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UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

HAWAII STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE OPEN SESSION

AUGUST 22, 2007, 3:05 P.M.

NATIVE HAWAII GOVERNMENT

REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2007

Baldwin High School

1650 Kaahumanu Ave

Wailuku, HI 96793

BEFORE: Sandra J. Gran, CSR No. 424
Registered Professional Reporter

14:35:43 1

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

2

Daphne Barbee-Wooten

William H. Burgess

3

Michelle N. Fujimori

Rubellite K. Johnson

4

James I. Kuroiwa

Thomas MacDonald

5

Paul M. Sullivan

6

COMMISSION STAFF:

14:54:20 7

Barbara De La Viez

Derek Horne

8

Angelica Trevino

9

SPEAKERS:

10

Kahu Charles Kauluwehi Maxwell, Sr.

Joyclynn Mandi Costa

11

Ronald Williams

Keeaumoku Kau Kapa

12

Richard McCarthy

Nelson Armitage

13

Kealio'i Blaisdell

Gabby Gouveia

14

Ieana Campbell

Keala Han

15

H.E. James Rivera

Ernest Hu Sing

16

J. Hobbs

Ohua Morando

17

Joe Kealoha

William King

18

Naliko Kahoali'i

Robin Newhouse

19

Lehua Clubb

Kealii Mossman

20

DeAnn Akaia

Kaleikoa Ka'o

21

William Tully

Victor Kosatsckow

22

Charles Villalon

14:55:45

Kalei Hoopai

14:55:45 23

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P R O C E E D I N G S :

(Spellings within parentheses are phonetic.)

MODERATOR DE LA VIEZ: Good afternoon,

everybody. This is the Open Session of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, Hawaii State Advisory Committee, the Maui Subcommittee of the Hawaii State Advisory Committee. The open session will now come to order. My name is Barbara De La Viez. I'm a civil rights analyst at the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

I will have the members introduce themselves and then we'll get started. Participants will be allowed five minutes to make presentations to the subcommittee, and then members will have an opportunity to ask questions and interact with the participants.

I will just start on my right with Tom.

MEMBER MacDONALD: I'm Tom MacDonald. I'm a retired financial executive. I live in Kaneohe.

MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: My name is Daphne Barbee-Wooten. I'm an attorney in Honolulu.

MEMBER BURGESS: Hi, I'm Bill Burgess. I'm a retired attorney, also. I practiced here in Hawaii for 35 years.

MEMBER JOHNSON: I'm Ruby Kawena Johnson. And I'm a retired Hawaiian language literature professor.

MEMBER KUROIWA: I'm James Kuroiwa. I'm the

15:06:18 1 director of Hawaii LECET. It's just a laborers union. And
15:06:23 2 I'm from Kaneohe, Hawaii.

15:06:26 3 MODERATOR DE LA VIEZ: When you come down, if
15:06:28 4 you could state your name and spell your name for the record.
15:06:31 5 This meeting is being transcribed. If you could spell your
15:06:35 6 name, that would be of great advantage to us. I am going to
15:06:40 7 turn the meeting over to Bill Burgess, the chair of this
15:06:44 8 subcommittee.

15:06:44 9 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. I would like to
15:06:46 10 welcome everybody to this meeting of the Subcommittee of the
15:06:48 11 Hawaii Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil
15:06:53 12 Rights. I'm a member of the committee. I'm not the official
15:06:57 13 chairman, but for just today I'm acting as the chair of this
15:07:01 14 meeting.

15:07:02 15 Just a quick discussion of the ground rules.
15:07:10 16 The purpose of the meeting is to get input, so we committee
15:07:15 17 members are here primarily to listen, to hear your thoughts
15:07:20 18 on the subject of this meeting, which is the ac-Kahului bill.

15:07:25 19 And we have not as big a crowd -- We had our
15:07:31 20 first meeting on Monday at the State Auditorium in Honolulu
15:07:37 21 and it was packed and we went from -- straight from 1:00 p.m.
15:07:39 22 to 6:00 p.m., almost 6:00 p.m., 5:40, 5:30. And because of
15:07:49 23 the crowd, we had to limit the input or the opening
15:07:53 24 statements by the people who spoke to us. So we tried three
15:07:56 25 minutes and it didn't allow too much time for give-and-take.

15:08:00 1 But, fortunately, today we have a little bit more freedom to
15:08:06 2 hear you out, and so what we're going to do is set a time of
15:08:11 3 five minutes. We request that you complete your initial
15:08:16 4 statement to five minutes. And then if there is questions by
15:08:21 5 any of the committee members, they might -- there might be
15:08:25 6 some dialogue that way.

15:08:26 7 And the idea is to give us as accurately as
15:08:30 8 possible a picture of how each of you feels about the
15:08:36 9 ac-Kahului bill. And so unless there's some questions about
15:08:42 10 the ground rules from anybody, I think we're ready to begin
15:08:46 11 with the first witness, who is Mr. Charles Maxwell, Sr.

15:09:00 12 MR. MAXWELL: I need your help.

15:09:03 13 MR. HORNE: Sure. Absolutely. Lean on my
15:09:06 14 shoulder.

15:09:08 15 MEMBER BURGESS: We're sorry that we didn't
15:09:11 16 have a disabled facility, a friendly facility available. We
15:09:16 17 understood before we came over this afternoon that there was
15:09:19 18 not a request for that, but it turns out there is. So I
15:09:23 19 appreciate, Reverend Maxwell, your being with us and --

15:09:28 20 MR. MAXWELL: My name is Kahu, K-A-H-U,
15:09:31 21 Charles, C-H-A-R-L-E-S, Kauluwehi, K-A-U-L-U-W-E-H-I,
15:09:39 22 Maxwell, M-A-X-W-E-L-L, Senior.

15:09:43 23 Before I begin my testimony, Mr. Chair Pro
15:09:53 24 Tem, I would like to lodge a complaint. As a federal body,
15:09:57 25 there should never be an excuse of not having allowed for

15:10:03 1 disability, people on wheelchairs, people that is total
15:10:07 2 disabled, people that is partially disabled. At least having
15:10:11 3 a table, a chair to sit on. In every hearing that I
15:10:15 4 conducted, we had that. So I would like that to be known.

15:10:20 5 Also, my testimony is to the 17 members, not
15:10:26 6 necessarily just you here.

15:10:31 7 Mr. Chair and Members of this Hawaii Advisory
15:10:35 8 Committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide
15:10:37 9 written and oral testimony and to ask for your support in the
15:10:41 10 Native Government -- Native Hawaiian Government Act of 2007
15:10:47 11 known as the Akaka Bill. And as you know, it's been diffused
15:10:54 12 to the present state. I was on the first Akaka Bill tax
15:10:58 13 force, and it was strong then. So I'm not totally in favor
15:11:02 14 of it as it is now because it's totally diffused, but it's
15:11:08 15 something that we have.

15:11:09 16 Let me take this means in providing some
15:11:12 17 historical context to the life of this advisory committee.
15:11:17 18 It was established in 1974 and I was appointed to serve on
15:11:22 19 the committee until 2001. During my tenure, I was the vice
15:11:27 20 chair for ten years and the chair for from 1995 to 2001. We
15:11:35 21 held hearings on Oahu and other islands and several reports
15:11:38 22 on the failure of the US government to address the civil
15:11:41 23 rights of Native Hawaiians. The first report was "The Breach
15:11:45 24 of Trust, Native Hawaiian Homelands," followed by "Broken
15:11:50 25 Trust, The Hawaiian Homelands Program, Seventy Years of

15:11:54 1 Failure of the Federal and State Government to Protect the
15:11:57 2 Civil Rights of Native Hawaiians" and the last one being
15:12:02 3 "Reconciliation At the Crossroads."

15:12:05 4 Numerous people of all races testified
15:12:09 5 throughout Hawaii supporting efforts and agreed that the
15:12:11 6 United States government had failed miserably to address the
15:12:16 7 needs of the Native Hawaiian people. I urge this committee
15:12:20 8 to investigate the essence of these reports as it still
15:12:25 9 applies. And our Native Hawaiians, who make up 20 percent of
15:12:30 10 the total population of Hawaii, represents 80 percent of all
15:12:35 11 the social ills in health, education, crime, poverty, et
15:12:41 12 cetera. Something is definitely wrong and answers lie 100
15:12:47 13 years ago, 100 plus years ago when Queen Lili'uokalani was
15:12:54 14 deposed with the help of the American forces from the thrown,
15:12:58 15 making the complete alienation of the Kanaka Maoli from his
15:13:04 16 land and culture.

15:13:04 17 My hope is the members of this committee who
15:13:07 18 have not filed lawsuits or contributed money to fight
15:13:11 19 Hawaiian programs look at these people with jaundice eyes and
15:13:16 20 know their intentions. Personally, after serving all these
15:13:20 21 years on this commission, I know that your recommendations on
15:13:24 22 this matter does not count as your role is only an advisory
15:13:29 23 role. The US Civil Rights Commission, considering that the
15:13:34 24 conservative Bush administration stacked this committee with
15:13:39 25 members who are ultraconservative and anti-Hawaiian is no

15:13:45 1 surprise.

15:13:45 2 I ask for your support, if you can, if you
15:13:49 3 can find it in your heart. You have been living here in
15:13:52 4 Hawaii for all your lives. This is where our ancestors came
15:13:57 5 from. Instead of suing us, suing all the entitlements, you,
15:14:02 6 Mr. Burgess, and everyone else here that sued and gave money
15:14:06 7 to fight the Hawaiian cause should be really ashamed of
15:14:10 8 yourself.

15:14:11 9 We allowed you to come here and because our
15:14:15 10 culture of sharing, we allowed you to share Hawaii. If we
15:14:21 11 were a -- If we were violent people, and at one time we were,
15:14:25 12 none of you would be here except for the Hawaiian people.
15:14:28 13 But we have shared, shared 'til hurt, until we gave and gave
15:14:35 14 and gave.

15:14:35 15 Look at Hawaii today. How do you think
15:14:39 16 Hawaiians feel? How do you think Hawaiians feel? Are they
15:14:42 17 happy with what's happened here on Maui? Oahu? On every
15:14:46 18 island? Why do you think that they're fighting in Ilio
15:14:49 19 Point in Molokai? To keep Molokai as it is. Think, think
15:14:54 20 what you're doing. Think when you take us to court, Mr.
15:14:57 21 Burgess. And you being the chairman of this, it's an insult.
15:15:01 22 For all the years of doing work to help the Native Hawaiian
15:15:05 23 people and you guys come along and you guys -- President
15:15:09 24 Bush, I tell you, he should be commended for stacking this
15:15:13 25 commission.

15:15:14 1 Thank you for listening to me.

15:15:20 2 Do you have any questions?

15:15:23 3 (Applause.)

15:15:23 4 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Yeah, we'll have some
15:15:27 5 questions, Mr. Maxwell. Let me ask you -- I mean, I hope
15:15:34 6 that we'll avoid --

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You've got to use the
8 mike.

15:15:37 9 MEMBER BURGESS: I hope that we'll avoid
15:15:39 10 personal attacks. I'm not going to respond --

15:15:43 11 MR. MAXWELL: It's not personal.

15:15:45 12 MEMBER BURGESS: Yeah, I'm not going to
13 respond --

15:15:46 14 MR. MAXWELL: It's fact.

15:15:47 15 MEMBER BURGESS: -- to that kind of
16 accusation.

15:15:49 17 MR. MAXWELL: It's not an accusation.

15:15:52 18 MEMBER BURGESS: We're here to discuss the
15:15:53 19 Akaka Bill, whether it would be good, what the consequences
15:15:57 20 are for everybody, Hawaiians and everyone else. And so I
15:16:01 21 would request that we try to avoid things that don't tend to
15:16:07 22 bring us together. Things that perhaps would advance our
15:16:12 23 understanding of -- from your perspective what the bill would
15:16:17 24 do, why you support it if you do or why you don't if you
15:16:21 25 don't, so that's what -- And we don't want to get into

15:16:24 1 personalities as much as possible. So I request that that be
15:16:27 2 done.

15:16:28 3 MR. MAXWELL: Yes. Can -- Sure -- Can I make
15:16:29 4 a correction to you? It's not innuendos and not -- It's
15:16:33 5 fact. That's what you did, Mr. Burgess. All these years,
15:16:37 6 that's what you did. And I'm only quoting because I know
15:16:40 7 you're here. That's all.

15:16:43 8 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay.

15:16:44 9 MR. MAXWELL: I don't want to be personal.
15:16:46 10 You know I'm not. I shook your hand when you came in. If
15:16:50 11 you were my enemy, I wouldn't shake your hand.

15:16:55 12 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Well, I -- Mr.
15:16:56 13 Maxwell, I certainly don't consider myself an enemy of you or
15:16:59 14 anyone else that's Hawaiian. I disagree with some of your
15:17:02 15 thoughts and I'm sure you disagree with some of mine, but
15:17:05 16 that's not a reason we can't try and reason together. I
15:17:10 17 think that it's fair to say that all of us here have the best
15:17:13 18 interests of Hawaii at heart. It's a place that we've all --
15:17:16 19 I know -- I'm sure I speak for everybody here when I say that
15:17:20 20 Hawaii is a place that we love and we want to make a better
15:17:24 21 place for all of us.

15:17:25 22 So that's the intent of this hearing. And I
15:17:31 23 would like to ask you, Mr. Maxwell, if you have any -- I
15:17:40 24 mean, do you support the Akaka Bill?

15:17:43 25 MR. MAXWELL: Well, like I said when I opened

15:17:43 1 my statement, I was supporting 100 percent the Akaka Bill,
15:17:47 2 but you and I know if it's not for the Akaka Bill, what?
15:17:52 3 What next? Will Hawaiians -- Can you answer this question:
15:17:56 4 Will Hawaiians get back the 1.8 million acres that are being
15:18:01 5 held in trust for them? No, you cannot answer that question.
15:18:05 6 So the one that's very -- looking, staring at us is the Akaka
15:18:11 7 Bill. I have hopes that maybe, maybe -- not with the Bush
15:18:15 8 administration, but maybe some day it's going to work out.
15:18:18 9 Some day maybe.

15:18:22 10 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Mr. Maxwell, do you
15:18:27 11 think -- I mean, is it your belief that the 1.8 million acres
15:18:31 12 of public lands of the State of Hawaii are held in trust just
15:18:38 13 for Native Hawaiians?

15:18:40 14 MR. MAXWELL: No. But look where it came
15:18:43 15 from. It's ceded lands.

16 MEMBER BURGESS: Sure.

15:18:45 17 MR. MAXWELL: Lands that belonged to the
15:18:46 18 monarchy that was taken illegally when America came in with
15:18:52 19 forces and overthrow Queen Lili'uokalani. It's a fact.

15:18:57 20 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Well, Mr.
15:18:58 21 Maxwell, isn't it true that before the overthrow that the
15:19:02 22 1.8, say, roughly, the lands that were later called ceded
15:19:07 23 lands, they were owned by the kingdom? The government was
15:19:10 24 the kingdom at that time.

15:19:13 25 MR. MAXWELL: That's correct. So America

15:19:15 1 became the Kingdom of Hawaii; right?

15:19:17 2 MEMBER BURGESS: Well, no, I didn't mean to
15:19:20 3 say that.

4 MR. MAXWELL: No.

15:19:20 5 MEMBER BURGESS: No, but it was -- They were
15:19:21 6 owned by the government of Hawaii, which at that time was the
15:19:25 7 kingdom.

15:19:25 8 MR. MAXWELL: But you want to go back, let's
15:19:27 9 go back --

15:19:27 10 MEMBER BURGESS: No. Let me just -- You
15:19:27 11 asked me and I answered.

12 MR. MAXWELL: Go ahead.

15:19:29 13 MEMBER BURGESS: So let me try and ask you --

15:19:31 14 MR. MAXWELL: Go ahead.

15:19:32 15 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. So after the
15:19:34 16 overthrow, didn't the government of Hawaii still own the
15:19:37 17 ceded lands?

15:19:39 18 MR. MAXWELL: The illegal Republic of Hawaii,
15:19:41 19 who became the provisional government --

15:19:44 20 MEMBER BURGESS: That's right.

15:19:45 21 MR. MAXWELL: -- who became recognized by
15:19:48 22 America -- And that's where the petitions came in where all
15:19:52 23 the Kanaka Maoli signed the petition against annexation, and
15:19:58 24 America did a jiggle and they found out -- they ended --

15:20:01 25 But let me ask you this question, which I was

15:20:03 1 going to ask: Where did this land originate from?
15:20:07 2 Kamehameha; right? All of these lands was in the control of
15:20:11 3 Kamehameha the Great, the ceded lands; isn't that correct?

15:20:14 4 Or maybe Rubellite can --

15:20:18 5 MEMBER JOHNSON: You want me to answer that
15:20:19 6 question?

15:20:20 7 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, sure.

15:20:23 8 MEMBER JOHNSON: You ask me and I'll answer.

9 MR. MAXWELL: Sure.

15:20:25 10 MEMBER JOHNSON: Go ahead.

15:20:26 11 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, okay. Kamehameha had
15:20:28 12 control of all the land.

15:20:29 13 MEMBER JOHNSON: All right. But he didn't
15:20:31 14 control until after 1795 as --

15 MR. MAXWELL: When he came to --

15:20:36 16 MEMBER JOHNSON: -- and he still was just in
15:20:37 17 charge of joint --

18 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah.

15:20:39 19 MEMBER JOHNSON: -- for those tenures. But
15:20:42 20 you'll notice in US PL 151.0 that the opening statement of
15:20:49 21 The Apology Bill in 1993 --

22 MR. MAXWELL: 1993.

15:20:52 23 MEMBER JOHNSON: -- okay, signed by President
15:20:53 24 William Clinton says that those tenures before 1778 were
15:20:59 25 communal, when Kamehameha was not yet king until after 1795.

15:21:03 1 And, actually, until 1810 --

15:21:05 2 MR. MAXWELL: But my point was --

15:21:06 3 MEMBER JOHNSON: -- was in communal tenures,
15:21:10 4 communal tenures. Now, watch this. In the Akaka Bill it
15:21:13 5 states -- I'm going to read now from the one that is current.
15:21:17 6 All right? This is interesting because I think this is time
15:21:20 7 for community education. I'm glad that you asked me.

15:21:24 8 MR. MAXWELL: That's why I asked you the
15:21:26 9 question.

15:21:26 10 MEMBER JOHNSON: Good. It says here -- Okay.
15:21:33 11 Wait a minute. Let me go back. I've got to find the right
15:21:38 12 page of the Akaka Bill so you can hear this. "In 1959, as
13 part of the compact with the United States admitting Hawaii
15:21:50 14 into the Union, Congress established a public trust..." This
15:21:50 15 is the statehood admission 1959, right, became a state.
16 "... (commonly known as the 'ceded lands trust'), for 5
15:22:01 17 purposes..." Then they don't go into those, just say, "for
15:22:04 18 the betterment of conditions of Native Hawaiians," and then
15:22:08 19 list -- Okay. This is still in the bill, the Akaka Bill.
15:22:12 20 "B, the public trust consists of lands," watch this one,
15:22:16 21 "including submerged lands."

15:22:19 22 MR. MAXWELL: Right.

15:22:20 23 MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. The submerged lands
15:22:22 24 are under law of the sea; is that right?

15:22:26 25 MR. MAXWELL: Right.

15:22:28 1 MEMBER JOHNSON: How many miles out?

15:22:30 2 MR. MAXWELL: Actually, it's supposed to be

15:22:31 3 200 miles out.

15:22:32 4 MEMBER JOHNSON: Absolutely. 200 miles goes

15:22:35 5 past the Big Island.

6 MR. MAXWELL: Yep.

15:22:37 7 MEMBER JOHNSON: It goes way off.

8 MR. MAXWELL: Yep.

15:22:38 9 MEMBER JOHNSON: "Natural resources," that

15:22:39 10 includes water rights?

15:22:41 11 MR. MAXWELL: Everything.

15:22:43 12 MEMBER JOHNSON: Everything, good. "...and

15:22:44 13 the revenues derived from the lands."

15:22:47 14 MR. MAXWELL: Goes through the five purposes.

15:22:49 15 MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. So that's the 1.8

16 million.

17 MR. MAXWELL: Yes.

15:22:51 18 MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Watch what Haunani

15:22:52 19 Apoliona just did in her testimony in Honolulu, watch it.

15:22:55 20 She's the head of OHA. She says, "The mission of OHA is to

15:23:00 21 protect and assist Native Hawaiian people," and now this is

15:23:07 22 part of the 1978 Amended Constitution of the State of Hawaii,

15:23:12 23 watch the language, "hold title to all real and personal

15:23:17 24 property in trust for the Native Hawaiian people."

15:23:20 25 So I'm going to ask you --

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MR. MAXWELL: I understand.

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MEMBER JOHNSON: -- will it make a difference

if we pass the Akaka Bill or not pass the Akaka Bill since it's already in the State Constitution? Won't OHA continue to hold all title to this, including 1.8 million acres, if it's 200 miles and they state that this is what their right is?

MR. MAXWELL: See, but Native Hawaiians are not in control of this 1.8 million or the natural resources, only 20 percent of it. That's what I'm saying, only 20 percent.

MEMBER JOHNSON: And you want it to be 100 percent?

