Six years ago, as I was preparing for my 1974 reelection campaign, I met privately with a group of native Hawaiian leaders to discuss my legislative program for the coming term. Some of you were present at that meeting. The following items were among those discussed: Kahoolawe; economic assistance for native Hawaiians; special federal assistance for native Hawaiian education programs; and the native Hawaiian reparations bill. Today, I wish to report to you what has happened during the past six years to my native Hawaiian legislative program.

KAHOOALWE - As a United States Senator and before that as your first congressman, I have naturally been concerned about our islands -- all of the islands of our chain. Until a few years ago, however, Kahoolawe was considered by most as a former convict island with no value or significance. Except for the admittedly irritating noise and also the ever-present potential danger to commercial airline flights in the area, very few really gave the Island of Kahoolawe much thought. There was no expressed concern of aloha aina or of the island's archaeological resources. Kahoolawe, in the eyes of most of us, was merely a wasteland, forgotten and ignored.

Today, this has all changed. We have experienced the birth of a new movement in Hawaii -- a movement stimulated by a heightened interest in the golden days of the Hawaiian people and their unique civilization. This is a movement which has been described as the renaissance of Hawaiian values and culture. The Ohana played an important role in this renaissance. For all of us, Kahoolawe now has a new importance and spiritual meaning.

Eventually, I trust that we will be able to return the Island of Kahoolawe to the people of Hawaii. The 1953 Executive Order that originally transferred Kahoolawe to the federal government specifically requires that when the Navy decides that the island is not necessary for military purposes, it should be rendered safe and returned to the State of Hawaii.

Today, I am most pleased to be able to report that significant progress has been made towards this goal. I have been in direct contact with the highest levels of the Department of Defense, and the
Department of the Navy has agreed to reduce and eventually phase out its use of live explosives on the island. The State of Hawaii and the Navy have formally agreed to undertake a number of cooperative programs, such as goat eradication and soil conservation projects. From all reports that I have received, these efforts are progressing more smoothly than even the most optimistic would have predicted.

A detailed archaeological survey of the Island of Kahoolawe has now been completed and 171 significant historical sites have been nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Although some are disappointed that to date only 171 of the 487 sites recommended for inclusion have actually been nominated, I am confident that our State's Historic Preservation officer will recommend additions. I urge you to make such action one of your higher priorities.

Finally, I was especially pleased to be able to announce that on August 21, 1980, my colleagues in the Senate Armed Services Committee acted favorably on legislation that I had introduced specifically directing the U.S. Department of the Navy to begin clearing Kahoolawe of explosives. The full Senate has endorsed this proposal and I am confident that by the end of this year, it will become public law.

Yes, during the past six years, we have been able to make significant advances towards our goal of eventually returning the Island of Kahoolawe to the people of Hawaii.

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS -- During that meeting six years ago, I also promised to give a very high priority to ensuring that native Hawaiians become eligible for the various federal programs that have been developed focusing specifically on jobs and economic development. It was our judgment that one of the most important aspects of one's self-worth is the ability to be economically independent and to provide for one's family. Without good jobs and promise of a brighter economic future, we cannot expect our state's native Hawaiians to be a proud people. Accordingly, because of that concern, in 1977 I added an amendment that made native Hawaiians eligible under Title III of the Native American Employment and Training Programs of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. Under this provision, unemployed and underemployed Hawaiians would be given a chance to increase their employability through specific job training. As soon as the President signed that measure, I personally approached the highest authorities within the U.S. Department of Labor, concerning the implementation of this provision. I told them that although state or county governments were the usual contracting authority for the administration of CETA programs, in this particular case I thought that it would be more appropriate to select a native Hawaiian organization. The department was most interested and Alu Like was subsequently selected and received a grant of $2.6 million.

In 1978, I was able to add another provision that made native Hawaiians expressly eligible under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act for special youth programs and services. Native Hawaiians were also included in a new program designed to encourage greater
private sector participation in CETA job programs. Again, the Department of Labor agreed that Alu Like would be the appropriate agency to administer these subsequent grants. I am quite proud to have been able to facilitate these steps to ensure that our state's native Hawaiians receive active federal assistance in obtaining meaningful employment.

HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ACT -- There is no question in my mind, or in the minds of the leadership of the various native Hawaiian organizations with whom I have met, that education is the real key to the Hawaiians' future. It is shocking that even today 30 percent of our state's Hawaiians have less than a high school education. There are continuous reports that many of those presently in high school are seriously considering dropping out.

In order to address this very real problem, I introduced the Native Hawaiian Education Act in the 95th Congress. It was time to call to the attention of the Congress and the nation, that your history and cultural heritage entitle you to be treated as other native Americans, and that the federal government has a unique responsibility to provide assistance.

To further this cause, I asked the Democratic leadership if I could serve on the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, which has jurisdiction over all native American programs. I did not make this request lightly, as my daily schedule was already quite hectic. However, I am deeply committed to ensuring that the federal government accepts its responsibility for our nation's native Hawaiians and felt that only by getting on the committee would we have the best chance.

The Native Hawaiian Education Act passed the Senate in the final days of the 95th Congress and again in November of 1979 it passed the Senate unanimously. In the 95th Congress, the House of Representatives' Committee on Education and Labor failed to act on the bill. This year, in the 96th Congress, they did hold one hearing, but the chairman made it quite clear that he would again not act further on the measure.

As proposed, the Native Hawaiian Education Act provided for the establishment of special educational programs for native Hawaiian children in both the public and private school systems. I had included special teacher training and nurse practitioner initiatives in order to ensure that the families of the Hawaiian children would actively participate in their programs. Further, I included special fellowships for those Hawaiian youngsters interested in obtaining higher education degrees. I also included special assistance for adult Hawaiians as well.

I would like to reemphasize that in attempting to enact the Hawaiian Education Act on its own merits, we were asking the United
States Congress to clearly state that native Hawaiians are native Americans and that with such status goes the right to special federal assistance due to their unique historical and cultural backgrounds. Although the United States Senate passed the Native Hawaiian Education Act twice, I realized that there was very little likelihood that the House of Representatives could be convinced of its merits. Accordingly, I asked my colleagues, who were floor managing the Higher Education Assistance Act, if they would allow me to offer my bill as a special section of the omnibus education bill. They agreed and on June 23, 1980, the Senate unanimously accepted my amendment. Through this approach, we were able to bypass the committee in the House of Representatives and go directly to the conference committee. In so doing, the entire Hawaii Congressional delegation had agreed to take a very serious gamble. There is no question that our colleagues on the House side would be disturbed to learn that we had bypassed the traditional committee structure. However, the alternative was to admit defeat. As you therefore can imagine, the conference deliberations were extraordinarily difficult and our delegation, as a unit, took the unprecedented step of directly addressing our colleagues during the conference deliberations.

After many hours of give and take, the conferees finally agreed to establish a special national commission to study the unique educational problems and needs of native Hawaiians and to report back to the Congress with specific legislative recommendations. This nine-member commission will have an annual budget of $500,000. To some, such a commission may seem insignificant. I personally feel, however, that it is a very significant step forward. For the first time, we will have a distinguished body looking at the hard data that exists about the status of educational programs for native Hawaiians and their needs.

I shall do my very best to ensure that the members of the commission are outstanding individuals with an appreciation of the uniqueness of native American people and our responsibility to them. The commission can be an excellent vehicle for developing concrete legislative recommendations for long-term institutional changes which our colleagues in the House of Representatives will have to listen to. For the first time, we have been able to make our case in Congress, and I am confident that the commission will make recommendations that both you and I will be most pleased to implement.

