and the Hawaiian Kingdom. Numerous  
11 attempts have been made to bring our people together to  
12 right the wrongs. I'm just wrapping up. Whether it's  
13 the [Hawaiian language spoken]. Sovereignty  
14 plebiscites, the Hawaiian Kingdom movement, the Akaka  
15 bill, and other nation-building efforts.

16 And still as a community we are divided as to  
17 how we will gain independence. I don't want my grandson  
18 and great-grandchildren to wait another 120 years  
19 either.

20 I say aye, aye, aye, aye, aye to your  
21 questions. Sad, perhaps, our best chance -- if our best  
22 chance if we cannot have civil and pono kukakuka amongst  
23 ourselves is, in fact, the Department of Interior.  
24 Mahalo. Aloha.

25 MS. CHANG: I want to tell -- I want to

1 mahalo the people of Waimea, the people of Kauai. I  
2 have greatly appreciated your courtesies and your  
3 respect. You obviously are extremely passionate and you  
4 came here with a lot of feeling. So I personally want  
5 to mahalo you.

6 Before -- I want to give the panel an  
7 opportunity to answer any questions and then go on one  
8 on one. But before that I wanted to also provide you  
9 with some additional information.

10 This is one of 15 meetings. Again, we go to  
11 Kapaa tomorrow. After that, we are heading over to  
12 Hawaii island and then over to Maui. So there are other  
13 opportunities for you to comment. Please check their  
14 website, it is [www.doi.gov/ohr](http://www.doi.gov/ohr).

15 The formal comment period is open until  
16 August 19th. Again, all public comments will be  
17 considered both oral, written, however you get it over  
18 to them. Check the websites for updates. The  
19 transcriptions of these hearings, of your comments, will  
20 be online. So the court reporters are going to try to  
21 turn them around as quickly as they can, but a lot --  
22 they've heard a lot. So please check their website to  
23 check your transcripts, also for any updates, as the  
24 Secretary will consider and deliberate upon everything  
25 that is presented to her. All of the written and the

1 oral comments. No decision will be made in the next two  
2 weeks, but they will wait until after all comments have  
3 been received. Again, we did have an opportunity for  
4 questions and answers. We'll take a couple of  
5 questions, and then we'll go into questions.

6 Mr. Pa, did you want to do one more? Okay.  
7 Mr. Pa has asked -- he would like to give one more  
8 comment, or do you guys want to go into -- okay. Come  
9 on up.

10 KEKANE PA: Let me get this phone off and  
11 let me surprise you guys. Turning off the phone. No, I  
12 got it. We need the phone.

13 'Kay, I want to play a recording from your  
14 governor who was a congressman, talked about the Akaka  
15 bill, what the federal recognition is. And you guys  
16 listen 'cause this is no bull. They did this meeting  
17 June 10, 2009, in Washington, DC. And listen to this.  
18 Now he's is our governor. Oh, wrong page. I'll get  
19 him, right here. Can you turn this up.

20 [Playing recording] Assets, land and money.  
21 Assets, land and money. Assets, land and money.  
22 Assets, land and money. Now -- [turn off recording.]

23 You guys know -- really know what the reason  
24 is. He telling congress already. It's about your  
25 assets, your land and money. Okay.

1           Now, with respect to you guys come up here and  
2 preach to me who are very educated, understands the  
3 policies, congress can never create a congressional act  
4 to annex a country without a treaty. And they know it.  
5 Okay. They know it.

6           So congress never had the power of create the  
7 republic of Hawaii that became the territory of Hawaii.  
8 When you go read the documents in the territory of  
9 Hawaii, they claim the Hawaiian Islands, but guess  
10 what's not on the document of the territory of Hawaii?  
11 You no see Niihau, you no see Kauai, you no see Oahu,  
12 Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe and Molokini. You don't  
13 see the islands. They just say Hawaii. Something to  
14 really look at.

15           So when we talk about fraud, this is the  
16 biggest scheme, not to disrespect, in light of the  
17 American precedence been controlled by the United States  
18 departments.

19           So what I have here, guys, is real. This what  
20 I have in my hand, and I'll leave, a lot of guys  
21 testified without submitting you get to June 19, if you  
22 guys don't want to write 10 pages, which I'm submitting  
23 my 10 pages, you can sign this. We will make sure this  
24 gets to the department so that your guys' vote will be  
25 accountable as no, no, no, no, no. I got plenty of you

1 guys come up here with respect and just say verbally,  
2 they ain't taking that. It's just emotions. Trust me.  
3 I know how this whole deal stands with.

4 So all I've got to say, yeah, for the  
5 department that you say there is not a process around,  
6 that's misleading the people 'cause our foreign affairs  
7 is in dialogue with Eric Kohler right now with the  
8 lawful Hawaiian government, and you guys know there is a  
9 process.

10 Some people might not understand what we're  
11 doing, but when you read the apology bill, what does it  
12 identify? It identifies that the lawful government is  
13 the proper claimant. Not [Hawaiian language spoken],  
14 not OHA, not [Hawaiian language spoken], and not the  
15 State of Hawaii.

16 People, we've got to get real, brah. If you  
17 guys want to object, come see me. You're not signing up  
18 with us, but this paper will go in as an objection.  
19 Thank you.

20 MS. CHANG: Thank you. So with that; thank  
21 you, Mr. Pa; we're going to take some ques- -- do you  
22 guys have some questions or do you want to just talk  
23 story with these guys one on one? If you have a  
24 question, come on up.

25 And this part is not part of the record, so I

1 want you know the comments were part of the record. The  
2 questions and answers are not.

3 (Concluded at approximately 8:02 p.m. June  
4 30, 2014.)

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1 STATE OF HAWAII )  
 ) ss.  
2 COUNTY OF KAUAI )

3 I, TERRI R. HANSON, RPR, CSR 482, do hereby  
4 certify:

5 That on Monday, June 30, 2014, at 6:26 p.m.; that  
6 the foregoing U.S. Department of the Interior, United  
7 States of America, Public Meeting regarding whether the  
8 federal government should reestablish a government-to-  
9 government relationship with the Native Hawaiian  
10 community, was held;

11 That the foregoing proceedings were taken down by  
12 me in machine shorthand and were thereafter reduced to  
13 typewritten form under my supervision; that the  
14 foregoing 64-page transcript represents to the best of  
15 my ability, a true and correct transcript of the  
16 proceedings had in the foregoing matter.

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

20 DATED this 4th day of August, 2014, in Kapaa,  
21 Hawaii.

22 \_\_\_\_\_  
23 TERRI R. HANSON, CSR 482  
24 Registered Professional Reporter  
25