MR. MAXWELL: Why not? Because it originally came from Hawaiians. Hawaiians originally owned that tenants in common or whatever you want to call it, but they held it together. No -- United States had no ownership to this land, but now they do. So that's the point I wanted to make, and you clarified it. And beautifully too.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Well, I'm going to let the people who listen to this legal language understand it doesn't matter if we have the Akaka Bill or don't have the Akaka Bill. The state has already given OHA lots of land when actually giving only 20 percent of revenues, not any more.

15:24:38 1 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

15:24:40 2 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Well, Mr.

15:24:42 3 Maxwell, at this -- If any other witness have -- I mean,
15:24:45 4 other members of the committee have questions, but I think
15:24:48 5 we've gone well beyond the time.

15:24:50 6 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, well, give her a chance.

15:24:52 7 I know her real well, too. She might be nice to me.

15:24:58 8 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: I'm going to be nice.

15:25:01 9 The reason why I think you're a very important witness is I
15:25:02 10 acknowledge that you've served on the US Commission of Civil
15:25:05 11 Rights and was actually one of the leaders in US Civil Rights
15:25:10 12 Commission a couple years back. So I would like some
15:25:13 13 perspective on the history of the US Advisory Commission of
15:25:19 14 the Us Civil Rights, which you were a part of, their
15:25:22 15 recommendation to pass and their support of the Akaka Bill.
15:25:27 16 And would you explain how many members voted in support of
15:25:31 17 the Akaka Bill and the reasons therefor.

15:25:33 18 MR. MAXWELL: Yeah, okay. And let me also
15:25:36 19 add at that point that all the members weren't only
15:25:40 20 Hawaiians. They were Japanese, haole, Negro people, black
15:25:46 21 people, all kinds of people. And you came before me many
15:25:49 22 times on different issues. Or not many times, but a couple
15:25:53 23 of times. I kind of forget because I'm getting senior
15:25:56 24 moments once in a while.

15:25:57 25 But what we accomplished and -- was the

15:26:02 1 "Breach of Trust," which is Native Hawaiian Homelands,
15:26:08 2 followed by "The Broken Trust," because America from 19 --
15:26:12 3 from 1920s when the Hawaiian Homes Bill passed and until the
15:26:22 4 year 2000 -- or 1986 when this study came out, mismanaged so
15:26:30 5 bad because even -- And I was witness to this. Filipino
15:26:34 6 people, non-Hawaiians were staying in Hawaiian Homelands.
15:26:38 7 Hawaiians that really needed the land, they lost the
15:26:41 8 application for 20, 30, 40 years. There were people that was
15:26:45 9 dying on the list. And that's why we came out with this
15:26:49 10 report.

15:26:49 11 And then, you know, America, the government,
15:26:55 12 state government and American government failed to protect
15:26:58 13 the civil rights of Native Hawaiians. And then the
15:27:01 14 "Reconciliation At the Crossroads," which was directed at the
15:27:06 15 Apology Bill, so-called Apology Bill. And that Apology Bill
15:27:11 16 was terrific that President Clinton signed, but it only went
15:27:15 17 halfway. It was like somebody that stole a car and had the
15:27:19 18 car for ten years, then they want to give back the car and no
15:27:24 19 compensation.

15:27:25 20 So, you know, we were asking for compensate
15:27:29 21 Hawaiians. Give back the land and give them money for the
15:27:32 22 use of the land that they didn't have use of. Because like
15:27:35 23 Rubellite can tell you, the land is our culture. Without the
15:27:39 24 land, our culture is not that, you know, that solid.

15:27:42 25 So does that answer your question?

15:27:44 1 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: No. What about the
15:27:47 2 Akaka Bill, how many members voted in support of it and --

15:27:50 3 MR. MAXWELL: How many members voted for the
15:27:54 4 Akaka Bill? Oh, you mean, oh, to support the Akaka Bill.

15:27:59 5 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: Right.

15:28:00 6 MR. MAXWELL: 100 percent of all of the
15:28:02 7 sitting approved the Akaka Bill. But then it was diffused as
15:28:05 8 it is now. Because I am really not in favor of it the way it
15:28:10 9 is because it's really diffused. I think it's useless. But
15:28:15 10 I'm satisfied -- I'm 70 years old and I've been fighting for
15:28:20 11 like 45, 50 years, from way back the Aloha Association and
15:28:25 12 Makua and all these places and, you know, we have not made an
15:28:29 13 impression on the state government or even the federal
15:28:33 14 government. And Hawaiians -- I don't know Hawaiians -- how
15:28:36 15 long Hawaiians can wait, but they're very frustrated. And
15:28:41 16 kupuna like us are telling them, "Hey, you know what,
15:28:46 17 (Hawaiian)," because it will be all right some day. You
15:28:48 18 know, our culture is also sharing. So we're caught between a
15:28:54 19 hard place and a -- and, you know, whatever that saying is,
15:28:57 20 but that's what it is.

15:28:58 21 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: Thank you.

15:28:59 22 MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

15:29:00 23 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you. And if the
15:29:03 24 committee members don't mind, I think we do need to move on.
15:29:08 25 Thank you, Mr. Maxwell.

15:29:09 1

MR. MAXWELL: Thank you.

15:29:10 2

MEMBER BURGESS: The next witness is

15:29:15 3

Geraldine --

15:29:15 4

MS. COSTA: My name is Joyclynn Costa.

15:29:18 5

MEMBER BURGESS: Joyclynn Costa. Thank you.

15:29:21 6

Oh, again, I think we're -- we've got a lot

15:29:24 7

of people, more have come now, so we do want to limit to five

15:29:29 8

minutes and then we'll hopefully --

15:30:03 9

MS. COSTA: There we go. Can you hear me?

15:30:06 10

MEMBER MacDONALD: Yes.

15:30:09 11

MS. COSTA: I want to open with a prayer.

12

THE REPORTER: Will you state your full name

13

and spell it for me, please.

15:30:17 14

MS. COSTA: Oh. My name is Joyclynn Mandi

15:30:17 15

Costa, J-O-Y-C-L-Y-N-N, M-A-N-D-I, C-O-S-T-A.

15:30:23 16

"My tongue will tell you -- tell of your

15:30:26 17

righteousness. Ask all day long. For those who want to harm

15:30:31 18

me have been put to shame and confused." This is the verse I

15:30:39 19

quote today.

15:30:39 20

I always learned that when we come to speak,

15:30:44 21

we open with prayer. For without the prayer, the continuity

15:30:53 22

cannot flow through the room. So I would like to at least

15:30:59 23

sing our doxology in Hawaiian before I begin.

15:31:03 24

(Hawaiian song.)

15:31:43 25

I stand with these tears in front of you for

15:31:50 1 the kupuna who are puehu, whose tears are dry, who cannot
15:31:56 2 cry. You sit in front of my kupuna, Huheli Po Kapo. He
15:32:04 3 signed that anti-annexation book. He sits before you to
15:32:09 4 witness today.

15:32:16 5 This is a very interesting day to stand
15:32:22 6 before you. My questions are: Who are you and why are you
15:32:28 7 here? I would also like to ask: Who sent you here? Except
15:32:38 8 for the kupuna here, which my (Hawaiian - "kahi") for her,
15:32:42 9 she has a voice for her family. Do you have Koko blood
15:32:46 10 running through your veins or Kanaka Maoli? Does anyone else
15:32:52 11 on this panel have Kanaka Maoli blood?

15:32:53 12 I recognize you, Kupuna. Mahalo.

15:32:57 13 To what advantage or benefit do you wish to
15:33:01 14 achieve? What is it -- What is it in for you? Do you feel
15:33:10 15 we as Kanaka Maoli, the root to this soil, not capable of
15:33:16 16 speaking for ourselves or not intelligent enough to make wise
15:33:21 17 decisions that you find it necessary to create this alien
15:33:27 18 panel to speak for me?

15:33:31 19 This reminds me of the past in the time of
15:33:34 20 the annexation. Our people had a mind of their own and said
15:33:43 21 (Hawaiian - "auoli"). When they could not achieve, meaning
15:33:48 22 the aliens could not achieve their private agendas of
15:33:55 23 annexation, they created something that I'm witnessing here,
15:34:01 24 here today, to achieve. And they achieved through fraudulent
15:34:07 25 voting rights to aliens.

15:34:11 1 Now I stand before a body, aliens eager to
15:34:15 2 speak for my benefit, and I say to you, Thank you, but no
15:34:20 3 thank you. You need not nor possess the authority to speak
15:34:28 4 on my behalf. I have not ever given that authority to you.
15:34:32 5 It is mine.

15:34:35 6 Why do you feel you need to put labels on me
15:34:40 7 like this Indigenous Aborigine that was in the paper? I am a
15:34:45 8 Kanaka Maoli. If you would like to address me and put an ad
15:34:50 9 in the paper, address me as a Kanaka Maoli. I'm a human
15:34:55 10 being.

15:34:58 11 You stand in your corporation country known
15:35:02 12 as the United States debating about immigration laws when yet
15:35:07 13 you yourselves are immigrants once known as pilgrims. Will
15:35:14 14 all of you also become deported and back to the country where
15:35:18 15 you came from? I stand in my country today. I come from
15:35:23 16 here. So is it not to cause -- So as not to cause you any
15:35:30 17 more wasted time and energy, you may now cease all activities
15:35:36 18 because we can take it from here. We make the decisions for
15:35:40 19 ourselves.

15:35:41 20 Mr. Akaka back in -- I'm sorry, Mr. Inouye
15:35:46 21 back in the year 2000 said, "This process can proceed without
15:35:51 22 involvement of the federal government and, need -- and,
15:35:55 23 indeed, many have suggested that the process of reorganizing
15:35:59 24 a government to represent the Native Hawaiian people should
15:36:02 25 proceed without involvement -- without involvement of the

15:36:06 1 United States."

15:36:09 2 I stood against a developer who claims he

15:36:13 3 owned lands here on this island. He had me arrested, so we

15:36:20 4 went to court.

15:36:22 5 MEMBER BURGESS: Could you wrap it up,

15:36:24 6 please?

15:36:25 7 MS. COSTA: My kupuna has been laying there

15:36:29 8 for over 100 years. You can allow me my speak time. I am

15:36:35 9 giving you my time. Please grace me with it.

15:36:42 10 I will read this, this law, and it is, "Every

11 royal patent hereinafter issued upon an award of the board of

12 commissioners to quiet land titles, shall be in the name of

13 the person to whom the original award was made, even though

14 such person is deceased, or the title to the real estate

15 thereby granted has been alienated;" meaning sold, conveyed,

16 transferred, "and all royal patents so issued shall inure to

17 the benefit of the heirs and assigns of the holder of the

15:37:16 18 original award deed." I read to you from our kingdom law of

15:37:20 19 1872. And if you have the time, open our HRS book to Chapter

15:37:27 20 172-11, because it is word for word.

15:37:31 21 So when you speak about the lands, it is

15:37:34 22 still ours. We hold the title. Not the federal government,

15:37:41 23 not the state of Hawaii, not the United States, but the

15:37:45 24 Kanaka Maoli who has the royal patents. You are mandated by

15:37:51 25 your so-called oath. The doctrine of political question

15:37:57 1 stops you at that point when you address our royal patents.

15:38:01 2 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Thank you very much.

15:38:02 3 I think we do have -- because we have lots --

15:38:07 4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She can have three
15:38:07 5 minutes. I only need two minutes. I can yield three minutes
15:38:13 6 of my time.

15:38:13 7 MS. COSTA: Mahalo.

15:38:13 8 MEMBER BURGESS: I think everybody agrees --

15:38:18 9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- one hour early to
15:38:20 10 make sure that I would have the time to speak. Mr. Maxwell
15:38:22 11 was allotted --

15:38:22 12 MEMBER BURGESS: Ms. Costa, hold on just a
15:38:25 13 minute.

15:38:25 14 Do I get a sense that people want to give up
15:38:28 15 their time to Ms. Costa to talk?

15:38:35 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. It's okay.

15:38:37 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She can have my five
15:38:38 18 minutes because I'm a guest and she should speak first.

15:38:41 19 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. I counted, what,
15:38:43 20 three people that said they were. So why don't you go ahead
15:38:48 21 and --

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'll give her my five
15:38:51 23 minutes.

15:38:51 24 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. So four, five. So
15:38:53 25 you want to --

15:38:54 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'll give her mine.

15:38:55 2 MEMBER BURGESS: I mean, our idea is really
15:38:57 3 to get feelings or thoughts of a lot of people, not just --

15:39:02 4 MS. COSTA: I'm just trying to give you some
15:39:04 5 facts. Like I said, I was arrested in Waiehu, being told
15:39:09 6 that this developer owned the property. I went to court and
15:39:13 7 was tossed around for no reason. The state prosecutor said
15:39:17 8 trespass. And all we told him was, "You have no jurisdiction
15:39:22 9 to do this, none." She had no case and it was dismissed.

15:39:26 10 While I was being tossed around, I
15:39:30 11 corresponded with Mr. Inouye and I asked him, "Why is this
15:39:36 12 happening to the Kanaka Maoli people?"

15:39:39 13 And he said, "Well, I'll go ahead and go
15:39:41 14 right to the chief of police and find out. And I'll let you
15:39:44 15 know and have a report for you."

15:39:46 16 Never got the report. Got tossed around some
15:39:49 17 more, so I asked him, "Mr. Inouye, why don't you come and
15:39:53 18 represent me, the Kanaka Maoli? Sit with me in court. These
15:39:56 19 are my dates."

15:39:57 20 And this is what he said, "Out of deference
15:40:04 21 to the constitutionally mandated separation of powers, I must
15:40:08 22 regretfully decline your invitation."

15:40:12 23 We are separate from you, so why are you
15:40:16 24 here? And who sent you? I never invited you to come into my
15:40:21 25 house and tell me who or what or when I can do things. So I

15:40:27 1 like to know, why you're here? Why are you here? What are
15:40:33 2 you trying to achieve?

15:40:39 3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we have an answer,
15:40:40 4 please?

15:40:41 5 MS. COSTA: Well, Akua already told me in my
15:40:44 6 scripture that the ones who harm me will sit there confused,
15:40:49 7 and obviously you are.

15:40:51 8 I am done.

15:40:52 9 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Thank you.

15:40:54 10 All right. The next speaker --

15:40:57 11 (Applause.)

15:41:04 12 MEMBER BURGESS: This handwriting not too
15:41:08 13 legible. Lyle Williams. Is Mr. Williams here?

15:41:17 14 And, Mr. Williams and for the rest of the
15:41:23 15 speakers, I think we're going to have to be a little more
15:41:27 16 strict on the time, so if you would please try to keep it
15:41:33 17 within --

15:41:33 18 MR. WILLIAMS: Ronald Williams, R-O-N-A-L-D,
15:41:36 19 Williams, W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

15:41:39 20 Aloha, Mr. Chair and Members of the
15:41:44 21 Committee. I am speaking on behalf of the members of the
15:41:47 22 Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club and request that this
15:41:52 23 committee support the passage of the Native Hawaiian
15:41:54 24 Reorganization Act of 2007, also known as the Akaka Bill.

15:41:59 25 The Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club is a

15:42:04 1 community-based organization founded in 1960. The mission of
15:42:07 2 the civic club has been to take an active role in improving
15:42:11 3 the social and economic plight of the Native Hawaiian
15:42:15 4 community. In addition, the Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club
15:42:19 5 is part of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs with 52
15:42:24 6 affiliated clubs throughout the United States.

15:42:28 7 For more than 40 years Central Maui Hawaiian
15:42:32 8 Civic Club has led Native Hawaiian initiatives on the island
15:42:36 9 of Maui. Civic club was instrumental in revising the
15:42:42 10 outrigger canoe movement on Maui. They have given out more
15:42:46 11 than \$100,000 in scholarships to Hawaiian students pursuing
15:42:51 12 educational degrees throughout the US. And most recently has
15:42:57 13 started a Native Hawaiian after-school program serving 30
15:43:00 14 Native Hawaiian homeless children at the local grade school.

15:43:04 15 The program provides participants with
15:43:08 16 assistance with their homework, reading, math drills,
15:43:13 17 communication exercises, and nurturing -- and a nurturing
15:43:17 18 environment. Each student is put into an environment of
15:43:22 19 kupuna where they are appreciated, where they are nurtured
15:43:26 20 and where they are asked to be responsible. Although the
15:43:30 21 program has been in existence for less than a year, we have
15:43:34 22 already seen qualitative success from the change in the
15:43:38 23 students' behavior and good reports from their teachers.

15:43:43 24 Quantitatively, we are being -- Oh, sorry --
15:43:48 25 we are beginning to see gains in their reading and

15:43:51 1 communication skills. Project Punawai is a great example of
15:43:57 2 a program created for the people and of the people. It uses
15:44:02 3 unique cultural strategies that our ancestors have used for
15:44:07 4 generations. The funding for Project Punawai comes from a
15:44:11 5 grant from the Native Hawaiian Education Act.

15:44:14 6 If the Akaka Bill is not passed, Project
15:44:19 7 Punawai and other Native Hawaiian programs could be slashed.
15:44:22 8 In our eyes that is (inaudible). Kill Project Punawai and
15:44:28 9 take away the little glimmer of hope that these homeless
15:44:32 10 children have. Kill Project Punawai and continue the cycle
15:44:38 11 of violence that impacted their parents. Kill Project
15:44:45 12 Punawai and kill the Native Hawaiian.

15:44:45 13 It is simple formula of -- It is a simple
15:44:50 14 formula of equality versus equity. Those who argue for
15:44:54 15 equality argue for the status quo: A community where Native
15:44:59 16 Hawaiians are overrepresented in the prison system and
15:45:03 17 underrepresented in higher education in their own homeland.
15:45:08 18 We are urge this commission to stand up for equity, to level
15:45:13 19 the playing field so that all people can actualize the dream
15:45:17 20 of a safe home, a safe family and a safe community.

15:45:21 21 Please support the passage of the Akaka Bill
15:45:24 22 for the Punawai children, our families and our communities.

15:45:29 23 Presented on behalf of the members of the
15:45:31 24 Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club. Mahalo Nui for your time.

15:45:41 25 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. I'm getting messages

15:45:43 1 that we need to move on to the next speaker, so thank you
15:45:46 2 very much, sir.

15:45:47 3 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. Mahalo.

15:45:50 4 MEMBER BURGESS: Next is Keeaumoku Kapu. I'm
15:45:55 5 sorry if I mangled it.

15:45:58 6 Please, if you would, state your name and
15:46:04 7 spell it for the reporter.

15:46:05 8 MR. KAPA: Keeaumoku Kau Kapa,
15:46:12 9 K-E-E-A-U-M-O-K-U, K-A-U Kapa.

15:46:19 10 Well, basically, I need to understand, like
15:46:23 11 how sister was saying, as to why your presence are needed
15:46:27 12 here. Is it based on civil issues? Because if it's based on
15:46:33 13 civil issues, then we can be here for like days after days
15:46:37 14 after days based upon that. Or is it based on an agenda item
15:46:42 15 that talks about the Akaka Bill specifically?

15:46:46 16 MEMBER BURGESS: Yeah, I would say that it's
15:46:48 17 about the Akaka Bill specifically, but --

15:46:50 18 MR. KAPA: So yeah or no?

15:46:52 19 MEMBER BURGESS: But the idea is that we'd
15:46:54 20 like to hear from you how you think it will affect you and
15:46:58 21 the people that you know and the people that you care about.

15:47:00 22 MR. KAPA: Well, you know, one thing I
15:47:02 23 understand that we live in one society that basically been
15:47:07 24 dictated by people who came here and changed our whole
15:47:10 25 lifestyle. Now they've forced us to adapt into a different

15:47:15 1 system. We were forced to be placed in a Department of
15:47:18 2 Education system which taught us how to be competitive
15:47:22 3 against each other, and at the same time in our upbringing
15:47:25 4 they taught us how to be good contract laborers and they also
15:47:30 5 taught us how to be compliant pertaining to whatever the
15:47:33 6 teacher said. If we didn't comply with what she said, then
15:47:37 7 we'd get spankings. So those kind of civil rights issues.

15:47:40 8 Basically I have some concern based upon how
15:47:43 9 our people in Hawaii have been living for the past who knows
15:47:46 10 how many years, but when I was young, you know, I can tell
15:47:49 11 you that my life wasn't so easy and my father's life wasn't
15:47:54 12 so easy, either. When my dad used to tell me that he spoke
15:47:58 13 Hawaiian in school, they used to beat him.

15:48:00 14 So when we talking about issues, we cannot be
15:48:04 15 specifically talking about the so-called Akaka Bill and how
15:48:08 16 it's going to benefit us Native Hawaiians when we don't even
15:48:11 17 understand what the whole history is about to begin with.
15:48:15 18 And I can just go on and on and on based upon your oath into
15:48:21 19 office, your fiduciary duties. We can talk about
15:48:25 20 discrimination and all these kind of things, but the whole
15:48:28 21 issue why you guys here is to find out how my thoughts are
15:48:33 22 based upon how this Akaka Bill may benefit us or may not
15:48:37 23 benefit us.

15:48:37 24 I say bottom line when it boils down to
15:48:41 25 anything, it's a democratic kind of thing that everybody has

15:48:44 1 to come together to see whether or not we going to be
15:48:47 2 compliant to one rule which is not even of this place. I
15:48:50 3 understand one protocol. When I go on to another island, I
15:48:52 4 (Hawaiian - "ka-wai-a") and ask permission to be there. When
15:48:54 5 I go to Oahu -- When you guys come over here, it's like you
15:48:59 6 set the agenda. I got to sit over here and listen to this
15:49:02 7 whole thing and all you guys want to know is one simple
15:49:07 8 answer, whether or not I say I favor the Akaka Bill or not.