Finally, I would like to provide you with an update on the Native Hawaiian Reparations Bill.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN REPARATIONS BILL -- Last week, the Hawaii Congressional delegation met with the leaders of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee to discuss the importance of the Hawaii Native Claims Settlement Study Commission Act, more commonly known as the Hawaiian Reparations Bill.
As with the Hawaiian Education Act, we were able to pass this bill in the Senate twice, but we have not been able to get anywhere in the House of Representatives. During our deliberations with the House Interior and Insular Affairs representatives, we came to the conclusion that it is possible to enact into public law a slightly modified proposal. It became evident that we have been so close to the issue that we have not fully appreciated the extent to which our House colleagues on the Mainland did not appreciate the uniqueness of the Hawaiian situation. Accordingly, the proposals by the House committee leaders, that we delete that portion of the preamble that expressly found that native Hawaiians had been treated unfairly, and that we also make the composition of the commission a more broad-based one, we felt had to be accepted. It will, therefore, become the responsibility of the commission to study the matter and to establish for the record that the Hawaiians are native American people who have been unfairly treated by the American government.

We will use the Hawaii National Parks Bill, H.R. 7217, as the vehicle whereby the original Senate bill will once again be referred to the House for consideration. At that time, the modified reparations bill will be substituted and then referred back to the Senate. We are confident that our Senate colleagues will go along with our recommendations to accept the modified proposal and are hopeful that we shall have the Hawaii Native Claims Settlement Study Commission mandated by this Congress and signed into public law by President Carter.

It won't be easy -- and it won't be everything we wanted -- but we will make every effort to get a commission which will make recommendations to the next Congress for meaningful reparations.

I would now like to discuss several items that relate, not to the federal government, but instead, to our own state government and its relationship to our native Hawaiians. A few of the oldtimers in this room may recall that in the fall of 1954, just after the election, when the Democrats got together and agreed upon committee assignments and the leadership for the upcoming territorial legislative session, I found myself elected as the first Democratic Majority Leader of our Territorial House of Representatives. At the first Caucus of the organized Democrats, I submitted my legislative agenda for the session. At the top of the list was a non-legislative matter. I suggested that the time had come for the Territorial House to move out of Iolani Palace.

At the time of the infamous overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani and during her subsequent imprisonment in her own living quarters; the Committee of Safety, as they called themselves, designated the Throne Room as the meeting place for the House of Representatives. In all the history of the United States, never had we treated any vanquished people as the Committee of Safety treated the native Hawaiians. For example, we meticulously avoided the bombing of the
Emperor's Palace in Tokyo. We made Kyoto, the religious capital of Japan, off limits to American attack. Throughout Europe we devastated cities, yet did everything possible to avoid destroying religious centers and buildings with great historic significance. When it was decided that it was strategically necessary to bomb the Abbey of Monte Cassino, we first sought the approval of the Vatican. After the war, we appropriated sufficient funds to fully restore the Abbey. But, for some reason, this respect for royalty and religious heritage did not apply to the native Hawaiians. I felt that our continued conduct of business in the Throne Room was a direct insult to the Hawaiian people and a blemish on the soul of Hawaii. I suggested that, if necessary, we could meet in a tent. There were a number of possibilities, but as history shows, I was outvoted. I did, however, win a partial victory. Up until that time, the Speaker of the House of Representatives was seated on the throne. But from our Legislature on, the Speaker of the House did not sit on the throne but on a dais below the throne.

I am pleased that today Iolani Palace is being restored and the native Hawaiians will once again be able to see and appreciate that aspect of their rich cultural heritage.

Another matter that I wish to raise with you has been pending for decades. You are probably getting tired of hearing me repeat it, but I have long advocated that we should have compulsory courses in Hawaiian history and culture in our state's public school systems, on both the elementary and secondary levels.

Every child in Virginia knows about Robert E. Lee; every child in Texas has basked in the glory and heroics of the Alamo. I believe that we owe it to the children of Hawaii to keep alive the richness of the Hawaiian heritage, to ensure that they learn of such things as the wisdom of Kaahumanu and the leadership of Kamehameha. The ancient Hawaiians had a system of laws truly related to nature and their environment. These were laws equal to those our conservationists and environmentalists are trying to achieve. We had laws which established certain seasons for fishing, for the gathering of fruits and berries, and for the planting of various agricultural products. Today, civilized man is only beginning to recognize the importance of these natural seasons.