15:49:10 9 You know, this kind of puts a damper us all
15:49:14 10 the time, us Native Hawaiians, our Kanaka Maoli was stuck up
15:49:18 11 against the wall, yeah, to make a just plain old simple
15:49:20 12 decision whether or not it's going to benefit us or not.

15:49:22 13 I sit on so many commissions. Why? Is
15:49:25 14 because I got to find myself in an area to be a safe port
15:49:30 15 based upon all these people come overdevelopment, the
15:49:34 16 stealing of our waters, all these golf courses going on.
15:49:37 17 Everybody on Maui play golf. Either that or like the whales,
15:49:42 18 yeah. And they clog our streets and all these kind of
15:49:46 19 things.

15:49:46 20 And I ask myself, How can one bill that will
15:49:49 21 be passed in congress going to help us Native Hawaiians over
15:49:52 22 here right now? It's not going to help any of us. Nothing
15:49:56 23 is going to help us. The only thing can basically come from
15:50:00 24 this is we need to make decision based upon how our future
15:50:03 25 going to come.

15:50:04 1 This talk about royal patents, yeah, land
15:50:05 2 commission awards, all these kinds of things, talks about
15:50:08 3 interstate succession. When you have something like that
15:50:11 4 playing in the politics of things, especially in court -- You
15:50:15 5 guys going to override a court ruling? Are you guys sort of
15:50:22 6 like make some recommendations to the legislature to make a
15:50:24 7 change that may deter certain issues or certain things for
15:50:27 8 the benefit of us?

15:50:28 9 Is the Akaka Bill going to add enough
15:50:30 10 scrutiny or enough safeguards inside it to protect us Native
15:50:37 11 Hawaiians? I don't think so. It's all about genocide. Ever
15:50:41 12 since the Apology 103.150 it was going to -- it was like hope
15:50:45 13 for everybody, but then all of a sudden, oh, shit, now it's
15:50:48 14 an illusion. Now we've got to read between the lines
15:50:52 15 pertaining to what had actually happened, whether or not it
15:50:55 16 does benefit us or it doesn't benefit us. Because if 103.105
15:51:01 17 benefited us, we wouldn't be talking right now whether or not
15:51:03 18 we should have the Akaka Bill or not have the Akaka Bill.
15:51:06 19 All these spins that we go through every time.

15:51:10 20 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Kapa, I think the time
15:51:13 21 is up.

15:51:13 22 MR. KAPA: Okay. In closing, I would just
15:51:16 23 like to say we're wasting our time. Do we want to be wasting
15:51:23 24 our time? The ones that should make the decision, yeah, is
15:51:26 25 right here.

15:51:28 1 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you.

15:51:30 2 MR. KAPA: Mahalo.

15:51:31 3 (Applause.)

15:51:34 4 MEMBER BURGESS: Mike and Gladys Gross. Mike
15:51:42 5 and Gladys Gross here?

15:51:45 6 MS. GROSS: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, what I
15:51:48 7 signed I thought was just people who are here for attendance.
15:51:51 8 I did not sign to testify. But I'm glad I'm here because I'm
15:51:54 9 learning a lot. And I thank for your time. I cannot say
15:51:58 10 whether I am for or against, but after listening to a lot of
15:52:01 11 people, I think I'm able to make up my mind. Thank you very
15:52:05 12 much.

15:52:06 13 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Thank you.

15:52:07 14 Next is Richard McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy.

15:52:11 15 MR. MCCARTHY: When she asked for time, I
16 gave mine to the sister.

15:52:12 17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You still have time,
15:52:14 18 then.

15:52:15 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He gave his time up.

15:52:18 20 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, wait. I'm sorry. I
15:52:22 21 skipped over. I'm sorry, I accidentally skipped over
15:52:28 22 Lynnette and Oliver Sanchez.

15:52:31 23 MS. SANCHEZ: I also with Gladys believed I
15:52:33 24 was just signing for attendance.

15:52:37 25 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh. So you don't want to

15:52:38 1 come up and talk?

2 MS. SANCHEZ: No.

15:52:39 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay, good.

15:52:40 4 Okay, Mr. McCarthy, you're on.

15:52:43 5 MR. McCARTHY: It looks like I got 20

15:52:44 6 minutes.

15:52:47 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you want to take my

15:52:48 8 five minutes to testify, you may have them.

15:52:51 9 MEMBER BURGESS: I think we'll let everybody

15:52:53 10 have a chance at it and if we have more time, we'll come

15:52:57 11 back.

15:52:58 12 MR. McCARTHY: Aloha.

15:53:00 13 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

15:53:02 14 MR. McCARTHY: Good afternoon. I come from a

15:53:04 15 system that most of you do, the western system they call it.

15:53:08 16 And what they do in that system is they teach us competition.

15:53:13 17 And I know you know what I'm talking about. You get the best

15:53:16 18 grades, get ahead of your brother in a job, become

15:53:20 19 supervisor. And in that system we have no time or room for a

15:53:26 20 heart. We forget about that. Our communities have no hearts

15:53:32 21 back on the mainland. They're small. They protect

15:53:36 22 themselves from each other.

15:53:38 23 What has happened in Hawaii is that although

15:53:41 24 that spirit of aloha and that heart beats strong and true, we

15:53:46 25 try to hide it, make it shoved on the back shelf. I'm

15:53:51 1 talking people that look like me, not the Hawaiians
15:53:54 2 themselves. What happens with the system where we show up
15:54:00 3 today and try to expose our heart to you and let you know how
15:54:04 4 we feel? What do you do with that? You go tell somebody
15:54:08 5 else what we said. What do they do? They go tell somebody
15:54:13 6 else what was said. What do they do? They go tell somebody
15:54:17 7 else what was said. And before long the real message that
15:54:21 8 these beautiful people are trying to convey is, yes, they
15:54:24 9 like it; no, they don't. And I don't think it's right for
15:54:28 10 anybody to make decisions that will be so far reaching upon
15:54:32 11 that kind of a system.

15:54:36 12 I came from Wyoming some years ago. I'm a
15:54:39 13 guest here and probably the worst kind of guest, I won't go
15:54:44 14 home. But, nonetheless, in Wyoming we had a herd of wild
15:54:48 15 horses that were proud, majestic, ran the range, did what
15:54:53 16 they want, followed their herd instinct, did what they were
15:54:57 17 built to do. And what happened? The government, the people
15:55:04 18 came in and said, "Let's do something for those wild horses.
15:55:08 19 Let's grab ahold of them, let's bring them into a pen, let's
15:55:13 20 make them something other than what they naturally are."

15:55:17 21 And any time the government takes a hold of
15:55:20 22 something, it lessens what it grabs. And I think that
15:55:24 23 everybody should be wise and conscious of that when they're
15:55:29 24 thinking about the Akaka Bill because of what it does is it
15:55:34 25 steps in to someplace it doesn't belong and takes and touches

15:55:38 1 things and puts them in pens and says, "Oh, this is good.
15:55:42 2 You're going to have these benefits." I think what everybody
15:55:46 3 needs to be really conscious of is what is left outside the
15:55:50 4 pen when that pen is built.

15:55:53 5 I don't think from what I have seen about the
15:55:55 6 analysis that's gone on in the government level that that's
15:56:00 7 really been taken to heart. So I'm opposed to the Akaka Bill
15:56:05 8 for what that means. Probably nothing, because I shouldn't
15:56:10 9 even be saying anything about how I feel about it. But I
15:56:13 10 know of a lot my brothers and sisters, I know this is very
15:56:17 11 important to them. And I just ask everybody to think
15:56:20 12 strongly about and hard about what is left outside the pen if
15:56:24 13 this bill passes. Mahalo.

15:56:26 14 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Thank you, sir.

15:56:29 15 (Applause.)

15:56:34 16 MEMBER BURGESS: Nelson Armitage? Nelson
15:56:45 17 Armitage here?

15:56:45 18 MR. ARMITAGE: Aloha, Mr. Chairman.

15:56:50 19 MEMBER BURGESS: Aloha.

15:56:51 20 MR. ARMITAGE: If you don't mind, my name is
15:56:52 21 Nelson Armitage. N-E-L-S-O-N, Kuualoha, K-U-U-A-L-O-H-A.

15:57:03 22 (Inaudible.) But, anyway, Nelson Armitage, A-R-M-I-T-A-G-E.

15:57:08 23 Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind, could I have
15:57:11 24 a seat?

25 MEMBER BURGESS: Sure.

1 MR. ARMITAGE: Because I have a sore foot
15:57:11 2 from chasing my ball the other day.

15:57:15 3 You know what, I just want to read what I got
15:57:21 4 here, then, if you don't mind, I want you to ask me the same
15:57:26 5 questions you asked Charlie. Okay?

15:57:29 6 First of all, aloha to all of you and for
15:57:33 7 those who showed up today.

15:57:37 8 Excuse me. Just about getting to my senior
15:57:41 9 age, too, so I got to put on my training wheels. (Putting on
15:57:45 10 glasses.)

15:57:46 11 First of all, I object to the Akaka Bill
15:57:49 12 because the Akaka Bill implies that the Native Hawaiian
15:57:54 13 people are indigenous to the United States of America when,
15:57:56 14 in fact, the Hawaiian people are not and does not come from
15:58:00 15 neither the north or the south continent of America. We are
15:58:08 16 aboriginal people of the archipelago islands of Hawaii
15:58:11 17 located north of the equator in the middle of the Pacific
15:58:16 18 Ocean far from the continent that makes up the North and
15:58:19 19 South America.

15:58:20 20 Therefore, so-called legal language used in
15:58:25 21 the Akaka Bill claims that Native Hawaiian people are
15:58:29 22 indigenous and aboriginals of the United States and that's
15:58:33 23 the special status of the Native American Indian Tribes
15:58:38 24 extended to the Native Hawaiians. This claim is abusive and
15:58:41 25 deliberately deceives the American people to admit that the

15:58:47 1 Hawaiian people possess the same special status as the Native
15:58:52 2 American Indian Tribes. The Indian tribe status is embedded
15:58:56 3 in the highest laws of America.

15:58:58 4 According to the US Constitution Article 2,
15:59:02 5 Clause 8, Section 3 that the state to wit: "Congress shall
15:59:07 6 have the power to regulate congress with foreign nations.
15:59:12 7 Among the several states with -- and with Indian tribes."
15:59:17 8 The above constitutional law is clear and abrogates -- The
15:59:23 9 law affirms that the Indian tribes possess a status distinct
15:59:28 10 from foreign nations' nationals and several states of the
15:59:33 11 union. The law does not empower that the Native Hawaiian
15:59:37 12 people possess the similar status in the strategy or the
15:59:42 13 monarchy of the United States supreme law of America, the US
15:59:48 14 Constitution.

15:59:48 15 The fundamental, basic legal remedy of the
15:59:53 16 Akaka Bill is to claim that Native Hawaiian people possess
15:59:56 17 the same status as the Indian tribes. This claim is totally
16:00:02 18 false. And the creators and supporters of the Akaka Bill
16:00:07 19 deliberately construed in wording in the bill to imply that
16:00:12 20 the Hawaiian people are indigenous and aboriginals to the
16:00:17 21 United States. The bill is -- The bill is also stated that
16:00:21 22 the Hawaiian people possess the same rights and efforts to
16:00:25 23 Native American Indian Tribes in the US Constitution. Those
16:00:30 24 claims are absolutely wrong.

16:00:33 25 I can understand how Alaskans can be provided

16:00:39 1 these rights because they are indigenous aboriginals to the
16:00:46 2 North America, but to state that the Hawaiian people are
16:00:54 3 indigenous aboriginals to the United States is a blatant lie
16:00:59 4 and any law that promotes this type of deception is not
16:01:04 5 worthy of any approval or passage.

16:01:06 6 To support this position one needs to look at
16:01:12 7 the United States history in the US Public Law 103. It's a
16:01:16 8 public law, not an Apology Bill. A difference between an
16:01:22 9 apology and public law? Look it up in Black's Law
16:01:25 10 Dictionary. Attorneys should know that.

16:01:27 11 A deception of the rule that confirms that
16:01:32 12 the Hawaiian people belongs to the Kingdom of Hawaii, a
16:01:35 13 separate sovereign nation. Clearly identifies that the
16:01:40 14 Hawaiian people were never indigenous people to the United
16:01:44 15 States of America. So how is it possible for the Native
16:01:48 16 Hawaiian people to become indigenous people of America?

16:01:52 17 I also strongly agree that the Akaka Bill
16:01:56 18 raises and will encourage discrimination in direct violation
16:02:01 19 of the US Constitution Article 14. The Akaka Bill flaws the
16:02:06 20 law and this commission should oppose this bill and
16:02:12 21 unanimously vote against the Akaka Bill. This type of
16:02:16 22 conduct should not be tolerated.

16:02:20 23 Personally, I am confused that officers of
16:02:24 24 the US government, members of the Hawaii US Congress and the
16:02:28 25 government and the governor, lieutenant governor and Hawaii

16:02:32 1 attorney general and the department heads would endorse this
16:02:37 2 deliberate perpetuation of fraud.

16:02:43 3 Now at this point I come to closing with just
16:02:47 4 my statement. What the Akaka Bill really does for us
16:02:51 5 Hawaiians -- Which I love Hawaii, I love America, don't get
16:02:55 6 me wrong, but when you get cheated and lied to for 114
16:03:00 7 years --

16:03:00 8 Mr. Burgess, it's very tough for our
16:03:03 9 generation to understand the history when it's already been
16:03:07 10 114 years of suppression.

16:03:09 11 The Akaka Bill at the time when it was Bill
16:03:14 12 2899 with the congressional hearing of the real guys in front
16:03:19 13 of us, it got shot down. Unfortunately, it continues to go
16:03:23 14 because the Kanakas, yeah. That is what the bill would do,
16:03:28 15 finally extinguish our true identity as Kanaka, not Hawaiian.
16:03:34 16 Hawaiian starts at 1893, January 17th. Everybody born and
16:03:38 17 raised here is a Hawaiian, have equal rights under your US
16:03:43 18 Constitution Article 14. That's the purpose of this panel.
16:03:46 19 Because whatever got stolen prior to then is the reality
16:03:51 20 check. And it never had ceded lands. These lands were all
16:03:56 21 royal patents.

16:03:57 22 MEMBER BURGESS: Please try and wrap it up.

16:04:02 23 MR. ARMITAGE: Could you please ask me some
16:04:04 24 of those questions? Because when Mr. Maxwell 100 percent of
16:04:07 25 the people voted for the Akaka Bill, was it two people?

16:04:10 1 That's 100 percent, right, if you got two. You guys got to
16:04:15 2 clarify these things a little bit. Misinformation,
16:04:18 3 misclarification on the Akaka Bill is where a lot of the
16:04:21 4 misunderstanding of this political issue starts.

16:04:25 5 And here we are trying to survive in our own
16:04:27 6 country. I know the reason, main reason why lots of people
16:04:30 7 around the world really don't like the American politics is
16:04:33 8 exactly why we are here today. This is a shame. I love
16:04:37 9 America, but the problem is, what I see wrong is that special
16:04:42 10 group interests, your corporations is the biggest problems in
16:04:46 11 America.

16:04:47 12 Democracy? The world should look at us
16:04:50 13 Hawaiians. We are great prime example about democracy. Our
16:04:54 14 culture has been exploited just like prostitution. We are a
16:04:58 15 great example of democracy, equal capitalism. Who is at the
16:05:03 16 bottom of heap with their own country? It's not you. I
16:05:05 17 guess you're the one suing these guys. So it's a shame to be
16:05:09 18 part of this whole system.

16:05:11 19 But in reality, shit, we just living in a big
16:05:14 20 lie that we need to understand from the beginning, not take
16:05:17 21 off from this point and go forward to correct the political
16:05:21 22 injustice. But the problem that I see all the time is that
16:05:24 23 people gets paid to put on these shows. And the reality is a
16:05:31 24 lot of Hawaiians don't have the time to come here and sit and
16:05:35 25 address the issues. You know why? Because they're too busy

16:05:37 1 trying to earn an honest living in this corrupted country.

16:05:40 2 Okay?

16:05:40 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay, Mr. Armitage.

16:05:41 4 MR. ARMITAGE: And ask me some of the
16:05:42 5 questions because I need to know. We can go on for hours.

16:05:43 6 One more thing for the record. A public
16:05:46 7 hearing should never have a time limit. I don't see that in
16:05:50 8 Washington, DC. Okay?

16:05:50 9 MEMBER BURGESS: The only time limit is that
16:05:52 10 we want to give everybody a chance to talk.

16:05:56 11 MR. ARMITAGE: No way. We can stay all week.
16:06:00 12 This is 114 years go by. What is two days or a week? You're
16:06:02 13 talking about taking over our aboriginal rights, not
16:06:06 14 indigenous rights. You're talking about extinguishing once
16:06:11 15 and for all a people that existed and naturally selling off
16:06:14 16 all their parcels. Like he said, you found my car. You
16:06:18 17 stole my car, but I ain't going to settle for the four
16:06:21 18 hubcaps. I want the whole car back, you know.

16:06:25 19 (Applause.)

16:06:25 20 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Mr. Armitage,
16:06:29 21 don't assume what we're going to conclude. We're here to
16:06:32 22 hear and listen at this point. And I'm just one person. You
16:06:37 23 may have a --

16:06:38 24 MR. ARMITAGE: That's what the woman said
16:06:40 25 earlier.

16:06:40 1 MEMBER BURGESS: We want to hear everybody
16:06:42 2 here and that's why we --

16:06:44 3 MR. ARMITAGE: Maybe the people here, the
16:06:46 4 leadership in the community should address you guys. That's
16:06:49 5 what I think should be done. Reverse the table.

16:06:53 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would like to give
16:06:54 7 some of my minutes to Mr. Armitage.

16:06:55 8 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. All right. Well,
16:06:57 9 thank you very much, Mr. Armitage.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would like to give
16:06:59 11 my minutes to Mr. Armitage.

16:06:59 12 MR. ARMITAGE: I would like for you to answer
16:07:00 13 some of those questions because it was very good because, you
16:07:03 14 know what, Boyd Mossman is our OHA leader here and I seen him
16:07:07 15 in the house.

16:07:07 16 MEMBER BURGESS: Well, I've seen him here in
17 the audience.

18 MR. ARMITAGE: Yeah, he's here.

16:07:11 19 MEMBER BURGESS: I don't know if we're going
16:07:12 20 to get to him. I hope we will.

16:07:12 21 MR. ARMITAGE: Our representation of him
16:07:14 22 representing us Kanakas is not real, because he's worried
16:07:18 23 about the American citizens. As opposed to representation of
16:07:21 24 what he got voted in for. Because he so hold to the US
16:07:26 25 Constitution.

16:07:26 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You told Mr. Maxwell
16:07:27 2 not to get personal. You're letting him attack Boyd Mossman.
16:07:32 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Yeah, Mr. Armitage, I
4 think --
5 (Various speakers at once.)
16:07:39 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Civil Rights
16:07:40 7 Commission was unanimous. It's not everybody, so get that
16:07:43 8 straight.
16:07:44 9 MR. ARMITAGE: I was at the commission at
16:07:47 10 2899.
16:07:47 11 MR. MAXWELL: No, no. The Civil Rights
16:07:49 12 Commission that I chaired all voted --
16:07:51 13 MR. ARMITAGE: But it was congress guys
16:07:53 14 sitting at the table.
16:07:54 15 MR. MAXWELL: Not congress. It was only the
16:07:57 16 civil rights.
16:07:57 17 MR. ARMITAGE: Yeah, I know, but your
16:07:57 18 commission went to Congress.
16:07:59 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Out of order.
16:07:59 20 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay, Mr. Armitage and Mr.
16:08:02 21 Maxwell.
22 (Various speakers at once.)
16:08:05 23 MEMBER BURGESS: The next speaker --
16:08:06 24 MR. ARMITAGE: You know what, if the truth
16:08:07 25 hurts, aloha.

16:08:08 1 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you very much.

16:08:09 2 (Applause.)

16:08:13 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Next speaker is Kealio'i

16:08:18 4 Blaisdell.

16:08:21 5 MR. BLAISDELL: Can I sit down?

16:08:28 6 MEMBER BURGESS: Sure.

16:08:28 7 MR. BLAISDELL: Aloha, everybody. My name is

16:08:32 8 Kealio'i Blaisdell, K-E-A-L-I-O okina I, B-L-A-I-S-D-E-L-L,

16:08:39 9 from Haiku, Kingdom of Hawaii.

16:08:43 10 Okay. The question that I would like to have

16:08:46 11 answered: If the queen, our Queen Lili'uokalani was standing

16:08:51 12 before you today and you was throwing this deceit about the

16:08:55 13 Akaka Bill in front of her, what would you tell her? What

16:08:59 14 would you tell our queen about this Akaka Bill? What would

16:09:03 15 help the Kanaka Maoli here in Hawaii?

16:09:05 16 Now, I just got -- I used to live in Alaska.

16:09:08 17 Okay. I lived there for a good four years. And the reason

16:09:12 18 was, the sad part of the reason why I moved away was 'cause

16:09:15 19 us Kanakas cannot survive here with the prices and everything

16:09:19 20 and the cost of living. So, honestly, answer that question

16:09:24 21 at the end of the session. If Queen Lili'uokalani was here

16:09:31 22 today, what would you guys tell her or King Kalakaua or King

16:09:33 23 Kamehameha, all our monarchs?