The extraordinary voyage of the Hokulea not only reminds the Hawaiian youth of the courage and foresight of their ancestors, but also gives them a sense of cultural pride for present day accomplishments. Our Hawaiian youths need to be reminded of how their ancestors traveled vast expanses of uncharted waters without knowing whether they would ever see their loved ones again. There are so many things that our young Hawaiians could be taught about their heritage.
But with each administration, whether it be Democrat or Republican, I have been told that while my ideas have merit, it cannot be done. At first there were no funds available. Then, I was told that there were not enough trained teachers. That does seem obvious, but I kept wondering why shouldn't we at least start. Why don't we begin with just one school, perhaps in Waianae or Nanakuli. Six years ago, Nanakuli High School had no teachers of Hawaiian ancestry. The principal was of Japanese ancestry, the teachers were all either Japanese, Chinese or Caucasian. There was one Filipino, who especially wanted to help native Hawaiians. On her own, she conceived the Hawaiian Cultural Studies Program. She conducted classes after school. She did not have any resources or formal books, so she used James Michener's HAWAII as her textbook. We may smile at her effort, but at least she tried. The only Hawaiians at Nanakuli High School at that time were janitors, food service employees, or maintenance crews. There was one part-Samoan basketball coach. Just imagine what must have gone through the minds of the young Hawaiians who attended that school. Day after day they went to a school which, by its own structure, demonstrated the role of the Hawaiian in present day society. There were no successful role models to emulate, no successful Hawaiians to sit down and speak with. It must have been a very depressing life. Accordingly, I was extremely pleased to note that our State Department of Education has just decided to add classes in Hawaiian language and culture to our elementary school curriculum. This is a very good first step, and hopefully, a sign that change is underway.

I am glad that this has begun to change. The principal of Nanakuli High School is now of Hawaiian ancestry, and there are a number of teachers of Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian extraction.

Still, much more needs to be done. We must systematically provide opportunities so the young Hawaiians can be convinced that they do not have to fail -- that they can be successful. For too long, all of us in Hawaii, including the Hawaiian community, have been giving our Hawaiian youth the clear message "If you are Hawaiian, you cannot succeed". This must change.

In a few weeks, our state's native Hawaiian people will be involved in a most important election, the election for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, OHA.

In recent years, a number of new words and phrases have been added to the vocabulary of the politician: black power, brown power and women's rights. I sincerely hope that you realize that many concerned people, especially professional politicians, will be watching and studying the election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs with more than a casual interest. You are being provided with the opportunity that you have long sought.
This is your chance to flex your political muscle and show your strength. However, I warn you that if the turnout for the OHA election is a small one, you may set back your cause for generations. If your people do not turn out on election day, Hawaiian power will be said to be nothing but a paper tiger. It is just that simple.

If you want to convince our state's political leaders that Hawaiian power is real and that it is here to stay, you must demonstrate your political impact. This is no time for infighting, no time for backbiting. This is a time for unity of purpose; not only in spirit, but in reality. I sincerely hope that you will keep this in mind as you carry out your campaign.
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Congress has passed and sent to the President a measure which establishes the Kalaupapa National Historic Preserve and the Native Hawaiian Claims Study Commission.

Senator Daniel K. Inouye has been a principal sponsor of the proposals.

The Kalaupapa proposal provides for National Park Service management of the 9,000-acre peninsula, which is a historic site in the treatment of Hawaii leprosy patients.

Health care would continue to be furnished by the State for leprosy patients.

"This measure ensures that park operations will not interfere with the residents' lifestyle, while preserving and upgrading the many historic sites in the area which are seriously deteriorating," Senator Inouye said.

The legislation also establishes a 9-member commission to study the native Hawaiian reparations issue and submit its recommendations to Congress in 19 months.

Senator Inouye has introduced such legislation and led Senate passage twice in the past four years, but it has died in the House in previous years.

"This is an important step forward for the federal government and the national public, in which the injustices against the native Hawaiian people by the American government can be studied.

"It is my hope that the native Hawaiian people will cooperate fully with the work of this commission, so that its findings reflect the needs and aspirations of this neglected part of our population," Senator Inouye said.
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Hawaii Congressional delegation jointly declared that the conclusions of the majority members of the Native Hawaiians Study Commission are erroneous and their recommendations are inadequate.

In a joint statement issued today, Senators Inouye and Matsunaga and Congressmen Heftel and Akaka said that Congress had intended that a thorough study should be conducted on the overthrow of the indigenous government of the Hawaiian kingdom. By their own admission, however, the majority members of the commission did not use primary sources in their research.

Volume II, the minority report, begins to address the realities of U.S. foreign policy and the imperatives of political and military strategy prevalent in the second half of the nineteenth century. It now will be incumbent on Congress to further explore the facts, and the delegation is seeking commitments from Chairman McClure of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and Chairman Udall of the House Interior Committee to hold Congressional hearings on the reports early next year.

The delegation warmly applauded Chairman Kamali'i's efforts to produce a substantive and constructive dissenting viewpoint. The delegation supports her minority report as a basis on which to build
conclusions and recommendations that will be meaningful to all people of Hawaii.

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"If the Report is adopted in substantially its present form, the cause of the native Hawaiians will be severely damaged. No matter what the Commission may recommend in terms of remedial legislation, the underlying 'findings' concerning the right to relief of native Hawaiians will be so negative as to assure the defeat of any such remedial legislation," Senator Inouye concluded in his 40-page statement to the Commission.

He said the Report fails to meet either of its stated goals of a "full review of the history of U.S. relations with Hawaii" or of providing an impartial historical "analysis of the causes of the fall of the monarchy and annexation."

Several of the points made by Senator Inouye were:

--The Commission should have selected a more independent source than the U.S. Justice Department for its legal analysis, or the U.S. Naval Historian for its historical review of American participation in the overthrow of the monarchy. Both agencies are directly connected to the U.S. government, whose actions were under examination.

--The Report relies almost totally on secondary historical sources, rather than using major archival material in the Library of Congress, which contains papers of key U.S. government officials; the U.S. State Department diplomatic files of the period; or the Hawaiian Collection of the University of Hawaii Library and State Archives, which contain documents of leading annexationists.

--The Report fails to inquire into U.S. involvement in King Kalakaua's acceptance of the "Bayonet Constitution" of 1887, which substantially weakened the monarchy's powers and may have contributed to its fall in 1893. Nor did it assess U.S. involvement in defeating several attempts to restore the monarchy's authority in the intervening years.

--In its review of the overthrow of the monarchy, the Report accords equal weight to the Morgan Report of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Report of U.S. Commissioner James Blount. The Morgan Committee,
unlike Blount, never visited Hawaii, and never conducted hearings or interviews with participants on both sides of the conflict, and its report was not endorsed by all Committee members.

--The Report minimizes the role of U.S. Minister John Stevens in the 1893 overthrow, and exaggerates the ability of the Hawaiian army to resist U.S. troops landed by the USS BOSTON.

--The Report fails to adequately examine the alienation of most native Hawaiians from government under the subsequent Hawaiian Republic, which was ruled by an oligarchy, much less democratic and less free than its purported American model.

--The Report's finding that there is no basis in existing law for native Hawaiians to claim compensation from the United States for loss of land or sovereignty is irrelevant. Under its mandate, the Commission's more basic responsibility is to recommend a legislative remedy to meet the claims of native Hawaiians, if it was determined that their claims were legitimate. The Commission should not have limited itself to past claims histories of other aboriginal groups, such as native American Indians.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Congress today passed and sent to the President a Continuing Appropriations measure to provide operating funds for the 1983 fiscal year, which begins today.

The Senate-House conference on the bill last night agreed to several provisions inserted by Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the Senate version of the measure.

--The Native Hawaiians Study Commission will receive $190,000 to complete its report to Congress, which is due in June 1983.