16:09:36 24 "Oh, you're a United States citizen. This

16:09:36 25 Akaka Bill will help you." How is the Akaka Bill going to

16:09:40 1 help us? It might help the Native Hawaiians. Like this
16:09:45 2 gentleman said, from 1896 on, anybody born here in Hawaii are
16:09:49 3 natives to Hawaii, Native Hawaiians. I'm not a Native
16:09:51 4 Hawaiian. I'm a Kanaka Maoli. Okay? So Akaka Bill, in my
16:09:58 5 eyes, how does it help us, you know?

16:10:01 6 Just like Kau Inoa, how is Kau Inoa helping?
16:10:07 7 I don't know. I'm a Hawaiian entertainer, you know. I sing
16:10:10 8 to Hawaiian music. I write all my own music. So I see the
16:10:15 9 commercials where my colleagues -- like Raiatea does, you
16:10:16 10 know. And God bless her, I love her, she's like my little
16:10:20 11 sister, but what shocks me, yeah, to see something like that
16:10:24 12 on TV supporting Kau Inoa when what is it for? What is Kau
16:10:31 13 Inoa for? What is all the signatures for? Is it false
16:10:34 14 pretenses to alert all these people, "Sign here. Register
16:10:38 15 here"? Where do all the signatures go? Do the signatures go
16:10:41 16 to support the Akaka Bill?

16:10:43 17 Do this committee here or does Kau Inoa
16:10:48 18 actually tell them the truth that is what the registration is
16:10:52 19 for, to support the Akaka Bill? In my eyes, that's what I
16:10:55 20 see. It's just another deceitful lie to the people of
16:11:00 21 Hawaii, "Sign here, Kau Inoa. We give you a free T-shirt,
16:11:03 22 but we're taking away your civil rights."

16:11:06 23 Okay. Now, I -- Like I said, I'm a
16:11:08 24 traditional Hawaiian singer. I write all of my own songs. A
16:11:11 25 lot of people know who I am. That's what I do, but listen to

16:11:15 1 the words that I write. Some people say, "Hey, I love your
16:11:19 2 music. Oh, your music is so beautiful."

16:11:22 3 You know what I tell them? Listen to the
16:11:24 4 words and what I write, because I sing of our land, I sing of
16:11:28 5 our people, the Kanaka Maoli, I sing of our monarchy, I sing
16:11:33 6 of everything that I was taught, everything I learned since
16:11:37 7 childhood. Since childhood you notice not once, not once, I
16:11:42 8 have never pledged allegiance to your flag, your flag.
16:11:47 9 Excuse me for my -- you know, I love you and all, but I'm
16:11:51 10 just saying, I've never pledged allegiance. Why? Because my
16:11:57 11 father never pledged allegiance.

16:11:58 12 114 years went by raping our people, you
16:12:03 13 know. Everybody loves Hawaii's culture. How can -- How come
16:12:10 14 America no more culture? Everybody says America get culture,
16:12:14 15 but no, no, no, America does not have culture. America only
16:12:16 16 has history. Where the culture comes from is the Hawaiians,
16:12:19 17 the Japanese, the Chinese. That's where all the culture
16:12:24 18 comes, is all the immigrants who came to America. That's
16:12:27 19 where the culture came from. You guys culture is only
16:12:32 20 history. America has no culture, but you guys dig deeper and
16:12:37 21 the culture comes from England. But the funniest thing about
16:12:42 22 that, England was a strong supporter and a strong ally of the
16:12:44 23 Hawaiian kingdom.

16:12:45 24 So what good does this Akaka Bill does for us
16:12:50 25 Kanaka Maoli? Does it do any good? We give up our rights as

16:12:52 1 Kanaka Maoli. We'll be extinguished. So let's say the Akaka
16:12:58 2 Bill passes, how is that going to help us? I urge this
16:13:01 3 committee, yeah, to vote no and at least this time. I don't
16:13:05 4 know if our voices are going to count by us being here,
16:13:08 5 because I have strong feelings that irregardless that all
16:13:12 6 these people are here today, listening to all of us -- And
16:13:14 7 you guys listening to every single of our words and you guys
16:13:17 8 getting all our input, does it really matter? Is our
16:13:20 9 opinions going to be voiced to those in Washington, or
16:13:24 10 somehow is this transcript just going to slowly disappear?
16:13:27 11 You know, we have all these -- I see all
16:13:31 12 these young people in the crowd. I'm 35 years old. I have
16:13:36 13 kids of my own, but I see all these young people and I feel
16:13:39 14 sorry for them. If this Akaka Bill passes, I feel sorry for
16:13:42 15 them because their children as they get older and for their
16:13:45 16 children's children, because there will be no Hawaii left.
16:13:48 17 And in closing I will tell you what my mother
16:13:50 18 told me one time. Us Hawaiians, we shared so much aloha, we
16:13:54 19 ended up broke. So we have a civil rights committee person
16:13:58 20 here, if I didn't hear well, the people you should be
16:14:02 21 addressing, yeah, not only is the Native Hawaiians, the
16:14:06 22 Kanaka Maoli people, but if civil rights such a big issue,
16:14:12 23 talk to all the homeless Kanaka Maoli that's living on the
16:14:14 24 beach that cannot afford to live within the American system,
16:14:19 25 you know, but yet the American government, now, that

16:14:21 1 consists --

16:14:22 2 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Blaisdell, I have to ask
16:14:24 3 you to wrap up.

16:14:24 4 MR. BLAISDELL: Just a couple minutes.

16:14:26 5 -- that consists of the County and the State,
16:14:27 6 they're so concerned, and if this committee is so concerned
16:14:31 7 about Kanaka Maoli civil rights, take a walk down to the
16:14:36 8 beach, yeah. In fact, I all this panel right here just walk
16:14:41 9 down to any of our beaches and talk to our Kanaka Maoli
16:14:44 10 people that's living on the beach and ask them why they
16:14:48 11 living here. You guys ask them.

16:14:51 12 Okay. Mahalo.

16:14:52 13 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you, sir.

16:14:54 14 (Applause.)

16:14:57 15 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Next is John London,
16:15:01 16 I believe it is. I'm sorry, you're not John London.

16:15:31 17 No.

16:15:33 18 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, okay. So Mr. London is
16:15:35 19 not here?

16:15:36 20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's not going to
16:15:37 21 speak.

16:15:38 22 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, okay. Gabby Gouveia.
16:15:41 23 Mr. Gouveia. Okay. Derek, can you help?

16:16:08 24 (Mr. Horne rearranging microphone.)

16:16:08 25 MR. GOUVEIA: I came here because I heard

16:16:08 1 that there was going to be 17 members on the board that was
16:16:13 2 going to appear. And there's only -- Is the young lady on
16:16:18 3 the end part of the board? Okay. I also understand that
16:16:25 4 there's -- there was -- there are like four of you who oppose
16:16:32 5 the Kanaka Maoli programs. Could you please identify
16:16:37 6 yourself so I know who to address my --

16:16:40 7 MEMBER BURGESS: Yeah. I have already said
16:16:42 8 I'm Bill Burgess -- Yeah, that's a good idea. Thank you for
16:16:45 9 that. I forgot to do that.

16:16:47 10 May I ask each person to identify --

16:16:49 11 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: Well, my name is
16:16:54 12 Daphne Barbee-Wooten, but I don't oppose it.

13 MR. GOUVEIA: You don't?

16:16:55 14 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: I haven't filed any
16:16:57 15 lawsuits opposing anything.

16:16:58 16 MR. GOUVEIA: Okay. Who on the board filing
16:17:01 17 lawsuits against the Kanaka Maoli programs.

16:17:04 18 MR. KUROIWA: I'm Jim Kuroiwa. I'm one of
16:17:06 19 the plaintiffs.

16:17:07 20 MR. GOUVEIA: How did you get on the board,
16:17:10 21 Mr. Kuroiwa?

16:17:11 22 MR. KUROIWA: We submitted our names and got
16:17:14 23 selected.

16:17:15 24 MR. GOUVEIA: Who comes to see you and tells
16:17:17 25 you --

16:17:17 1 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Wait, Mr. Gouveia.
16:17:20 2 Let me -- We're here to hear from you and hear your thoughts
16:17:23 3 about the Akaka Bill.
16:17:25 4 MR. GOUVEIA: I will. Who else opposes
16:17:27 5 Kanaka Maoli programs?
16:17:29 6 MEMBER BURGESS: You know, we're here to
16:17:31 7 listen and then we're going to have a discussion at some
16:17:34 8 point in the future --
16:17:36 9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're here to shut us
16:17:36 10 up. That's what you're here to do. Let him speak.
16:17:39 11 MR. GOUVEIA: Aren't you opposed to the Akaka
16:17:42 12 Bill? I see you on TV all the time.
16:17:44 13 MEMBER BURGESS: Yes, I am opposed to the
16:17:47 14 Akaka Bill.
16:17:48 15 MR. GOUVEIA: Who else?
16:17:49 16 MEMBER BURGESS: If you would like to -- Mr.
16:17:50 17 Gouveia, if you would like to talk and tell us about what you
16:17:53 18 think about the Akaka Bill, that's what we want to hear.
19 MR. GOUVEIA: I will.
16:17:56 20 MEMBER BURGESS: If you don't, then I would
16:17:58 21 like to pass the microphone on.
16:18:00 22 MR. GOUVEIA: You wasted 30 seconds of my
16:18:04 23 time.
16:18:06 24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's right.
16:18:07 25 MEMBER JOHNSON: Time-keeping person. Hello?

16:18:09 1 I'm Ruby Johnson. I'm 50-percent Hawaiian and I oppose the
16:18:14 2 Akaka Bill. I have spoken against it. It doesn't mean I am
16:18:18 3 against Kanaka Maoli --

16:18:21 4 MR. GOUVEIA: I understand.

16:18:23 5 MEMBER JOHNSON: -- and against all programs.
16:18:25 6 I'm against the Akaka Bill for several reasons.

16:18:30 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mr. Burgess, what
16:18:30 8 about you?

16:18:31 9 MR. GOUVEIA: Who else?

16:18:35 10 MEMBER MacDONALD: I have spoken out against
16:18:37 11 the Akaka Bill, and I'll tell you why. Because I think that
16:18:43 12 everyone who has a need should be treated equally by those
16:18:50 13 who dispense the needs. One of the previous speakers
16:18:54 14 mentioned the people who are on the beaches. I recognize
16:18:57 15 that a lot of them are Hawaiians, but a lot of them are not
16:19:00 16 Hawaiians as well. And from where I come, my position is
16:19:05 17 that everyone who's in the same position of need should be
16:19:08 18 treated equally by our government agencies. That's why I
16:19:13 19 oppose the Akaka Bill.

16:19:15 20 MR. GOUVEIA: Okay. I oppose the Akaka Bill.
16:19:23 21 It's garbage to me because you don't address every Kanaka
16:19:29 22 Maoli. It addresses -- Like I asked the question of OHA:
16:19:34 23 Which Kanaka Maoli is it going to cover? The half Hawaiian
16:19:39 24 or the one-eighth Hawaiian? How can one country come in and
16:19:44 25 tell my people and my grandparents that you not Hawaiian, you

16:19:49 1 not Kanaka Maoli.

16:19:51 2 The Akaka Bill -- I'm not one of those people
16:19:54 3 who like 1.8 million acres back. I like the archipelago. I
16:20:02 4 like stretch 3,000 miles. I live all my life under you guy's
16:20:12 5 politics, under you guy's politics where, look, look at this
16:20:18 6 board. Now, I don't know how much more Kanaka Maoli you guys
16:20:24 7 get on this board, because this is all I see. You got one
16:20:26 8 Kanaka Maoli aunty. I watch TV, I look, supreme court
16:20:31 9 justice, one Kupolo. What is this, singles? What is this,
16:20:36 10 single? It's symbolic.

16:20:41 11 I live under you guys, you guys all my life.
16:20:46 12 Of course, the Akaka Bill is garbage. That's what I'm
16:20:52 13 saying. Why you oppose the Akaka Bill and I oppose the Akaka
16:21:02 14 Bill is two different things. You guys oppose the Akaka Bill
16:21:08 15 because you guys keep what you guys get -- got. I cannot go
16:21:13 16 swim Makena. I got children. I got kupuna. Cannot go
16:21:18 17 Makena anymore, it's gated communities. Hawaii was stolen,
16:21:26 18 stolen. The Kanaka Maoli didn't vote if they wanted to be a
16:21:32 19 state annexation and all. Same thing going on today under
16:21:38 20 you guys rules. More money you get, you get sick.

16:21:43 21 My son work for one of the developers down
16:21:51 22 here. Okay? He has a heavy heart. He gets family to raise.
16:22:04 23 They make him sign one paper that you're not going to oppose
16:22:09 24 development, you no oppose the development, but they don't
16:22:12 25 tell him what happen if he say, "I oppose," see. What kind

16:22:18 1 of -- What kind of society we live in, Makena?

16:22:25 2 I tell him, "Son, raise your family. Let the
16:22:29 3 haoles fight for Kihei. Let the haoles fight for 670. It's
16:22:37 4 gone." Ma'alaea, Wailea, the water stink. Beautiful,
16:22:43 5 beautiful sunset, beautiful blue water. The water stink. No
16:22:47 6 more fish, no more.

16:22:50 7 The Akaka Bill is not going to help all our
16:22:57 8 people. It's only for certain people. The day I seen the
16:23:06 9 Akaka Bill for the original version -- The day I seen the
16:23:06 10 Akaka Bill writing "all Kanaka Maoli" and no make it so hard
16:23:08 11 like if you go to sign up for Hawaiian Homes. Brother, you'd
16:23:13 12 better bring your iwi from your kupuna and your ancestors
16:23:18 13 because they're going to make it so hard for you. How I
16:23:24 14 know? How I know?

16:23:25 15 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay, Mr. Gouveia, I'm going
16:23:27 16 to have to ask you to wrap it up now, please.

16:23:28 17 MR. GOUVEIA: Sure.

16:23:29 18 The Akaka Bill is garbage until it takes care
16:23:34 19 all of the Kanaka Maoli. And I see the Kamehameha School
16:23:38 20 people over here, and you know me, I fight with Kamehameha
16:23:43 21 School all the time, but I'm going to say this one thing and
16:23:47 22 I let you guys know right now, if you guys -- you guys, don't
16:23:52 23 be afraid. Don't be afraid of the threats from OHA. OHA
16:23:57 24 spending all this money, millions on Akaka Bill, American
16:24:02 25 politics. We flood the TV, we flood the air, we flood

16:24:08 1 everything, we soaking with: "This is good. This is good."

16:24:16 2 No.

16:24:16 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay.

16:24:17 4 MR. GOUVEIA: Not to get the money. Not to

16:24:19 5 get the money. You no listen to this. You got to read, you

16:24:23 6 got to see what's between the lines, what's coming at you.

16:24:27 7 The akamai. I will tell you this, I will leave you guys with

16:24:31 8 this -- I'm going to leave you guys with this right now: The

16:24:37 9 arrogance of America, which I consider a barbaric nation --

16:24:42 10 Barbaric nation. They are a barbaric nation. If ever we

16:24:48 11 get, we get reinstated our own government in Kahului, all

16:24:55 12 these different -- all these guys broke, all broke up, and

16:24:58 13 that's what they like, they split up. Oh, you half Hawaiian,

16:25:01 14 you get half Hawaiian Homes. You a quarter, throw them out

16:25:06 15 in the street. They split you up.

16:25:09 16 I'm going to tell you guys this right now.

16:25:11 17 If you guys ever, ever take away Hawaiian programs, these

16:25:16 18 groups will come together and then, then you will see. And

16:25:22 19 then you'll see. Stop, not playing games already with us,

16:25:27 20 because I got friends not like me come saying things like

16:25:30 21 this, they stay under the trees, but they discuss these kind

16:25:33 22 things. It's not only guys like us.

16:25:36 23 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.

16:25:37 24 Gouveia.

16:25:39 25 MR. GOUVEIA: You got the idea, Mr. Burgers?

16:25:43 1 Understand what I'm saying?

16:25:44 2 MEMBER BURGESS: I understand what you're
16:25:46 3 saying.

16:25:46 4 MR. GOUVEIA: You guys all tell friends, tell
16:25:49 5 parents, tell kids, do not be afraid of threats. The Kanaka
16:25:53 6 Maoli stay together, we win anything.

16:26:00 7 (Applause.)

16:26:02 8 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. The next speaker
16:26:05 9 is Kay Piper, a lady, I believe. Ms. Piper.

16:26:11 10 MS. PIPER: I thought that was the sign in.

16:26:13 11 MEMBER BURGESS: You're going to pass.

16:26:17 12 Ieana Campbell.

16:26:30 13 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you. My name is Ieana
16:26:32 14 Campbell, I-E-A-N-A, C-A-M-P-B-E-L-L.

16:26:39 15 First of all, I would like to thank everyone
16:26:42 16 present for being present. And second of all, I, too, have
16:26:45 17 to apologize because I signed the sheet erroneously, but it
16:26:50 18 offered me a unique opportunity to speak. And, actually, I
16:26:53 19 do have some questions because I have to publicly admit to my
16:26:59 20 ignorance about the specifics of the Akaka Bill, which is the
16:27:03 21 reason why I came tonight. And I wanted to also hope this
16:27:08 22 would eliminate a few things.

16:27:11 23 For instance, I was wondering if -- I would
16:27:14 24 like to actually ask each of you who are actually for the
16:27:18 25 bill exactly what benefits you believe this bill will afford

16:27:25 1 Native Hawaiians, if any, especially in terms of real
16:27:27 2 property, community resources, access to health and mental
16:27:30 3 health care, and educational benefits. And, actually, that's
16:27:34 4 a two-part question, because for those who have opposed the
16:27:37 5 bill, particularly Ms. Johnson as a Native Hawaiian, I was
16:27:41 6 curious as to the specific reasons why you were in opposition
16:27:46 7 to this bill.

16:27:49 8 MEMBER JOHNSON: My specific reason?

16:27:51 9 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes. If you could illustrate
16:27:54 10 those briefly, please.

16:27:55 11 MEMBER JOHNSON: Well, the reason I gave in
16:27:57 12 Washington, DC when I spoke maybe about a year or two ago was
16:28:03 13 it will create the situation in which when you have an
16:28:09 14 aboriginal indigenous nation it will split the state, for
16:28:13 15 example, this one, the state of Hawaii in two. All right?

16:28:17 16 And, plus, what the Akaka Bill is asking for
16:28:22 17 is return of the 1.8 million acres, which was first broached
16:28:27 18 in the beginning of the meeting when some of you were not
16:28:31 19 here yet. If we take that plus what Akaka Bill is now asking
16:28:35 20 for, the 200-mile submerged lands, and you take that and you
16:28:43 21 turn the island and all of these islands -- This is what I
16:28:44 22 told everyone in Washington. Take that all the way down to
16:28:47 23 Big Island and goes 100 miles below that and around that,
16:28:51 24 that's quite a bit of area to give back to a group in which
16:28:57 25 the qualifying, all right, qualifying, oh, how do you say,

16:29:06 1 characteristic would be any Native Hawaiian less than 50 to
16:29:14 2 100 percent, so go down to less than 1 percent, would be a
16:29:21 3 member of this American Indian tribal group.

16:29:26 4 Now, I objected, then, to the definition of
16:29:31 5 "tribe" while I was doing this, and I also objected to
16:29:37 6 "communal tenures before 1778, AD," all right, as qualifying
16:29:50 7 Aboriginal Hawaiian land titles. Because, as you know, they
16:29:52 8 were feudal, not communal. That means that when you put this
16:29:55 9 back now under the Akaka Bill, it makes that provision in US
16:29:59 10 PL 103.105, the Apology Bill, as stating that before 1778 AD,
16:30:08 11 right -- Kamehameha is not around 'til 1795, but once you do,
16:30:15 12 okay, none of the Kamehameha land titles matter. It's all
16:30:20 13 communal tenants.

16:30:23 14 In other words, what they have done is
16:30:24 15 retroactively removed the feudal titles, which I feel is not
16:30:30 16 what the Akaka Bill has done. The Akaka Bill has taken
16:30:36 17 advantage of that. That's why I was against it in principal.

16:30:40 18 MS. CAMPBELL: That was your primary reason.

16:30:42 19 MEMBER JOHNSON: That's right. That's what I
16:30:44 20 stated in Washington, DC.

16:30:47 21 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you so much.

22 And, again, to check on the first part of
16:30:48 23 that question, for those of you who are in favor of this,
16:30:50 24 will there be any benefits in terms of real property which I
16:30:52 25 believe she just addressed in terms of that, and educational

16:30:55 1 and community resource access such as health benefits?

16:30:59 2 MEMBER BARBEE-WOOTEN: Well, I haven't made
16:31:01 3 up my mind yet, that's why we're having this commission, but
16:31:04 4 I'm leaning in favor of the Akaka Bill and I can explain why.
16:31:07 5 If you were heard earlier, you heard the testimony of
16:31:12 6 Mr. Maxwell as well, as get his name, Mr. Ronald Williams,
16:31:18 7 who's were the Hawaii Community Club here, Central Maui
16:31:26 8 Community Club. He was real specific about his concern that
16:31:28 9 if we don't have the Akaka Bill, a lot of scholarships for
16:31:33 10 Native Hawaiians would be eliminated. He was very concerned
16:31:36 11 about children after-school care being eliminated. And so
16:31:41 12 that's what I -- That's why we're having these hearings,
16:31:46 13 'cause people come forward and explain to us why they're in
16:31:49 14 favor or why they're not in favor. And it was very
16:31:52 15 interesting to hear Ms. Johnson talk, because I wasn't aware
16:31:55 16 of that. And so, you know, we're here to be educated, too.
16:31:59 17 We're here not to lecture.