--Nursing research funds would be increased by $1.6 million, to a total of $5 million, at the suggestion of Senator Inouye. These funds provide research grants in such areas as elderly nursing home programs, methods of improving care for cancer patients, and assisting patients experiencing heart problems caused by stress.

--The Department of Health and Human Services is required to develop a comprehensive plan for improved Pacific Basin health care.

--The United States Travel and Tourism Administration would receive funding of $7.6 million despite Administration efforts to reduce its funds by $2.3 million. The level approved by Congress enables the continued operation of overseas offices to promote travel to the United States.
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Senate today unanimously approved a $200,000 appropriation for the Native Hawaiians Study Commission, as an amendment to the Continuing Appropriations bill. The floor amendment was submitted by Senator James McClure (R-Idaho), chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, with the support of Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

"This appropriation would provide the necessary funds for the Commission to carry on its work until the submission of its final report to Congress next year.

"It is my hope that the final report will be more supportive of the case for native Hawaiian claims and provide a more balanced historical record than the draft report of its findings," said Senator Inouye.

The $200,000 would become available for Commission operations for the 1983 fiscal year, which begins on October 1.

After Senate passage of the Continuing Appropriations bill, the measure will be referred to a Senate-House conference, of which Senator Inouye will be a member.
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- A measure calling for a comprehensive Federal study of the physical and mental health needs of native Hawaiians was introduced today by Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

"Like other native American groups, native Hawaiians have suffered unique and serious problems, such as shorter life expectancy and above-normal incidences of disease and illness," Senator Inouye said.

The average life expectancy of native Hawaiians in 1979 was 67.6 years, compared to the State average of 74.2 years. Native Hawaiians account for an unusually high percentage of deaths due to heart disease, strokes and cancer, according to Hawaii health statistics.

High blood pressure, asthma, arthritis and diabetes are chronic illnesses more prevalent among native Hawaiians than other Hawaii ethnic groups.

The legislation authored by Senator Inouye, Senator Spark Matsunaga and Senator Ted Kennedy, ranking minority member of the Labor and Human Resources Committee, directs the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a formal review of the physical and mental health needs of native Hawaiians throughout the country. The results would be submitted to Congress within one year.

Similar legislation has already been enacted for American Indians and native Alaskans.

Native Hawaiians are now included in two Federally supported experimental programs: the Molokai Most-in-Need program aimed at providing opportunities for young adults, now in its second year; and the Waianae Mental Health program, a pilot project in its first year.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- I am deeply shocked and disappointed at the news media reports of the President's action regarding the Native Hawaiian Study Commission.

According to the legal sources that I have contacted, the President's actions appear to be of questionable legality. The Act provides that the President shall appoint the members but does not make any provision for their removal. I would hope that the White House gave this question considerable attention before taking its actions. I would also note that as a general rule, the dismissal of public servants must be based upon some cause. I would like to know--and I think the Commissioners deserve to know--the basis for their dismissal.

I am also concerned with the loss to this Commission of the services of three dedicated persons: George Chaplin, editor of THE HONOLULU ADVERTISER and authority on Hawaii's social, economic and political scene; Kuulei Palama Ihara, member of a distinguished Native Hawaiian family and long-time educator with the Bishop Museum; and Frenchy DeSoto, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and a leader of the new Hawaiian "renaissance movement."

I know that they had already begun their work as Commissioners, and I for one am very grateful for their services. I only hope that their successors will be as qualified and enthusiastic.

In the past, Congressional members have usually been notified of such Presidential actions by the President or his staff. In this case, I and the Commission members learned of this decision from the news media. For many years now, I have been a prime sponsor of legislation to address the Native Claims issue. Recent reports in news magazines show that my interest in this Commission was well-known by the White House, and by the President himself. To date, we have not received any official notification from the White House of this action.
STATEMENT BY DKI (re Native Claims commission)

"I am pleased that the commission will once again be in business. I hope there will be no further delays."
file

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Mr. President:

I am offering this amendment to provide the funding necessary to meet the salaries and expenses of the Native Hawaiians Study Commission pursuant to section 307(a) of Public Law 96-565, a measure which was enacted on December 22, 1980. This nine member Commission was established to assist the Congress in studying the culture, needs and concerns of the Native Hawaiians, with particular emphasis placed on resolving the issues surrounding the annexation of Hawaii by the United States. This matter has been brought before the last three Congresses and it was the judgment of the 96th Congress that a Commission be appointed to study the issues involved.