16:32:02 18 As far as the Akaka Bill, you can go on line
16:32:05 19 or you can call Senator Akaka's office and they will mail you
16:32:08 20 the bill. I think it's about 12 pages, 13 pages, but you can
16:32:11 21 get a copy and read it yourself.

16:32:13 22 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you. Actually, I have.
16:32:16 23 That's why I'm asking you. Thank you very much.

16:32:19 24 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Thank you.

16:32:20 25 And next is Mona Stevens, please.

16:32:25 1 MS. STEVENS: I signed up by accident. I
16:32:27 2 thought it was a sign-in sheet.

16:32:29 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, okay.

16:32:30 4 And Keala Han.

16:32:35 5 MS. HAN: Keala Han, K-E-A-L-A, last name
16:32:41 6 H-A-N.

16:32:43 7 For the record, I am for the Akaka Bill. And
16:32:46 8 I've noticed, Mr. Burgess, that whenever anyone spoke against
16:32:50 9 the Akaka Bill, you were fast on the pen. But when people
16:32:55 10 that spoke in favor, your hands were down. So it's obvious
16:33:00 11 where you're coming from. As was stated that he is against
16:33:05 12 the Akaka Bill, but not for the same reasons that you are
16:33:09 13 against the Akaka Bill. We all know that you're a Hawaiian
16:33:13 14 hater and that -- It is true.

16:33:15 15 (Applause.)

16:33:17 16 MS. HAN: It is true. Let's face it.

16:33:20 17 My request as a Native Hawaiian is that you
16:33:24 18 resign your position. It's a shame and a disgrace to have
16:33:28 19 you sitting here.

16:33:30 20 (Applause.)

16:33:35 21 MS. HAN: You should resign. Thank you.

16:33:38 22 (Applause.)

16:33:38 23 MEMBER MacDONALD: I would like to, if I
16:33:41 24 might, respond to that. Mr. Burgess so hates Hawaiians that
16:33:46 25 he's married to one.

16:33:48 1 MS. HAN: Oh, I knew you were going to say
16:33:50 2 that, a little token Hawaiian. I knew someone was coming up
16:33:55 3 with that.

16:33:55 4 Anyway, I am in favor of the Akaka Bill.
16:33:59 5 Where do we start? We start from inside, not to grab the
16:34:03 6 whole pot. And if you're not for the Akaka Bill, trust me,
16:34:08 7 Kamehameha School will go, Hawaiian Homes will go, and you
16:34:12 8 sitting across me, across me, will be the number one person
16:34:17 9 to attempt that.

16:34:25 10 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Next is Mr. H.E.
16:34:29 11 James Rivera.

16:34:31 12 MR. RIVERA: Mahalo. Mahalo. Mahalo.

16:34:42 13 As I was once under US corporation, I have
16:34:51 14 some words to share with quite a few of you up here in the
16:34:55 15 government's office. As for me, I believe I am the truth.
16:34:59 16 And what been going on for the past two years -- I hear all
16:35:03 17 these talks about Akaka bill. If only the people knew what
16:35:08 18 the Akaka was going to do to us. And he said what they had
16:35:13 19 set up for us up in California, the reservations.

16:35:20 20 When I went to the Uniform Commercial
16:35:24 21 Justice, where I took back my birth certificate and my Social
16:35:29 22 Security number, I became my own corporation like the United
16:35:32 23 States. I've been through courts, four courts. Sad, sad
16:35:38 24 what all our judges do, prosecutors, public defender. Come
16:35:45 25 down hard on us because we never know the law. Ask me, we

16:35:50 1 know who stands strong.

16:35:52 2 I am his Excellency James Victor Rivera with
16:35:57 3 the Hawaiian Kingdom government which does exist. From your
16:36:01 4 CEO all the way down to your cabinet we receive our three
16:36:06 5 letters. Cease and desist, involuntary dissolution and
16:36:14 6 (inaudible). Sad, how -- I respect my kupuna, but the rest
16:36:19 7 of you foreigners who come from the (inaudible) all the way
16:36:24 8 down here to our islands. They will support you guys, help
16:36:27 9 you guys, but nobody does that. Come here and make the laws.
10 You're not welcome.

16:36:37 11 Samua, He's the creator. As I say, I am a
16:36:40 12 Kanaka Maoli, not part of the States nor the US. And if all
16:36:48 13 us Kanaka Maolis woke up, believe in ourselves and walk
16:36:54 14 forward and be strong, know who we are, a lot of these deals
16:36:58 15 go around. Now I found the truth and I will keep on moving
16:37:01 16 keep on fighting. Not only for myself, but for all the
16:37:05 17 keikis and the keikis that we're not going to see unless we
16:37:12 18 get a couple of answers out there for (inaudible). Make a
16:37:16 19 decision. 47 percent Kanakas -- We get kupunas who sign back
16:37:22 20 in the '50s, still no more the aina. As they say, "Well, you
16:37:28 21 got to go to Hawaiian Homes. That's correct.

16:37:32 22 You know, the funds that we have in these
16:37:35 23 States before 2006 to 17.53, yeah. We get these two groups
16:37:42 24 reporting 945 B, so what happened to the rest, as I see only
16:37:46 25 pennies? As we talk about taxes, land taxes, not for us,

16:37:55 1 that's for the big corporations, the foreigners supposed to
16:37:59 2 be paying that. Why are we Kanaka Maolis paying taxes to our
16:38:05 3 state, who is our treasure.

16:38:06 4 We never know the truth back then, but today
16:38:10 5 we know. Today we all sharing all around this island plus
16:38:14 6 the other islands. Because we have so much money out there,
16:38:19 7 the government brought the foreigners, come here, make their
16:38:23 8 laws, take our money. Send our prisoners out there in
16:38:27 9 somebody else's backyard, and that is sad. You know what, as
16:38:33 10 we speak, a year ago prisoners to 100 in Arizona, it's
16:38:38 11 happening, and the next step we're bringing them home. The
16:38:41 12 ones who don't belong here, we're shipping them.

16:38:44 13 Because, I believe, myself. And it's sad, I
16:38:47 14 see it's sad. Look at you guys. Who are you? Look us, too.
16:38:55 15 I love each and every one. Look around, different
16:38:59 16 nationalities.

16:39:00 17 Mr. Burgess, I remember you. You remember
16:39:02 18 me.

16:39:03 19 MEMBER BURGESS: I do.

16:39:04 20 MR. RIVERA: Amen. And what we share, I'm
16:39:07 21 still coming with the truth. You know for you guys work up
16:39:11 22 there with the government, find you guys self, find the
16:39:15 23 truth. Let's all make it right. That's all we ask. Make
16:39:18 24 the wrong right. Enough is enough.

16:39:21 25 You know, we bring all these kinds of talks

16:39:24 1 to the board or to wherever, you know where these papers go?
16:39:30 2 Back home in the trash can. We had a talk, some groups come
16:39:35 3 over here 9:30 in the morning with a handful of kupunas, just
16:39:39 4 a little.

16:39:40 5 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Rivera, I have to ask --

16:39:42 6 MR. RIVERA: That is so. And then say,
16:39:46 7 Well -- They go back to Oahu and say, "We talk to the people
16:39:50 8 in Maui, but they only had a handful." They came down to my
16:39:54 9 house two weeks ago, bust down my (inaudible) because I got
16:39:59 10 all my paperwork, everything, they broke everything that I
16:40:01 11 own, my five storage rooms that I keep and destroyed them
16:40:03 12 all. It's sad. I got my video coming out.

16:40:06 13 And, please, let's all work together with the
16:40:09 14 truth. I love you guys. Mahalo.

16:40:12 15 (Applause.)

16:40:12 16 MEMBER BURGESS: Aloha.

16:40:16 17 Okay. Ernest Hu Sing.

16:40:23 18 MR. SING: Good afternoon, everyone. Aloha,
16:40:31 19 everyone. My name is Ernest Hu Sing. I'm a lessee of DHHL.

16:40:39 20 There's several questions and that's really
16:40:41 21 why I came here. And I mistakenly signed that, but I'm glad
16:40:45 22 I did. No more. OHA, they have so much money. DHHL needs
16:40:56 23 the money. The seeds can't get on the land. And this Akaka
16:41:04 24 Bill, to me, is divisive. That's my point. I have heard the
16:41:10 25 rest of the testimony.

16:41:11 1 Number one, my question is to you, the board:
16:41:15 2 Why was this made to be pushed? To me, it was pushed too
16:41:21 3 much, too much in advancement. Maybe I'm not involved enough
16:41:26 4 to know what the Akaka Bill was. I came here to listen.

16:41:30 5 Number two: If Akaka Bill is accepted, what
16:41:33 6 does the lessee have? This weekend SCHHA, State Council of
16:41:42 7 Hawaiian Homelands, they change their name and, opio, listen
16:41:46 8 to this, to Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homelands. I have
16:41:50 9 a problem with that because I see sovereignty as one issue
16:41:56 10 that belong somewhere else. DHHL should come through with --
16:42:01 11 There are problems with DHHL.

16:42:03 12 Anyhow, if the Akaka Bill gets passed, do I
16:42:10 13 as a lessee have more problems with my Hawaiian Homelands?
16:42:17 14 Maybe some of you already here knows the answer to that and
16:42:20 15 that's why you either voted against or for.

16:42:25 16 Thirdly, I have a big concern about opio, the
16:42:29 17 children, with how they're going to be 20 years from now. I
16:42:33 18 waited twenty-something years for my time to come. I finally
16:42:39 19 got it. Now I'm faced with these issues, issues that I
16:42:43 20 didn't think was going to be a concern of mine, but now it
16:42:45 21 is. Because if I'm not there, where are the opio going to
16:42:52 22 be? Where are they gone?

16:42:54 23 These are the things I want to address to
16:43:00 24 you. Hopefully I can bring my point across to why I feel
16:43:06 25 this way. And like I said, I wasn't expecting this, but

16:43:11 1 these are the things that I wanted to report. Number one,
16:43:13 2 where does the Akaka Bill put DHHL if it is passed or not
16:43:21 3 passed? Number two, what does the Hawaiian Homelands to be
16:43:24 4 faced with on the issues? Can you answer those questions for
16:43:27 5 me?

16:43:27 6 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Sing, let me ask, am I
16:43:29 7 right in understanding you're a Hawaiian Homestead lessee
16:43:33 8 now?

16:43:33 9 MR. SING: That's correct.

16:43:34 10 MEMBER BURGESS: The effect of the Akaka Bill
16:43:37 11 if it should pass.

16:43:39 12 MR. SING: That's correct.

16:43:40 13 MEMBER BURGESS: I think that's a very good
16:43:42 14 question, because the Akaka Bill contemplates, I believe,
16:43:47 15 that the Hawaiian Homelands, the 200,000 acres --

16:43:53 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you use the
16:43:56 17 microphone? Repeat what you said.

16:43:58 18 MEMBER BURGESS: I'm sorry. I think your
16:43:59 19 question, Mr. Sing, is a good one, because it's not certain
16:44:04 20 what effect the Akaka Bill would have on Hawaiian Homestead
16:44:08 21 lessees. The assumption seems to be that the entire 200,000
16:44:15 22 acres, which would include all of the Homestead lessees that
16:44:20 23 are now outstanding, would go to the new government, if it's
16:44:25 24 formed. And it almost seems to be assumed that that land
16:44:31 25 would then be owned or controlled by people regardless of

16:44:37 1 blood quantity. And I don't know how -- I don't know how
16:44:41 2 that would work out because those lands are set aside for
16:44:46 3 Native Hawaiians, 50 percent or more, but the Akaka Bill
16:44:51 4 gives anyone with one drop authority. So it's a good
16:44:56 5 question you ask and I think it's a question that should be
16:44:59 6 asked of the Akaka Bill promoters.

16:45:03 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're protected by
16:45:05 8 the act right now, Mr. Hu Sing.

16:45:07 9 MEMBER BURGESS: I'm sorry.

16:45:08 10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're protected by
16:45:10 11 the act right now, Mr. Hu Sing.

16:45:12 12 MEMBER BURGESS: That's correct. The act
16:45:15 13 sets -- puts the land in trust for Native Hawaiians not less
16:45:20 14 than one half.

16:45:22 15 MR. SING: That's a good answer to my
16:45:24 16 question, but what prevents any more bills to be passed that
16:45:29 17 says let's do away with the 1920 Hawaiian Homelands Act?

16:45:35 18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Don't anticipate and
16:45:36 19 get wrong answers.

16:45:37 20 MS. HAN: Especially from him.

16:45:40 21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's only an
16:45:43 22 assumption.

16:45:45 23 MR. SING: At least I'll be satisfied when I
16:45:47 24 leave here.

16:45:47 25 (Multiple speakers at the same time.)

16:45:47 1 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Mr. Sing, your time
16:45:49 2 is about up, but let me just answer that question. You know,
16:45:53 3 you say that I'm a Hawaiian hater --

16:45:56 4 MS. HAN: Right.

16:45:57 5 MEMBER BURGESS: Let me -- Let me say to
16:46:01 6 everybody here that that it's true that I have filed a
16:46:05 7 lawsuits, there's none pending right now, but I do oppose the
16:46:10 8 continuation of Hawaiian Homestead Lands and I do oppose the
16:46:15 9 continuation of OHA. But I do not and would never
16:46:23 10 contemplate evicting existing homesteaders. I proposed in
16:46:30 11 the lawsuits that I have filed in the past and in the future
16:46:34 12 I -- Let me just explain this. Okay? Just hear me out and
16:46:39 13 then --

16:46:39 14 MEMBER SULLIVAN: Point of order. I mean,
16:46:41 15 this is really about hearing the community and not from the
16:46:43 16 panel at this point. In terms of the personal --

17 (Multiple speakers at the same time.)

16:46:46 18 MEMBER SULLIVAN: I'm sorry.

16:46:47 19 MEMBER BURGESS: I just want to explain this
16:46:50 20 point.

16:46:53 21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The issue is a very
16:46:56 22 broad issue. I mean, I'm dead serious about the issue. You
16:46:57 23 know why? Because a lot of this stuff is based on only one
16:47:00 24 little language. I don't think so.

16:47:01 25 MEMBER FUJIMORI: I realize that, but you

16:47:04 1 know, I'm just aware that Mr. Burgess is going on about his
16:47:08 2 personal opinions. And I think right now we're trying to get
16:47:11 3 information -- And I will say -- I mean, I know I've been
16:47:13 4 late to this meeting. My name Michelle Nolani Fujimori.
16:47:19 5 I've been sitting on this panel for the last -- This is my
16:47:25 6 second appointment to the panel. I was chair two years
16:47:31 7 prior.

16:47:21 8 I'm not sure if it was explained earlier and
16:47:24 9 I apologize for being late because I had to fly in from Hilo,
16:47:27 10 but just for the group to understand, this agenda on the --
16:47:31 11 on talking about the Native Hawaiian Recognition Bill was put
16:47:34 12 on to the committee and it was not the committee's decision
16:47:37 13 initially to have these hearings at such a rush time. I want
16:47:41 14 everybody to understand that, that it wasn't the committee,
16:47:44 15 that the committee did vote to continue these hearings
16:47:47 16 because the DC office has started to push this. And we're
16:47:51 17 here because we're here to listen.

16:47:53 18 And I -- you know, I feel bad for -- I mean,
16:47:55 19 I thank you for all being here, but I do want to put the
16:47:58 20 point of order that that did happen for a lot of us that have
16:48:02 21 been involved with the commission -- the committee
16:48:04 22 previously.

16:48:05 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just that more direct
16:48:07 24 input with OHA so that they can disseminate it out into the
16:48:10 25 general public where the Kanakas live which the issue has to

16:48:16 1 be addressed. Because this rush issue is only on the table
16:48:23 2 because --

16:48:23 3 (Multiple speakers at the same time.)

16:48:23 4 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen.
16:48:26 5 Mr. Maxwell, please.

16:48:29 6 MR. MAXWELL: It's only assumption on your
16:48:30 7 part.

16:48:31 8 MEMBER BURGESS: I'm just saying -- Okay.
16:48:32 9 We'll go ahead. We want to hear as much as we can from
16:48:36 10 people. We're here to listen.

16:48:38 11 Mr. Sing, you brought up a question. I tried
16:48:40 12 to answer it. If you want me to answer it, I will, but,
16:48:44 13 otherwise, let's go on to the next --

16:48:45 14 MR. SING: Thank you because of the
16:48:47 15 controversy, but I appreciate your attempt. That concludes
16:48:51 16 my statement. I've gone over. Thank you very much.

16:48:55 17 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you, sir.

16:48:56 18 (Applause.)

19 (Multiple speakers at once.)

16:49:05 20 MEMBER BURGESS: I'm sorry, Ms. Fujimori, I
16:49:07 21 didn't recognize you. I don't think we've met.

22 MEMBER FUJIMORI: We haven't.

16:49:09 23 MEMBER BURGESS: Yeah, I would have
16:49:10 24 recognized you and glad to have you here with us.

16:49:12 25 MEMBER FUJIMORI: I'm sorry, we haven't

16:49:14 1 because this committee has just come together. Just for
16:49:16 2 everybody to know, we only had our first meeting on August
16:49:20 3 15th. It was a conference call. Meetings have been rushed
16:49:23 4 for us. We were asked to give up time in our schedules to
16:49:26 5 come and do these hearings. We're here because it's
16:49:28 6 important to hear from everybody, but I just do want to let
16:49:32 7 everybody know that I think other members of the panel would
16:49:34 8 like to be here, but we were told pretty immediately that
16:49:36 9 these hearings would be held and a lot of us had to drop or
16:49:38 10 change our schedules to come here and be here to listen to
16:49:50 11 people. So I do apologize for those that really did want to
16:49:50 12 attend, but, you know, weren't given proper notice for these
16:49:50 13 hearings, even the committee members.

16:49:50 14 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. The committee did
16:49:51 15 have a vote and this is our decision to having -- holding
16:49:55 16 this hearing. And we are happy to hear from you. And now
16:49:59 17 the next speaker we'll go from is Jack Hobbs or Jake Hobbs.
16:50:08 18 I'm sorry. Mr. Hobbs.

16:50:08 19 MR. HOBBS: Aloha, everyone. It is actually
16:50:16 20 physically impossible to have less Hawaiian blood, Koko, than
16:50:20 21 I have, but -- And you might think that because of that, that
16:50:24 22 I am might be for something that would reduce the incredible
16:50:29 23 tradition, the incredible history, the national sovereignty
16:50:33 24 of the Hawaiian people to tribal status. Because, what a
16:50:39 25 brilliant thing, we're going to take a nation that had, what,

16:50:41 1 ambassadors to 66 countries; 12 treaties with other nations;
16:50:47 2 six treaties, I believe, with the United States; had, you
16:50:52 3 know, a national capital that was electrified; had
16:50:56 4 telephones; had an elevator at a time when no other national
16:51:00 5 capital had that. Had a marshal system; had a legislature;
16:51:03 6 had an incredible constitution they had signed on to law of
16:51:07 7 nations, as had the United States, which, of course, dictates
16:51:11 8 that you're going to uphold the sovereignty of other nations,
16:51:17 9 which the United States, of course, has not done.

16:51:20 10 The United States, of course, its proud
16:51:22 11 tradition is of abusing the sovereign credentials of other
16:51:26 12 nations. That's the tradition. I come from that tradition.
16:51:30 13 But, you know what, there are reasons why individuals like
16:51:33 14 myself, who have nothing personal at stake, who maybe would
16:51:37 15 like to see this swept under the rug, have another hundred
16:51:41 16 years of obfuscation, of --

16:51:45 17 And Mr. Burgess has a point because this is
16:51:47 18 going to just further confuse the whole situation. You think
16:51:51 19 this is going to make it clearer for the Hawaiian people?
16:51:54 20 It's going to make it less clear. There's going to be
16:51:56 21 problems on top of problems. And that's what the Akaka Bill
16:52:00 22 is going to be really good at. It's just going to make
16:52:01 23 another hundred years of Hawaiian people not getting justice.
16:52:05 24 More injustice piled on to injustice.

16:52:07 25 The United States is great at this. We're

16:52:09 1 masters of it. And I want to remind you that we invaded
16:52:15 2 Kuwait and put them back in power. That was a royal family.
16:52:17 3 That wasn't a democracy. That wasn't a former nation that
16:52:19 4 had a legislature. That was a royal family. We put them
16:52:22 5 back in power. Why? Because of money.

16:52:24 6 Why do we pay one dollar per year for Pearl
16:52:28 7 Harbor? That's what the United States pays. Because it's a
16:52:33 8 great deal. It's a great deal to keep the Hawaiian people
16:52:36 9 down. Confuse the issue. It's a great deal. It's money,
16:52:40 10 folks. And, you know, yes, you have great resources, the
16:52:43 11 Hawaiian people have great resources. They've been
16:52:45 12 essentially removed from those resources for 114 years.
16:52:49 13 Let's not make it another generation. OHA has failed. OHA
16:52:54 14 has failed its mission, its original mission. OHA has failed
16:52:56 15 the Hawaiian people. There are other options than OHA. And
16:52:58 16 I agree with Mr. Burgess that OHA should disband itself.

16:53:04 17 (Applause.)

16:53:04 18 MR. HOBBS: The Hawaiian nation has a
16:53:07 19 beautiful future, but it's not as a tribe. It's not as an
16:53:12 20 indigenous people. Forget the tribal status thing, folks.
16:53:17 21 It was never a tribe, never will be a tribe. It's past time
16:53:21 22 to stand up again. And, you know, I'm not the person to say
16:53:23 23 this, there's far better speakers than me to say this, but I
16:53:26 24 know this is true that the Hawaiian people now can take back
16:53:29 25 the nation. No, not the hub caps.

1 (Applause.)

16:53:32 2 MR. HOBBS: Listen, the person who stole the
16:53:34 3 car from Hawaii has admitted that they stole the car. And
16:53:38 4 now they're saying, "Okay, listen, I feel bad about stealing
16:53:41 5 the car, so what the hub caps? What about the wheels? Can I
16:53:45 6 give you the hub caps back? What about the wheels? I'll
16:53:47 7 give you the wheels?" You know, feel good about that; right?
16:53:51 8 "I like the car. I don't want to give the car back. I like
16:53:53 9 it. I stole it, but I like it."

16:53:55 10 Come on, folks. It's time for the Hawaiian
16:53:57 11 people to get the Hawaii back. It's time. Yes, thank you.

16:54:02 12 (Applause.)

16:54:15 13 MEMBER BURGESS: Now we have Ohua Morando.
16:54:27 14 Sorry.

16:54:27 15 MS. MORANDO: (Hawaiian Chant.)

16:55:24 16 My name is Ohua Morando, O-H-U-A,
16:55:29 17 M-O-R-A-N-D-O.

16:55:30 18 And that oli was done because of everybody
16:55:34 19 who is here giving testimony. It's a prayer that says just
16:55:40 20 listen, listen to what is being said, the manao. We have
16:55:45 21 different views and I ask that you listen to every single one
16:55:50 22 and they are to be respected.

16:55:53 23 I stand here and it's with heavy heart and
16:55:59 24 yet with a proud heart. I work and I kind of represent Na
16:56:06 25 Pua No'eu, the Center for Native Hawaiian Children. And I

16:56:12 1 currently represent Maui. And it's a cultural-based
16:56:19 2 education program. And I'd like to say that Na Pua No'eau
16:56:30 3 supports the Akaka Bill and for these reasons:

16:56:33 4 The mission of Na Pua No'eau was designed to
16:56:37 5 provide educational programs to build strong connections for
16:56:41 6 our Hawaiian students in learning language and the culture
16:56:44 7 and endeavoring them to higher education aspirations and
16:56:48 8 achievements. It is research-based curriculum models that is
16:56:53 9 designed to optimize learning for Hawaiian students. It
16:56:57 10 builds on the assets of the students, provides activities in
16:57:01 11 learning environment, promotes hands-on experiences and
16:57:05 12 within a Hawaiian context. Students have also stated that
16:57:10 13 participating in Na Pua No'eau gives them a stronger sense of
16:57:13 14 their identity as, we can say, Hawaiian, Kanaka Maoli,
16:57:22 15 (Hawaiian).

16:57:22 16 We are currently funded under United States
16:57:24 17 Department of Education through the Native Hawaiian Education
16:57:27 18 Act and Office of Hawaiian Affairs. It is essential for
16:57:32 19 these programs to continue as currently this model succeeds
16:57:37 20 and a successful practice designed for Hawaiians do not exist
16:57:42 21 in our public education. Although the Akaka Bill recognizes
16:57:46 22 the inherent right of all people how to respect to educate in
16:57:50 23 the context of their own culture, history and language and
16:57:52 24 being taught using this practice to optimize the learning and
16:57:56 25 potential.

16:57:57 1 You know, as Mr. Gouveia said previously:
16:58:01 2 You take away these programs, you unite us. And so as Na Pua
16:58:12 3 No'eau, I do and I think Na Pua No'eau do support this Akaka
16:58:19 4 Bill. As a Kanaka Maoli, Native Hawaiian, (Hawaiian), I
16:58:27 5 stand here before you for myself and my family and I say, Why
16:58:36 6 do you decide? We decide. Thank you.

16:58:45 7 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you.

16:58:45 8 (Applause.)

16:58:48 9 MEMBER BURGESS: I think we all need to take
16:58:54 10 about a ten-minute break, so let's try and be back -- It's
16:58:58 11 now 5 o'clock by my watch. Let's try by say five, say ten
16:59:06 12 after 5:00.

16:59:11 13 (Pause in Proceedings: 4:49-5:10)

17:10:33 14 MEMBER BURGESS: May I have your attention.
17:10:38 15 Aloha, everyone. Let's have the next speaker now.

17:10:48 16 The court reporter has asked me to remind
17:10:52 17 everyone that speaks to please state your name and spell it
17:11:03 18 for her.

17:11:03 19 And our next speaker is Joe Kealoha. Joe
17:11:13 20 Kealoha. There he is. He's coming down.

17:11:19 21 MR. KEALOHA: Ladies and gentlemen, aloha.
17:11:29 22 Ruby. You know, I have three minutes, so I'm going to kind
17:11:34 23 of focus the purpose of my remarks on this article that
17:11:37 24 appeared in "The Advertiser" about this Clegg, a member of
17:11:41 25 the Advisory -- Is he here today?

17:11:44 1 MEMBER BURGESS: No, he's not a member. He
17:11:47 2 was one of the presenters. He and Mark Bennett, the attorney
17:11:50 3 general, spoke and briefed us.

17:11:52 4 MR. KEALOHA: Who do you mean, "presenters"?

17:11:56 5 MEMBER BURGESS: Well, he presents testimony
17:11:58 6 to us.

17:11:59 7 MR. KEALOHA: He's a member of the committee.

17:12:01 8 MEMBER BURGESS: He's not a member of the
17:12:03 9 committee. He was an expert. Just like Mark Bennett is an
17:12:07 10 expert on the law, Clegg is an expert on civil rights issues.
17:12:11 11 So they came and talked to us and after that we had the
17:12:14 12 public input at the same meeting on Monday.

17:12:18 13 MR. KEALOHA: Basically he opposed Akaka.

17:12:22 14 MEMBER BURGESS: He opposed and Bennett was
17:12:24 15 for it.

17:12:24 16 MR. KEALOHA: Okay. Having said those
17:12:26 17 remarks, my name is Joe Kealoha and I'm a Maui resident. I'm
17:12:32 18 in favor of the Akaka Bill. As a young college student 1959
17:12:38 19 classes were let out that afternoon because earlier that day
17:12:40 20 statehood was granted. And there was plenty of joy, screams,
17:12:45 21 smiles and pumping in the air of clenched fists. Being 19
17:12:52 22 years old and without any knowledge of Hawaii's past, I
17:12:55 23 accepted at face value and embraced the United States with
17:13:01 24 humility and awe.

17:13:06 25 Fast forward to 1980. I was elected to the

17:13:08 1 first Board of Trustees for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
17:13:13 2 and in preparation for my political campaign, I studied about
17:13:17 3 the overthrow of Queen Lili'uokalani and historical events
17:13:23 4 that occurred up to statehood and more. It was devastating
17:13:26 5 what happened to the Hawaiian people. At every step the US
17:13:30 6 government agent supported those that sought to diminish the
17:13:35 7 Hawaiian nation. I ask you, was this preferential treatment
17:13:41 8 given to the perpetrators?

17:13:45 9 Today those that speak in support of the
17:13:49 10 Akaka Bill do so under a cloud, a cloud of racism put there
17:13:57 11 by opponents of the bill as Hawaiians seeking preferential
17:14:03 12 treatment, being racial. Hawaiians are victims of
17:14:11 13 circumstance and of history. Yes, I am confused, but realize
17:14:15 14 that this is a political strategy used by them.

17:14:18 15 Notwithstanding, except members of this
17:14:23 16 panel, Mrs. Johnson, who is a Native Hawaiian, members of
17:14:28 17 your committee by virtue of your nationality, our native sons
17:14:35 18 and daughters of your misinformation. To put it bluntly, if
17:14:41 19 you have Italian blood, you are a descendent of Italy and so
17:14:46 20 on. You know what I mean. We are Hawaiians and are also the
17:14:51 21 first descendents of Hawaii, no question. Today, however, we
17:14:58 22 are in the midst of convincing opponents of the Akaka Bill
17:15:03 23 that we are truly bona fide Native Hawaiian. Bury that
17:15:10 24 preferential treatment forever.

17:15:14 25 Mahalo. Thank you.

17:15:16 1 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you, Mr. Kealoha.

17:15:21 2 William King.

17:15:24 3 MR. KING: Chairman, Members of the
17:15:36 4 Committee, and Members of the Audience, aloha to one and all.
17:15:40 5 My name is William King, W-I-L-L-I-A-M, K-I-N-G.

17:15:46 6 I probably have less Hawaiian blood than
17:15:49 7 anyone here, but I am part Hawaiian. My great, great, great,
17:15:53 8 great grandfather was Chief of Koolaupoko, which is where --
17:15:58 9 near Kaneohe. I've got a lot of other great, great, great
17:16:02 10 great grandfathers who were Scottish, French, American
17:16:09 11 Indian, chop sui. I'm a regular guy. I've been a carpenter
17:16:14 12 and contractor for about four years. I'm not a lawyer. I'm
17:16:17 13 not a chief, I'm more an Indian.

17:16:20 14 But I tried to follow the Akaka Bill when I
17:16:23 15 first started reading about it and I have noticed that I
17:16:27 16 guess as a result of political expediency the bill has
17:16:31 17 undergone some changes and revisions perhaps to make it more
17:16:37 18 palatable to the powers that be, perhaps to actually address
17:16:43 19 the necessary issues of social injustice and social need.

17:16:47 20 So like some of you in the committee, my
17:16:51 21 opinion is not -- it hasn't really crystallized, I'm not sure
17:16:56 22 if I'm for it or against it, but I know -- In addition to
17:17:00 23 having my great, great, great grandfather, my great-uncle,
17:17:06 24 the late Samuel Wilder King, gave me a little insight into
17:17:12 25 both the history of Hawaii as well as the history of the

17:17:15 1 United States. And my cousin, Nahini King, is a professor of
17:17:21 2 history at University of Hawaii.

17:17:23 3 That doesn't make me a historian, but I do
17:17:25 4 know that, you know, that the land that I grew up in, this
17:17:32 5 beautiful land of Hawaii, it always -- within my memory, it's
17:17:38 6 been multiethnic. And even during the time of the kingdom,
17:17:42 7 the kingdom was multiethnic. It wasn't just Native
17:17:47 8 Hawaiians. At the time of the overthrow or at the last
17:17:50 9 census prior to the overthrow, around 1890, approximately 15
17:17:55 10 percent of the population was naturalized. They were
17:17:58 11 Hawaiian according to royal decree. Kalakaua decreed that
17:18:06 12 naturalized citizens of the kingdom had every power and right
17:18:09 13 afforded to native born. So if, indeed, there was a crime,
17:18:13 14 if, indeed, the land was stolen at the time of the overthrow,
17:18:18 15 it wasn't just stolen from the Kanaka Maoli, it was stolen
17:18:22 16 from all the bona fide citizens of the land.

17:18:25 17 And so I guess I don't want to ramble on and
17:18:28 18 on, but I can say that I would be much more inclined to favor
17:18:33 19 the Akaka Bill if it included the descendents of those
17:18:37 20 naturalized citizens. And while we're at it, why not just
17:18:42 21 apply the same rule that Kalakaua did during his reign that
17:18:48 22 anyone who lived here five years and showed good moral fiber
17:18:51 23 and interest in the culture could be naturalized, which is
17:18:56 24 done in pretty much every other civilized nation in the
17:18:59 25 world.

17:19:00 1 So I will close with that, that I look
17:19:05 2 forward to the day when we are -- I mean, there is so much
17:19:09 3 passion in this room right now, we can all feel it, I'm sure.
17:19:12 4 Just -- You walk outside, breath the air, and you come in
17:19:16 5 here and it's just -- we're vibrating with the passion that
17:19:19 6 we feel and lots of different opinions. But I look forward
17:19:23 7 to the day when we can really address the issues, the social
17:19:27 8 ills, education, health, the disproportionate number of
17:19:33 9 Native Hawaiians in prison, the people living on the beach.
17:19:38 10 But I really think that we need to open our arms and come
17:19:43 11 together as a people, not just based upon blood quantum. You
17:19:49 12 know, my one thirty-second Hawaiian wouldn't get me very far,
17:19:54 13 but my kid one sixty-fourth got into Kamehameha Schools, so
17:19:59 14 go figure.

17:20:00 15 Thank you very much for listening to me.

17:20:02 16 Aloha.

17:20:03 17 MEMBER BURGESS: Price Mendes.

17:20:11 18 MR. MENDES: I thought it was a sign-in
17:20:13 19 sheet.

17:20:14 20 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Pass? Okay.

17:20:16 21 Victor Kos- --

17:20:22 22 MR. KOSATSCKOW: I yield my position on the
17:20:25 23 list to my -- Mr. Naliko Kahoali'i.

17:20:31 24 MR. KAHOALI'I: Aloha. My name is Naliko
25 Kahoali'i.

17:20:37 1 MEMBER BURGESS: Actually, I think -- Oh, we
17:20:38 2 have -- Oh, I'm sorry.

3 MR. KOSATSKOW: We just swapped.

17:20:41 4 MEMBER BURGESS: Lehua -- Oh, I'm sorry.
17:20:41 5 Robin, oh, Newhouse, yeah.

17:20:48 6 MR. KOSATSKOW: Naliko Kahoali'i.

17:20:51 7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, he actually
17:20:53 8 wanted to swap places with this gentleman.

17:20:57 9 MR. KOSATSKOW: Yeah. I yield my position.

17:20:57 10 MEMBER BURGESS: I see. All right. Come and
17:20:59 11 please state your name again and spell it, if you would, for
17:21:01 12 us.

17:21:02 13 MR. KAHOALI'I: My name is Naliko Kahoali'i,
17:21:06 14 N-A-L-I-K-O, K-A-H-O-A-L-I okina I.

17:21:19 15 Aloha.

17:21:24 16 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

17:21:25 17 MR. KAHOALI'I: I thank the Akua for this
17:21:33 18 opportunity to address this commission. Unfortunately for
17:21:36 19 me, I believe it's business as usual for United States of
17:21:39 20 America. If you consider this thing so important, you would
17:21:44 21 contribute time and effort and dollars to it. But as usual,
17:21:51 22 it's not the case, is it? It's like, again, business as
17:21:58 23 usual. The Hawaiians don't amount to much in a lot of
17:22:01 24 people's eyes.

17:22:02 25 What we have today in our testimonies and the

17:22:06 1 disagreements regarding the Akaka Bill is a result of
17:22:13 2 identity theft. Identity theft is a catchword, catchphrase
17:22:21 3 today for your credit, your buying power, but the Hawaiians
17:22:25 4 are victims of one of the grandest cases of identity theft in
17:22:32 5 the world. And it's been stolen by a foreign country to be
17:22:37 6 utilized for its own economic gain. Anything that is
17:22:42 7 Hawaiian, was Hawaiian is for sale.

17:22:51 8 I want you to think about the term, "The
17:22:56 9 Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act." And I want
17:23:01 10 you to think about who has the right to reorganize a Native
17:23:07 11 Hawaiian government. I want you to think about what Native
17:23:12 12 Hawaiian government is so threatening to the United States
17:23:15 13 that it feels it has to be reorganized. I ask where in the
17:23:21 14 world would the reorganization of a Native Hawaiian
17:23:25 15 government take place? Perhaps in our own archipelago.
17:23:31 16 Perhaps by our own people.

17:23:37 17 The Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization
17:23:39 18 Act is United States raced-based legislature. I don't
17:23:44 19 disagree with that. For the longest time I was a proud
17:23:48 20 American. God bless America. The United States has taken
17:23:52 21 114 years plus of reeducating our people to be good Americans
17:23:58 22 and not good Hawaiians. I was raised and told you're not
17:24:04 23 Hawaiian, you're American. Isn't that the erasure of an
17:24:12 24 identity? Isn't that almost tantamount to genocide?

17:24:18 25 Why wouldn't I want to be a proud Hawaiian?

17:24:21 1 Why wouldn't I want to be able to speak my own language in my
17:24:24 2 own land base? Is that something that we Hawaiians don't
17:24:28 3 deserve because we're somewhat less than human? Don't
17:24:31 4 Italian Americans have a right to go visit Italy, the land of
17:24:37 5 their great grandparents, their motherland, their fatherland
17:24:39 6 and be proud of where their great grandparents came from?
17:24:44 7 Don't the Japanese citizens of Hawaii have a pride in their
17:24:48 8 ancestry to go back to the Japan to the provinces and
17:24:54 9 prefectures that their ancestors came from to hear the
17:24:57 10 language and see the graves? Why are we Hawaiians less human
17:25:02 11 than anybody else that we don't deserve our own motherland?

17:25:06 12 Is it right according to international law
17:25:10 13 for a larger, more powerful country to take a weak and
17:25:16 14 defenseless treaty partner and violate international law and
17:25:22 15 their own constitution by imposing by the point of a gun
17:25:28 16 their rule and their government style and their own practices
17:25:33 17 upon my ancestors whose only guilty act was to say, "Welcome.
17:25:38 18 Come inside. Let us feed you. Let us make you part of our
17:25:41 19 family"?

17:25:42 20 And for that kindness, that kindness, our
17:25:46 21 guests steal the only thing that was of value to our kupunas:
17:25:52 22 Their aina, their ocean, their lands, their ability to feed
17:25:57 23 themselves, their identity as Hawaiians. That's all they
17:26:03 24 were guilty of, love and hospitality, which is now a prison.
17:26:09 25 They don't have their own island to live on. They don't have

17:26:13 1 to work, they can raise it and grow it, but the American
17:26:18 2 system forces them to do it or be homeless. Are you
17:26:23 3 Americans proud of it?

17:26:25 4 The Germans exterminated six million Jews in
17:26:28 5 World War II and because of international law their nation
17:26:32 6 was restored. The Japanese attacked the Chinese and killed
17:26:38 7 at least a million Chinese and yet after the war was over,
17:26:42 8 their nation was restored. Hawaiians were guilty of loving
17:26:46 9 everyone and adopting people into their government and into
17:26:50 10 their homes, and the United States cannot restore our nation.

17:26:55 11 For you out there that ask for these
17:26:58 12 entitlements, these entitlements are blood money. These are
17:27:03 13 opiates telling you: We have committed a crime against you,
17:27:07 14 we have stolen from you, we have raped your country, but
17:27:10 15 we're going to give you these entitlements to help you feel
17:27:14 16 better. Don't you see that they have you addicted?

17:27:18 17 The Hawaiian Homes Program is American
17:27:22 18 race-based legislature. The funding for all of your programs
17:27:26 19 is American legislative funding programs. Don't you feel
17:27:29 20 that your own government would help you fund your programs as
17:27:32 21 national programs?

17:27:33 22 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Kahoali'i, please wrap
17:27:37 23 up.

17:27:37 24 MR. KAHOALI'I: That's fine.

17:27:38 25 I think that leaves this commission as well

17:27:40 1 as this audience with enough thought to understand the
17:27:44 2 deepest feelings of the Hawaiian people. We are human. We
17:27:48 3 have rights. And if this commission is going to treat it the
17:27:52 4 way it should be, you'll understand the depth of our sadness.
17:27:58 5 Mahalo.

6 (Applause.)

17:28:01 7 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you.

17:28:02 8 Let's see. Victor Kosatsckow. Did we --

17:28:14 9 MR. KOSATSCKOW: I just yielded my position
17:28:16 10 to Naliko.

17:28:18 11 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, okay. I'll just cross
17:28:19 12 your name off.

17:28:20 13 MR. KOSATSCKOW: When he comes up, I'll take
17:28:22 14 his position.

17:28:23 15 MEMBER BURGESS: Okay. Thank you.

17:28:25 16 And then Robin Newhouse.

17:28:28 17 MS. NEWHOUSE: Aloha, Mr. Chair and
17:28:32 18 Committee. Aloha, Kanaka Maoli. Aloha, Members of the
17:28:36 19 Audience.

20 AUDIENCE: Aloha.

17:28:36 21 MEMBER BURGESS: Spell your name.

17:28:37 22 MS. NEWHOUSE: My name is Robin Newhouse,
17:28:39 23 R-O-B-I-N, N-E-W-H-O-U-S-E. I actually came and just signed
17:28:46 24 in and thought it was a sign-in sheet, but I'm glad I came
17:28:50 25 in. And I'm listening and I'm hearing and there is heavy

17:28:55 1 heart in this room. Actually, there's a heavy heart in
17:28:58 2 Hawaii. The Kanaka Maoli have been betrayed. The Kanaka
17:29:04 3 Maoli are lost. And the only thing we have is our dignity
17:29:09 4 and that is trying to be stripped from us, technically.

17:29:13 5 I came here thinking we need this Akaka bill.
17:29:19 6 We need this. Because why? We need to be recognized, but
17:29:26 7 that should be a totally different thing. The Akaka Bill to
17:29:31 8 me now how I am sensing all of this mana that I'm absorbing
17:29:38 9 is not a good thing.