In accordance with section 307(a), for the remainder of fiscal year 1981, the initial funding for the work of the Commission was to be provided from the Senate contingency fund, and thereafter necessary funds were authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1982 and 1983.

On January 20, 1981, former President Jimmy Carter announced the appointments to the Commission, but prior to the call of the first meeting by the President, these appointments were terminated by President Reagan on March 10, 1981. On September 11, 1981, less than three weeks before the close of the current fiscal year, President Reagan appointed eight new members to the Commission, the first meeting of which was held on September 23, 1981.

Due to the lengthy delay in reconstituting the Native Hawaiians Study Commission, it is no longer feasible for the initial funding
Statement continued

for the Commission to be provided from the Senate contingency fund, as was originally intended. Inasmuch as the Commission is presently operating without any funding, I am requesting that $50,000 be added to the continuing resolution to enable the Commission to proceed with its mandated study. The native people of Hawaii have worked for many years towards the establishment of this Commission, and I feel that their concerns merit federal recognition.
Purpose: To provide the necessary funds to meet the salaries and expenses of the Native Hawaiians Study Commission, pursuant to section 307(a) of Public Law 96-565.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—97th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. ------------------------

H.R. H.J.Res. 325 (or Treaty ------------------------) SHORT TITLE

Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1982, and for other purposes.

( ) Referred to the Committee on __________

and ordered to be printed

( ) Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

INTENDED to be proposed by Senator Daniel K. Inouye

Viz:

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 106 of this joint resolution, pursuant to section 307(a) of Public Law 96-565, there is hereby appropriated the sum of $50,000 to be used for the salaries and expenses of the Native Hawaiians Study Commission.
Questions posed by the Senator on funding of the Commission:

1. The Senate was prepared to use its contingency fund during fiscal year 1981 in order to fund the Commission's operations. Unfortunately, the President withdrew the names.

2. At this stage, the Administration will need to submit a supplemental budget request to the Congress to provide the necessary funds.
STATEMENT BY SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUYE FOR HEARINGS BEFORE
THE HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN NATIVE LAND CLAIMS STUDY
COMMISSION

Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank you for taking time from
your busy schedule to come to Hawaii for this hearing on H.R.5791,
legislation introduced in the House by Congressmen Akaka and Heftel,
establishing a Hawaiian Native Land Claims Study Commission.
While I realize that this is not an issue that ranks high on
the national scene, it is one which has long concerned the
people of this state and one which, I am convinced, merits the
attention of the United States Congress and the American people.
I know that any issue which involves Native Americans, especially
those of Pacific Island descent, is a matter of interest to you
and we appreciate this demonstration of that interest and having
you with us today for this hearing.

As you are aware, Native Hawaiian Claims is a question
which has received the Hawaii Congressional Delegation's
attention for the past five years. In 1975, I
introduced S.J.Res. 155, a bill similar to that which is presently
before you. Though that measure was favorably reported by the
Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, insufficient time
remained in the 94th Congress to achieve full Senate approval.
I again introduced it in the 95th Congress as S.J.Res. 4 which
was favorably reported by the Senate Energy Committee and sub-
sequently unanimously passed by the Senate in October of 1978.
Unfortunately, the House of Representatives failed to act
favorably.
The purpose of S.J.Res. 4 was simple and straightforward; it is purported to accomplish three goals: First, it provides a clear statement by the Congress that, in 1893, a wrong was committed by representatives of the United States Government against the sovereign government of the Hawaiian Kingdom and her subjects; second, it set forth that this wrong has never been redressed; third, it provides a vehicle, the Hawaiian Native Claims Study Commission, to recommend the extent of the Federal obligation which is outstanding and the means by which that obligation can be met.