17:29:40 10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's right.

17:29:43 11 MS. NEWHOUSE: I feel it's not a good thing.
17:29:46 12 So I'm not going to do this as the president of my
17:29:48 13 association for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands in
17:29:49 14 Keokea. I'm going to do this as myself, the Kanaka Maoli,
17:29:55 15 who I am. My mama was pure Kanaka Maoli and I love her for
17:30:00 16 giving me what I have. I love her. I love all my kupuna. I
17:30:05 17 love you, Aunty. I love all my neighbors.

17:30:09 18 The keiki here are what we should be raising
17:30:13 19 to do what is right for Hawaiians. (Hawaiian - "Kalumai")
17:30:21 20 Kanaka Maoli. We have to remember Hawaii. We became
17:30:24 21 Hawaiians. We are Kanaka Maoli who live in Hawaii. You have
17:30:32 22 to remember that. Okay? I just wanted to share my manao
17:30:35 23 with you and just from listening to our keakea and actually
17:30:41 24 hearing what is going on, I have actually changed my mind on
17:30:45 25 how I was going to vote for it and I want to say I oppose it.

17:30:49 1 Mahalo for your time.

17:30:51 2 (Applause.)

17:30:51 3 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you.

17:30:52 4 Lehua --

17:31:01 5 MS. CLUBB: Clubb.

17:31:02 6 MEMBER BURGESS: Clubb.

17:31:02 7 MS. CLUBB: Aloha. My name Lehua Clubb. I

17:31:09 8 was president of Waiako One from 1987 until 2005.

17:31:18 9 MEMBER BURGESS: Lehua, would you spell your

17:31:19 10 last name for us, please.

17:31:21 11 MS. CLUBB: C-L-U-B-B. Like golf club with

17:31:26 12 two B's.

17:31:27 13 MEMBER BURGESS: Thank you very much.

17:31:28 14 MS. CLUBB: I'd like to say there are no

17:31:29 15 gated properties in Makena. Anyone can go swimming there.

17:31:32 16 No one will ever stop you from going to that beach if I have

17:31:36 17 a say.

17:31:36 18 Opinions are prerogatives. Everyone has your

17:31:41 19 own opinion about anything. It's your right to have. When

17:31:47 20 the Akaka Bill became, I was there with the creation of the

17:31:53 21 Akaka Bill. We only had four pages. Today we probably have

17:31:57 22 20. That's how much confusion went into it.

17:32:01 23 And I support the Akaka Bill. The SCHHA

17:32:07 24 supports the Akaka Bill. That is the Sovereign -- Actually,

17:32:12 25 it's the State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations who

17:32:16 1 just changed their names that Mr. Hu Sing was talking about.

17:32:20 2 The Akaka Bill came out of the apology,

17:32:23 3 that's how it started, when the president apologized. And

17:32:27 4 they said, What can we do for you? And that's how it was --

17:32:31 5 That's how it was created.

17:32:37 6 I'm going to start my letter now. I'm sorry,

17:32:40 7 I was talking off my cuff.

17:32:42 8 My name is Lihue Clubb and I am a tax-paying

17:32:47 9 Hawaiian Homesteader. I support the Akaka Bill because

17:32:49 10 Congress will recognize me as a Hawaiian and a Kanaka Maoli.

17:32:54 11 The State does not want us to receive monies that they have

17:32:57 12 been using and can only pay us back in increments. We lose

17:33:00 13 here and they get it back. It's all about money and land,

17:33:04 14 don't ever forget that, monies and land. That's one good

17:33:08 15 reason why we are still sitting here. We are begging for

17:33:13 16 what is rightfully ours.

17:33:14 17 This group says we discriminate. This group

17:33:20 18 is still fighting to enter all nationalities into a school

17:33:24 19 that our princess left for all that is Hawaiian because she

17:33:29 20 could see what the future was going to be like. She leaves a

17:33:32 21 will and someone from nowhere with contempt and no Hawaiian

17:33:37 22 blood, Mr. Burgess, comes and tells us that we have to share

17:33:41 23 it with a nation that overthrew our queen. And then a prince

17:33:45 24 who had to beg to put us back on our lands of coral, cliffs

17:33:51 25 and rivers, any unfertile land where their sugarcane and

17:33:57 1 could not grow.

17:33:59 2 Congress created the Hawaiian Homelands Act
17:34:02 3 and it is Congress who can take it away. Be careful what you
17:34:06 4 all wish for. The opposition has nothing to lose they are
17:34:09 5 not on the land and they are spoiling our children's chances.
17:34:13 6 The Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homesteaders Association,
17:34:18 7 compromised of 26 homesteads in the state of Hawaii, supports
17:34:21 8 the Akaka Bill and have already worked to have 50-percenters
17:34:26 9 hand their lands down to 25-percenters. What more do you
17:34:30 10 want to give up? The day will come up when one-thirty-second
17:34:37 11 percenters, as the prince asked for, will some day get on
17:34:39 12 your land, our land. We lose they all lose. And it has
17:34:43 13 nothing to do with discrimination.

17:34:45 14 Hawaiians were not brought here against their
17:34:48 15 will. A democratic party dethroned our queen, jailed her,
17:34:53 16 and this is our outcome. For those who oppose this bill, you
17:34:57 17 are in danger of forever giving your children and their
17:34:59 18 children a chance to get back on to our land. Your kingdom
17:35:05 19 may be valid, but not recognized. It's politics. Kuai to
17:35:10 20 whom? Do you know? It's Congress who is trying to help us
17:35:13 21 right now.

17:35:14 22 Prejudice? Look around you and count on one
17:35:17 23 hand where we had a killing because of our prejudices.

17:35:21 24 Remember your purpose. Our land, our money.

17:35:24 25 Mahalo.

17:35:26 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd like to ask Ms.
17:35:35 2 Clubb a question.

17:35:36 3 MEMBER BURGESS: No. We're going to go ahead
17:35:39 4 to the next speaker now and that's --

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you realize that --

6 MEMBER BURGESS: -- Keali'i Mossman.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Any time they like the
17:35:47 8 bill? Does she realize that?

9 MS. CLUBB: Bills can be amended.

17:35:49 10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Does she realize that?

17:35:50 11 MS. CLUBB: I realize that.

17:35:51 12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And then we can be
17:35:51 13 left with nothing at all. Don't be afraid to stand --

17:35:58 14 MEMBER BURGESS: Let's keep order and let Mr.
17:36:01 15 Mossman speak. Go ahead.

17:36:01 16 MR. MOSSMAN: Ladies and Gentlemen of the
17:36:04 17 Committee, aloha. My name is Kealii Mossman, K-E-A-L-I-I;
17:36:09 18 M-O-S-S-M-A-N.

17:36:11 19 I'm here to testify today on behalf of myself
17:36:15 20 and my family in support of the Akaka bill. Although I work
17:36:19 21 as a teacher at Kamehameha Schools Maui campus, my testimony
17:36:23 22 today is not done in any capacity or role as an employee of
17:36:27 23 KS Maui. Also, in the interests of full disclosure, I should
17:36:31 24 state that my father is Boyd Mossman, the OHA trustee for the
17:36:35 25 island of Maui.

17:36:36 1 With that, I would like to note that there
17:36:40 2 are some here who oppose the Akaka Bill, Hawaiians and
17:36:43 3 non-Hawaiians. My testimony today is addressed mainly to the
17:36:48 4 non-Hawaiians and members of the committee who oppose this
17:36:51 5 bill. The opponents of the bill argue that it would -- some
17:36:55 6 opponents of the bill argue that it would create the
17:36:56 7 equivalent of a tribe where none now exists; however,
17:37:00 8 Hawaiians had a government, they had a language, they had a
17:37:02 9 culture, they had aloha and accepted others. What did they
17:37:06 10 get in return? Disease, suppression of their culture and
17:37:10 11 language and the eventual overthrow of their country.

17:37:13 12 If there is no tribe now, it's the result of
17:37:16 13 outside influences and circumstances well beyond the control
17:37:20 14 of Hawaiians who came before me and should not be held
17:37:24 15 against the Hawaiians who now want to reestablish the tribe.
17:37:26 16 Indeed, the title of the bill itself states that it was
17:37:29 17 designed to reorganize that government that previously
17:37:31 18 existed.

17:37:32 19 Other opponents argue that the passage of the
17:37:36 20 Akaka Bill would change Hawaii from a state that is
17:37:39 21 multi-racial and integrated to one that is vulcanized based
17:37:42 22 on race. However, the Akaka Bill would not do such a thing.
17:37:46 23 One simply has to look at our state now to see that Hawaii
17:37:50 24 today is already vulcanized to some extent and integrated to
17:37:53 25 some. Most people like it that way. So much so that people

17:37:56 1 are moving here hand over fist to buy up land and live here.

17:38:01 2 The Akaka Bill will not vulcanize or

17:38:04 3 disintegrate our state in any way. Actually, it would help

17:38:08 4 to preserve Hawaii as it is and Hawaiian programs as they

17:38:11 5 exist now. With the Akaka Bill there is a future that we can

17:38:16 6 envision because it would be similar to what we have now, a

17:38:19 7 bright future with programs like Na Pua No'eau, the Hawaiian

17:38:25 8 Civic Clubs and Kamehameha Schools. Without it, Hawaiians

17:38:28 9 would lose their programs, Kamehameha Schools would be under

17:38:31 10 further attack and Hawaiians would be written out of the

17:38:34 11 books. A bleak future for my children and my students, many

17:38:38 12 of who are here this afternoon.

17:38:39 13 A couple of days ago I read in "The Maui

17:38:43 14 News" about people suing to protect the humpback whales from

17:38:47 15 the superferry. Unfortunately, I never read in the newspaper

17:38:50 16 suing to protect the Hawaiians. The only people suing are

17:38:52 17 those trying to distinguish Hawaiian programs and the

17:38:57 18 Hawaiians themselves. Just this morning I saw a segment on

17:39:01 19 the news about laws protecting the Hawaiian monk seals. Why

17:39:02 20 do they need protection? Because they're indigenous. The

17:39:06 21 only place they're found is here in the Hawaiian archipelago.

17:39:09 22 If their environment is damaged and their families are hurt,

17:39:13 23 they will die. When they die, they will never come back,

17:39:16 24 Hawaiians face exactly that same fate without the Akaka Bill.

17:39:21 25 Extinction, whether it be for monk seals or Hawaiians, is

17:39:24 1 forever.

17:39:24 2 Without the Akaka Bill what will happen to
17:39:27 3 Hawaiian programs like Hawaiian Homes, OHA, Alu Like? The
17:39:32 4 Hawaiian Civic Club and a representative from Na Pua No'eau
17:39:36 5 have similar concerns about their programs. Opponents,
17:39:39 6 including Mr. Burgess tonight, say that, Don't worry, you
17:39:41 7 know, these Hawaiian Homes programs, they'll be okay. You'll
17:39:43 8 be okay. Don't worry, you'll be fine.

17:39:45 9 It just makes me think of a popular phrase
17:39:49 10 that I think needs to be adjusted a little to reflect the
17:39:53 11 current situation. Instead of it's normal reading and
17:39:55 12 well-known reading, it should be read, Fool me once, shame on
17:39:59 13 you. Fool me twice, shame on you again. Why should be read
17:40:03 14 this way? Because those who oppose the Akaka Bill are
17:40:06 15 basically trying to initiate a second mahele. During the
17:40:09 16 first mahele, Hawaiians lost their property rights. Those
17:40:13 17 opposed to the Akaka Bill want a second mahele. This time
17:40:17 18 Hawaiians would be losing their indigenous rights. We cannot
17:40:20 19 and should not let this happen.

17:40:22 20 My last comment is to those Hawaiians who
17:40:24 21 oppose the Akaka Bill. I have heard many arguments tonight
17:40:29 22 against the Akaka Bill, but I haven't yet heard a viable
17:40:30 23 alternative that would protect Hawaiians and the programs
17:40:33 24 that we have. Until I hear a viable alternative, I cannot
17:40:37 25 begin to support you.

17:40:38 1

Thank you.

17:40:42 2

(Applause.)

17:40:45 3

MEMBER BURGESS: Sylvia Cabral. Sylvia

17:40:53 4

Cabral here?

17:40:53 5

DeAnn Akaia.

17:41:05 6

MS. AKAIA: Aloha. My name is DeAnn K, D-E

17:41:14 7

capital A-N-N, A-K-A-I-A. I'm here in testimony for myself

17:41:19 8

and as an individual, as (Hawaiian) or Kanaka Maoli and in

17:41:27 9

hopes to bring this hoa, ignite or infect you with some manao

17:41:35 10

regarding what we're talking about here. And I bring the

17:41:39 11

essence of the kukui oleo or enlightenment, so to enlighten

17:41:46 12

our minds that were not triggered upon something that we

17:41:49 13

might leave whole.

17:41:54 14

You know, I don't know how many of you have

17:41:57 15

been to the island of Lanai or Molokai or elsewhere

17:42:02 16

throughout (Hawaiian) aina, throughout our Hawaii islands,

17:42:08 17

but when you go to the post office, how many of you notice

17:42:08 18

how many flags are there? Do you notice Ka Hae Hawaii? Do

17:42:16 19

you notice our Hawaiian flag at these different post offices?

17:42:20 20

There is no Hawaiian flag at any of these post offices. Now,

17:42:25 21

these post offices supposedly are under the federal

17:42:28 22

government. Aye?

17:42:31 23

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

17:42:33 24

MS. AKAIA: (Hawaiian "ho-a-ma".) Aye?

17:42:33 25

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

17:42:36 1 MS. AKAIA: So what makes you think that if
17:42:37 2 we cannot be recognized at this very moment in this time of
17:42:41 3 our lives, what makes you think we'll be recognized in the
17:42:46 4 event that this Akaka Bill may be passed? Think about it.
17:42:51 5 Again, hoa, trying to infect that enlightenment upon you to
17:42:59 6 think about these things. Think about it.

17:43:02 7 I also -- There's a prophesy by an ancient
17:43:07 8 priest by the name of Wanana. And interestingly enough, the
17:43:12 9 name Wanana is referred to prophet, one who prophecies. He
17:43:20 10 prophesied about our day today and there's an ancient chant,
17:43:25 11 there's a particular statement in an ancient chant that is
17:43:28 12 based upon this prophesy. And it says, (Hawaiian). The word
17:43:35 13 (Hawaiian - "hoalai") is used as a metaphor in referring to a
17:43:38 14 great big wave. A great big wave will rise up to its
17:43:44 15 highest, highest peak. (Hawaiian - "kaliko poapoa")
17:43:47 16 referring to the maka'ainanana, those of us who are in charge
17:43:52 17 of the rules, regulations and laws within our ahupuaa, within
17:43:56 18 our moku. (Hawaiian) referring to the maka'ainanana, where
17:44:02 19 they come out of the (Hawaiian - "loki-ka-lo"), they are
17:44:06 20 soiled with mud from their knees all the way down. So
17:44:10 21 (Hawaiian) is referring to how some day we will rise up like
17:44:15 22 this great big wave, never give up.

17:44:19 23 But this prophesy in itself is also referring
17:44:23 24 to the (Hawaiian - "ahumoku") council that you may not
17:44:30 25 (Hawaiian), that you may not understand or may have heard of

17:44:33 1 it, and yet the (Hawaiian - "ahumoku") council is based upon
17:44:38 2 this particular prophesy under the essence of the (Hawaiian -
17:44:42 3 "ahupiolai"), where you have people within your moku, within
17:44:46 4 your ahupuaa, and they have practiced things like (Hawaiian -
17:44:52 5 "nawipa mahiai") navigation. (Hawaiian - "hopuaha") is a
17:44:56 6 true example of that. Okay?

17:44:58 7 And so this (Hawaiian - "ahumoku") council,
17:45:02 8 referring to the prophesy, yeah, allows us to be
17:45:08 9 self-determined. Okay? To enjoy the presence not only of
17:45:15 10 our moku or our ahupuaa, but also to continue to practice
17:45:19 11 these traditional practices. And these things are not
17:45:22 12 reinvented. This is from that prophesy of Wanana himself.
17:45:28 13 And so when you think about it, things like OHA, the Akaka
17:45:36 14 Bill, is this something we want to reinvent? Is this part of
17:45:43 15 this prophesy? (Hawaiian - "hoalai").

17:45:47 16 I just throw this out to you and to think.
17:45:53 17 And I just want you to know that I am one, again I speak for
17:45:57 18 myself, and I am in opposition of this. Why? Because there
17:46:01 19 have been many changes to this Akaka Bill and like aunty
17:46:06 20 said, it drew confusion. So what does that mean? What does
17:46:12 21 that really, really mean? We're enough confused already.
17:46:18 22 And how long this has been going on? Just to let you know
17:46:23 23 that the (Hawaiian - "ahumoku") council is under law. It is
17:46:26 24 Act 122.

17:46:29 25 MEMBER BURGESS: Ms. Akaia, please.

17:46:31 1 MS. AKAIA: Yes. And thank you very much for
17:46:34 2 allowing us to be here and thank you very much for going out
17:46:38 3 to the other islands and being able to have this. Mahalo.

17:46:44 4 (Applause.)

17:46:46 5 MEMBER BURGESS: This is Naliko Kahoali'i's
17:46:53 6 time, so I think the gentleman who -- Oh, I'm sorry. Okay.
17:46:56 7 You're up.

17:47:01 8 MR. KA'O: Good evening. Aloha nui.

9 MEMBER BURGESS: Aloha.

17:47:05 10 MR. KA'O: Actually, I have a lot to say, so
17:47:07 11 I'll try to condense, real short.

17:47:10 12 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, spell your name, please.

17:47:13 13 MR. KA'O: Kaleikoa, K-A-L-E-I-K-O-A, Ka'o,
17:47:17 14 K-A okina O.

17:47:22 15 I'm an opponent of the Akaka Bill. I don't
17:47:30 16 just not support the Akaka Bill, I'm an opponent of the Akaka
17:47:36 17 Bill. And so I just left two minutes back to make a -- Well,
17:47:41 18 this is the most recent version, supposedly, of the Akaka
17:47:47 19 Bill. And I used the word "supposedly" because it has gone
17:47:51 20 through so many changes that every time you look at the
17:47:55 21 computer there's a new version going on out there.

17:47:58 22 Sadly, sadly, this is supposedly the most
17:48:04 23 important legislation, they say, for the Kanaka Maoli and the
17:48:10 24 Hawaiians to readdress the wrongs that have been committed
17:48:14 25 upon the people. And yet this is really about the only

17:48:18 1 hearings, if you want to call them hearings, I don't know
17:48:21 2 what you going to call this, that we've had any ability or
17:48:25 3 chance to express ourselves about the bill. I find that not
17:48:32 4 just troubling, but very American.

17:48:37 5 (Audience response.)

17:48:38 6 MR. KA'O: To prove the ideal the people
17:48:41 7 should have the right to speak. Yet we find out in a matter
17:48:45 8 of 60 or how many days, boom, boom, boom. Oahu, you have one
17:48:49 9 hearing. Maui, hurry up, you have one hearing. Get ready.
17:48:51 10 Not even all the Civil Rights Commission can be at this
17:48:54 11 hearing. And that's how important this bill is. Because,
17:49:00 12 you see, American justice is railroading the Kanaka Maoli.
17:49:08 13 That's the truth.

17:49:09 14 And I challenge OHA and I ask OHA, why don't
17:49:14 15 OHA hold their own hearings in the islands so our people can
17:49:16 16 put to work and testify their own self on record whether or
17:49:19 17 not we support or don't support the bill? Not some foolish
17:49:24 18 "Star-Bulletin" and "Advertiser" polls. Hear from the
17:49:27 19 people. For once and for all, put yourself forever on the
17:49:31 20 record like our kupuna did back in 1897. In 1897, the
17:49:37 21 commission should know, they collected 38,000 signatures.
17:49:43 22 Subjects of the Hawaiian kingdom protested against US
17:49:48 23 imperialist practices in the Hawaiian Islands to overtake by
17:49:54 24 military occupation of these islands. That's on the
17:49:57 25 "Congressional Record." Go and check it out yourselves.

17:50:01 1 In 1898 you have the so-called New Lands
17:50:06 2 Resolution, a joint resolution by Congress which purports to
17:50:11 3 take foreign territory under the United States empire. Let
17:50:17 4 me ask this question: If that is so legal today, can the US
17:50:22 5 Congress pass a joint resolution to annex Iraq right now? Is
17:50:28 6 that legal under international law? I challenge you. And if
17:50:35 7 it cannot be done, how was it done in the Hawaiian case?
17:50:38 8 That's the challenge I challenge this commission to
17:50:42 9 interrogate, because there is no.

17:50:45 10 Hawaiians have never, ever given up the right
17:50:48 11 to self-determination and governance of our own islands. In
17:50:53 12 fact, when you look at the New Lands Resolution -- You should
17:50:57 13 all read the New Lands Resolution. 1898, the New Lands
17:51:01 14 Resolution says all citizens of the Republic of Hawaii are
17:51:07 15 now citizens of the United States. That's it. Let me ask
17:51:12 16 you, how many citizens were part of the Republic of Hawaii?
17:51:15 17 Less than 4,000. Less than 4,000. Mainly white supremists.
17:51:23 18 And yet we under supposed ideals of great Americanism are
17:51:29 19 supposed to stand here and quietly disappear into the night
17:51:33 20 as if what our history reveals to us as being true.

17:51:39 21 Since 1843 we have been an independent nation
17:51:43 22 state recognized throughout the world. That we have had
17:51:46 23 diplomatic relations around the world. We're not a people
17:51:52 24 who looking to express our inherent sovereignty to be some
17:51:56 25 kind of native population, domestic population of the United

17:52:00 1 States. That's a fallacy and that's a lie. And the funny
17:52:05 2 thing -- not funny thing, the strange thing is that this is
17:52:12 3 what they talk about right here, the Akaka Bill. Just the
17:52:18 4 title itself, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization
17:52:23 5 Act. What the heck does reorganization mean? When you say
17:52:31 6 re, that means they must have had a government organization
17:52:34 7 before. Either we had a government organization or we didn't
17:52:38 8 have one. Only one can be true.

17:52:40 9 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Ka'o.

10 MR. KA'O: Yes, sir.

17:52:42 11 MEMBER BURGESS: I ask you to wrap up,
17:52:43 12 please.

17:52:44 13 MR. KA'O: Okay, sir.

17:52:45 14 And if we had a real organization, see,
17:52:48 15 that's why they got to make up words like reorganize. See,
17:52:53 16 that's a scam. They're not organizing something for us we
17:52:56 17 never had before. They're reorganizing something we had
17:52:58 18 before, fooling our minds to believe now we want this that's
17:53:01 19 better. But in that foolishness -- And I use the word
17:53:04 20 foolishness because all of this is out there read. There is
17:53:08 21 no way you can look at the black and white and deny what's
17:53:12 22 here.

17:53:12 23 Let me just add real quick, page 7, line 20,
17:53:17 24 "This act provides a process within the framework of federal
17:53:22 25 law for the Native Hawaiian people to exercise their inherent

17:53:25 1 rights as a distinct indigenous native community to
17:53:30 2 reorganize a single Native Hawaiian government entity." See,
17:53:36 3 that's Hawaiian -- We're not indigenous to the United States.
17:53:40 4 That's what they put in law here, they want us to become
17:53:44 5 indigenous to the United States. We're indigenous to these
17:53:47 6 islands here in the middle of the Pacific, the Hawaiian
17:53:48 7 Islands. We've been here for hundreds, if not thousands of
17:53:51 8 years.

17:53:52 9 "Reorganize Native Hawaiian governing
17:53:55 10 entity." I want you guys to think about that, "a Native
17:54:00 11 Hawaiian governing entity," that's what they're giving us.
17:54:01 12 They're not saying governing. Don't anybody be fooled to
17:54:05 13 think they're telling us we're going to have a government.
17:54:07 14 What is the governing entity? What is the governing entity?
17:54:10 15 This is a governing entity. Office of Hawaiian Affairs is a
17:54:16 16 governing entity. The Land Use Commission is a governing
17:54:17 17 entity. The Citizens Patrol Advisory Council is a governing
17:54:22 18 entity. Be clear.

17:54:23 19 MEMBER BURGESS: Mr. Ka'o, we have another
17:54:25 20 speaker coming up.

17:54:27 21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You can take the
17:54:28 22 minutes I didn't use.

17:54:30 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Take mine, too.

17:54:33 24 MR. KA'O: Last thing. Just a last quote.
17:54:42 25 And it says in here, quote, "is now a part of the United

17:54:47 1 States." Are indigenous native peoples of the US. See, the
17:54:51 2 thing you got to realize, if it's self-evident, why they got
17:55:00 3 a bill? Because it's not self-evident. The fact is this is
17:55:03 4 about redefining, redefining, reorganizing, renaming who we
17:55:07 5 are.

17:55:10 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Identity theft.

17:55:11 7 MR. KA'O: Exactly. Identity theft.

17:55:13 8 The renaming, the reorg -- In other words, if
17:55:16 9 it's self-evident, you don't need to rename. But the fact is
17:55:20 10 it's not self-evident. We're not indigenous to the United
17:55:23 11 States. And I take affront to bills like this which try
17:55:26 12 to -- not rewrite history, but is based upon falsehoods and
17:55:31 13 lies with the purpose, with the main purpose of stealing our
17:55:40 14 identity, stealing our right to self-determination, stealing
17:55:45 15 our right to self-governance.

17:55:46 16 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Thank you.

17:55:48 17 Thank you very much.

17:55:53 18 (Applause.)

17:55:57 19 MEMBER BURGESS: Our last speaker is William
17:56:03 20 Turly, Tully.

17:56:06 21 MR. TULLY: Hi. My name is William Tully,
17:56:11 22 T-U-L-L-Y.

17:56:12 23 I'm obviously white, yeah, but it doesn't
17:56:18 24 seem to be that unreasonable for the Hawaiian people to
17:56:23 25 mistrust the American government in that it doesn't take an

17:56:29 1 Einstein to figure out that this government has been
17:56:32 2 influenced by economic interests for a long time, certainly
17:56:39 3 since the '50s. And that is the only re -- The only reason
17:56:46 4 why I came here tonight is that I have a beautiful boy that
17:56:50 5 was born here and that -- and, you know, I had -- I had the
17:56:55 6 belief that, you know, maybe recognition of a Hawaiian people
17:57:01 7 might be a good thing, you know, in that. But obviously it's
17:57:07 8 not in that because the real issue is is that this is
17:57:11 9 placating to a people in order to further economic interest
17:57:18 10 in the area.

17:57:20 11 This is only calming down a storm that is
17:57:23 12 bound to come in that because the short time that I've been
17:57:28 13 here -- I moved here in '89. I've seen tremendous growth on
17:57:34 14 Maui, tremendous. I'm an artist. I used to make a lot of
17:57:40 15 money painting beautiful paintings of Maui. You know why I
17:57:44 16 don't do it no more? Because it promotes the beauty of the
17:57:49 17 area which creates attraction which creates growth. That's
17:57:54 18 why I don't do it and that. It's disingenuous. It's
17:58:01 19 prostituting the aina and that.

17:58:06 20 So what you have to consider is is that if
17:58:13 21 you keep going down this path of not recognizing what
17:58:17 22 originally happened to these people and not having some sort
17:58:23 23 of legal remedy to what happened to them, what you risk is
17:58:29 24 further discomfort of this -- of these people in terms of
17:58:36 25 whether this will continue to grow if they're really

17:58:40 1 discontent and that. So is -- I am absolutely opposed to the
17:58:46 2 Akaka Bill. Thank you.

17:58:48 3 (Applause.)

17:58:50 4 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Well, I want to
17:58:57 5 thank everyone for coming. You certainly have expressed your
17:59:02 6 thoughts eloquently and forcefully.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I haven't spoke and I
8 signed up.

17:59:13 9 MR. KOSATSCKOW: So did I. I signed up and
17:59:13 10 you're not calling me. Where is the list? I signed up. I
17:59:19 11 changed position with Naliko Kahoali'i.

17:59:22 12 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Please come up.

17:59:26 13 MR. KOSATSCKOW: Thank you. My name is
17:59:32 14 Victor Kosatsckow, K-O-S-A-T-S-C-K-O-W. It's on there.

17:59:40 15 And I'm probably one of the few people in
17:59:42 16 this room who can claim to be 100-percent Hawaiian, even
17:59:43 17 though I don't look it, because I swore allegiance to a
17:59:48 18 constitution. I am a Hawaiian national. I've been
17:59:51 19 nationalized. Hawaii as a nation. It's not a race. They
17:59:56 20 want to believe you're a race, they want to put you in box of
17:59:59 21 a race. That's why they want to capitalize the N in Native
18:00:04 22 Hawaiian is because that's a legal corporate fiction. And
18:00:07 23 they want to put you in there so they can treat you as a
18:00:12 24 racial distinction and they say, "Oh, you can enjoy the
18:00:15 25 privilege -- The Akaka Bill is going to give you -- You enjoy

18:00:17 1 the privileges of the American Indian Tribes." Has anybody
18:00:21 2 gone to seeing some of these tribes? They're desolate
18:00:27 3 regions. They're living under the worse conditions you can
18:00:30 4 imagine. We're going to enjoy those conditions? Wow.
18:00:34 5 Great. You know, we really want to be an American Indian.
18:00:39 6 Wow. Oooh.

18:00:41 7 And then, and then, and then look at, look at
18:00:45 8 Indian law. Look at Hitchcock vs. Lone Wolf or Lone Wolf vs.
18:00:53 9 Hitchcock which is a supreme court decision that was made
18:00:57 10 in -- just before the turn of the century and it took all of
18:01:00 11 these so-called treaties that they had with the American
18:01:05 12 tribes, all right, Native American Indians, and they said,
18:01:10 13 ah, throw them away. Plenary power is supreme in the nation,
18:01:16 14 plenary power. In other words, Congress can override any
18:01:19 15 treaty they make with tribes or anything. So you're not
18:01:22 16 going to have any kind of sovereignty in any kind of sense.
18:01:26 17 Okay? So forget that.

18:01:28 18 Sovereignty comes from this, and that's your
18:01:31 19 constitution. That's your document that sets you free and
18:01:34 20 makes you a free and independent nation. You take this, you
18:01:39 21 swear allegiance to this document and then it sets you free
18:01:44 22 as individuals, as Hawaiian nationals. Independent in a
18:01:51 23 world -- a free world. And do not interfere because I'm a
18:01:55 24 stateless person. Do not interfere with the treaty of the
18:01:58 25 reduction of statelessness. I have a right to nationality

18:02:02 1 and I became a national, Hawaiian national.

18:02:06 2 I swore allegiance to the Kingdom of Hawaii
18:02:09 3 and I stand here as a Hawaiian saying I am Hawaiian. And I
18:02:13 4 stand with my Hawaiian brothers and sisters here fighting for
18:02:17 5 our freedom and independence. Thank you.

18:02:20 6 (Applause.)

18:02:23 7 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Again, thanks
18:02:28 8 very much.

18:02:29 9 MR. VILLALON: I signed in. Honestly, I
18:02:32 10 signed in.

18:02:33 11 MEMBER BURGESS: Oh, you signed in?

18:02:36 12 MR. VILLALON: Yeah, I signed in early.

18:02:38 13 MEMBER BURGESS: And you didn't --

18:02:39 14 MR. VILLALON: You didn't call me.

18:02:41 15 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. Okay. Come up,
18:02:43 16 please.

18:02:44 17 MR. VILLALON: Thank you. Mahalo. Aloha, my
18:02:53 18 names is Charles Villalon, V-I-L-L-A-L-O-N.

18:02:57 19 And, again, thank you for the opportunity for
18:03:03 20 free and open speech, because this is exactly what we need.
18:03:08 21 The problem is that the disbursement of information has been
18:03:12 22 gagged. That's why there's a lot of confusion. The biggest
18:03:16 23 attitude in this room now is confusion. You are not allowing
18:03:22 24 everything to be disbursed other than the Akaka Bill. But
18:03:25 25 even the Akaka Bill is confusion, because if it's pulled off

18:03:30 1 of the internet, there's changes to it.

18:03:31 2 You watch Court TV and every change is on TV.

18:03:35 3 We know about it. The biggest thing about the change that's

18:03:38 4 going to come, it's going to happen, is that you got to

18:03:42 5 disburse the information so people can make a choice. Now,

18:03:46 6 people have already made the choice. It's for those that

18:03:49 7 don't understand to come to the understanding. The document

18:03:52 8 that was waved in front of you, opio, study them, man. Study

18:03:58 9 them.

18:03:58 10 I was with it. I signed the Akaka thing. I

18:04:01 11 signed them. I love Kupuna Poi. I was with him. In fact,

18:04:05 12 he assigned me to go help promote the Akaka Bill. And I sat

18:04:09 13 there and I said something -- something's wrong. And I

18:04:12 14 researched myself and I came to find out it's a bad answer.

18:04:17 15 Don't be afraid, don't be afraid of losing your identity.

18:04:22 16 They're not going to take that. How can they take your

18:04:25 17 identity? How can they take your Hawaiian from you? How can

18:04:29 18 they take the safety of people all living in one, one mind,

18:04:32 19 one God. That's the opportunity I want to see.

18:04:35 20 The option that is going to come upon Hawaii

18:04:38 21 is not just governmental. We're going to be able to declare

18:04:42 22 Ka Akua, Jehovah is our God. It's awesome. You cannot go to

18:04:49 23 any nation and do that. You know what? ACLU, bye-bye.

18:04:55 24 These guys, bye-bye. FDA, FDIC, you know. I mean, we need

18:05:01 25 the police. I was a police officer. I stood and enforced

18:05:05 1 rules. We need us guys. Who said all enforcement officers,
18:05:08 2 all the firemen, all the paramedics got to leave? We're not
18:05:12 3 saying that. We're saying different boss. Different bosses
18:05:16 4 now, yeah. We need that. We need the taxes. We need all
18:05:20 5 the commerce and everything.

18:05:21 6 But you know what? When you talk commerce,
18:05:24 7 that's what's going to happen. The commerce here in Hawaii
18:05:27 8 is change going to change so bad, so big. That's what it's
18:05:30 9 all about, the money, the land. It was said already, the
18:05:34 10 money and land. Don't be afraid of it. The thing is when
18:05:37 11 you're confused, you no come together. But when the
18:05:40 12 confusion is all gone -- You look at them. Some guys, they
18:05:44 13 like four-speed, some guys like four-wheel drive, some guys
18:05:47 14 like automatic. Go test them out and see what terrain you
18:05:51 15 driving on, then go and purchase and be involved with that
18:05:54 16 vehicle. Because the vehicle is rolling. October,
18:05:57 17 October -- No, November -- When was Pearl Harbor?

18:06:02 18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: December 7th.

18:06:05 19 MR. VILLALON: December 7th we'll get the
18:06:07 20 trial, circuit court. Okay. We'll get the trial, circuit
18:06:11 21 court, December 7, 9 o'clock in the morning. You know, I
18:06:14 22 watched it and it was like a mini-tribunal. The hands of the
18:06:18 23 United States, they're going to have to let it go. And we're
18:06:21 24 not saying that they're going run away, leave us to get
18:06:24 25 bombed. No. America will not ever leave Hawaii. You know

18:06:28 1 what? We can negotiate like Subridge Bay, like Okinawa.

18:06:33 2 You know what, brothers? We love you. Uncle
18:06:35 3 Sam, we love you. You've been here all along, but, you know
18:06:37 4 what, time to pay rent. Don't make us like Welfare cases,
18:06:41 5 that you guys actually seem to be grooming us to be Welfare
18:06:45 6 cases, but we're not. Some of us are getting smarter. We
18:06:48 7 are smarter than this. And that's what they're afraid of.
18:06:51 8 They're afraid of us, OHA, now I understand. And it's not
18:06:56 9 disbursing the information.

18:06:57 10 All I asking, you know what, guys, just --
18:07:00 11 just go find out, man. Just go find out. Just like the
18:07:04 12 kupuna say, "Get up."

18:07:06 13 "Where we going?"

18:07:07 14 "Shut up." Says, "Come on. You like go
18:07:11 15 fishing. You like harvesting. Let's get going."

18:07:13 16 You guys got to do that and trust that the
18:07:14 17 direction we're going is for the betterment of the moopuna
18:07:16 18 not born yet. I can't -- I mean, I don't look at this as --
18:07:21 19 I'm not heavy. I'm laughing and -- You know why? Because
18:07:25 20 I'm not heavy. You know what? I believe in the right
18:07:29 21 things. I'm be able to stand in any place and pronounce my
18:07:34 22 allegiance to God. And I believe in E.O., Jehovah God, and
18:07:39 23 (Hawaiian) because my country back me up. And that's what we
18:07:42 24 need. We got to understand that this is not just a political
18:07:46 25 thing. God is waiting for us to make the choice and say, you

18:07:50 1 know what, we put you first. Put our government back in
18:07:54 2 order. That's all they asking. That's all they asking.
18:07:59 3 It's awesome.

18:08:00 4 Thank you.

18:08:01 5 (Applause.)

18:08:05 6 MEMBER BURGESS: Now this concludes our open
18:08:11 7 session. Thanks to everyone for attending. The committee
18:08:15 8 will -- What is this for?

18:08:24 9 Kalei Hoopai.

18:08:25 10 MR. HOOPAI: That's it, brother, that's the
18:08:28 11 one.

18:08:31 12 Mahalo for having me, guys, and giving me
18:08:36 13 some time to share. Standing up there and contemplating what
18:08:41 14 I would say. You know, for all these years sleep walking in
18:08:48 15 Hawaii, not knowing who the hell I was or what my nation was
18:08:57 16 all about, what my people was like. Who was my kings and who
18:09:03 17 was my queens was the last thing on my mind until I woke up
18:09:06 18 and realized all that we've lost. And that was just me.

18:09:12 19 And then when I look around and I see a lot
18:09:14 20 of you and some of you don't even know what you've lost. But
18:09:18 21 I came to the realization of what I lost. My true identity
18:09:23 22 of my name, my living, my being. Big airports were being
18:09:31 23 built. Highways spreading all over our aina. Hotels
18:09:35 24 climbing over the beaches and mountains and everywhere you
18:09:38 25 look. And places that we'll never go again. And it's still

18:09:42 1 continuing on and on.

18:09:44 2 But I woke up and I realized how proud and
18:09:47 3 happy my people were. And I say were because they were
18:09:52 4 robbed, stolen, and our grave sites desecrated and some of
18:10:00 5 our heiaus and burial grounds are in the middle of luxury
18:10:06 6 resorts. I see them every day because I travel Makena and I
18:10:10 7 do weddings down the beaches and I see them crying. And they
18:10:16 8 continue to cry because a lot of us are so Americanized
18:10:20 9 through the music that you hear on the radio. Don't hear too
18:10:25 10 much of our songs no more. All the hiphop and being so
18:10:28 11 Americanized we lost ourselves.

18:10:32 12 And then they throw this thing in our face
18:10:35 13 when we know we had a government. I shouldn't even say that
18:10:38 14 we had because it's still here. We just need to drop
18:10:43 15 everything and gather our forces together with our hearts and
18:10:46 16 minds and just leave everything behind. Just drop everything
18:10:50 17 and just walk to someplace that's quiet and meet up with each
18:10:54 18 other and just sit down and love one another. Start loving
18:10:59 19 each other. No matter what race you are, if you love this
18:11:03 20 nation, you come.

18:11:04 21 We need to, we need to for our children
18:11:08 22 that's not even born. To make things a little easier for
18:11:12 23 them because it's getting rough for us as warriors on the
18:11:15 24 front line. To try and -- try and educate you guys to know
18:11:20 25 how much you can have. We don't need this. We need us. We

18:11:26 1 don't need OHA. Again, we need us. OHA works for somebody
18:11:31 2 else.

18:11:32 3 A governing entity, it tells us we're going
18:11:35 4 to be governed by somebody else. Not by our own people, but
18:11:39 5 from someone up in Washington that's getting paid with the
18:11:42 6 money that's supposed to be in your pockets. Every day --
18:11:47 7 Our kupunas been brainwashed, too, because they believe that
18:11:52 8 this is the only way that they can get something before they
18:11:55 9 pass on. And that's lies. And they working on them so hard
18:11:59 10 to get their consent.

18:12:04 11 Kau Inoa, same thing. Your consent is so
18:12:06 12 important. Every one of you, it's so important not to give
18:12:10 13 it up. Just gather up together. Can you imagine we shut
18:12:13 14 down the airport by just employees walking away. Hotels,
18:12:18 15 drop everything, walk away so the whole world will notice
18:12:21 16 that we finally coming together, coming together as one.

18:12:26 17 So important that we can put our people up
18:12:30 18 here and says this is it. We make our own decision. Our
18:12:34 19 decision stays in our nation. You see what I'm saying?
18:12:38 20 Everything come back home again. We're the richest nation.
18:12:41 21 You just got to understand that. We are the richest nation.

18:12:45 22 I stand up here for my family, for my ohana,
18:12:48 23 the Hoopais, and there's a long list of family names, but I
18:12:54 24 am here for every one of them that hasn't been here before
18:12:57 25 and that have passed on and never seen the dreams that's

18:13:01 1 about to come. Because you know what? I never give up.
18:13:04 2 Believe in who I am today. I'm proud to say I'm Kanaka Maoli
18:13:07 3 and I run strong with the Koko blood in me.

18:13:11 4 And I love all your faces in this room
18:13:14 5 because you took the time to come listen, to hear the truth.
18:13:16 6 Even if it's not from me, but everybody that spoke today
18:13:19 7 spoke about a nation that loves its people. My queen loved
18:13:23 8 every race in this Hawaiian Islands. Everyone mattered to
18:13:28 9 her, everyone. Doesn't matter Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese,
18:13:31 10 whatever, because those people worked the aina with my
18:13:34 11 kupunas and they loved each other. We got to start loving
18:13:39 12 each other. Mahalo.

18:13:43 13 MEMBER BURGESS: All right. We will have --
18:13:48 14 The committee will have additional open sessions on Oahu, the
18:13:51 15 Big Island and Kauai. And we want to listen to more people
18:13:56 16 and get their opinions about the Akaka Bill. So, again,
18:14:01 17 thank you for coming today.

18 (The proceedings were adjourned at 6:14 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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STATE OF HAWAII)
) SS.
CITY AND COUNTY OF MAUI)

I, Sandra J. Gran, 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 correct 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 7th day of September, 2007, in Maui, Hawaii.

Sandra J. Gran

Sandra J. Gran
Hawaii CSR 424
Notary Public for Hawaii
My Commission Expires: 5/14/08