H.R.5791, which is before us here today, has similar goals. Like S.J.Res. 4 of the 95th Congress, the bill authorizes the establishment of a study commission directed to conduct a thorough investigation of the events surrounding the abdication of the indigenous government of the Hawaiian Kingdom and to make recommendations to the Congress based on its findings and conclusions. However, there are differences. Most obviously, H.R. 5791, eliminates any Congressional finding of improper or illegal conduct on the part of the United States and avoids mention of the federal government's obligation to endeavor to remedy the wrong represented by and resulting from its involvement in the affair. Also eliminated is the requirement that a majority of the commissioners be of some degree of Native Hawaiian blood. I realize that these and other modifications come in response to concerns expressed by opponents of S.J.Res. 4 during House floor debate and represent an earnest effort to avoid the barriers
and pitfalls encountered last year. I believe that this is a responsible approach to achieving House approval of a study commission measure in the 96th Congress, and I applaud Mr. Akaka and Mr. Heftel for their careful and candid evaluation of the situation and their commitment to seeing that a Native claims bill is accepted.

After the defeat of S.J.Res. 4 in September of 1978, I continued to meet with the Hawaiian leaders, individually and in groups to discuss and consider alternatives to the Study Commission Act. However, out of these discussions has grown an even stronger conviction that this is a just cause. While legitimate disagreement exists over the extent and nature of the proper redress there can be few who investigate the relevant past who in all honesty can doubt that a genuine grievance exists.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that the facts in this case are clear, that the United States Government should finally acknowledge its responsibility in this shameful affair, and should seriously seek a fair and equitable means of repairing the injury visited upon the Native Hawaiians. Accordingly, on December 13th, Senator Matsunaga and I reintroduced the Hawaiian Native Claims Study Commission Act as it passed the Senate in the 95th Congress. I sincerely hope that both the Senate and House versions of the Act achieve the swift approval of their respective bodies and that a strong and mutually acceptable compromise measure can be worked out in conference; one which accurately reflects the issues involved and adequately provides for the
rights and concerns of the Hawaiian people.

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By an act of war, committed with the participation of a diplomatic representative of the United States and without authority of Congress, the Government of a feeble but friendly and confiding people has been overthrown. A substantial wrong has thus been done which a due regard of our national character as well as the rights of the injured requires we should endeavor to repair.

However, though annexation was delayed for five years, a new administration supported the Republic of Hawaii's suit and annexation was finally consummated in 1898. The Constitution of the Republic expropriated the crown lands without compensation and made them available for purchase by private western interests. Lands held in the public domain were also appropriated and transferred to the United States Government upon annexation.

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Mr. President, the full repair of the injury suffered by the Hawaiian people is still unfinished business of this government. I realize that the legislation that is the subject of these hearings today is but one small step toward the final resolution of this issue. However, I believe it is a fair, reasonable, and perhaps the only currently feasible means of directing the Congress' attention to a serious consideration of the legitimate claims and the present needs of the Native Hawaiian people.

I obviously do not know specifically what this bill will do for the Hawaiian people. That will depend on the Study Commission's recommendations and on the Congress of the United States. I very much want the recommendations of the Commission to honestly reflect the desires and aspirations of the Hawaiian people and I hope they will be recommendations which will assist present and future
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Mr. Chairman, for the very tragic historical reasons which I have related, and which will be more fully discussed during the course of your Committee investigation, some in the Native Hawaiian community are understandably suspicious of placing their trust in the Federal Government for a fair resolution of their grievances. I can well understand their frustration with what must seem an endless process of bill introductions, hearings, and debate. As you well know, the wheels of Congress turn slowly. It is my fervent hope that the time is right; that the Congress will now respond affirmatively and provide that instrument which can help secure a just measure of redress for earlier wrongs which is the Hawaiians' due. I very much appreciate your interest as demonstrated by your presence here today.
STATEMENT BY SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUYE FOR HEARINGS BEFORE
THE HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN NATIVE LAND CLAIMS STUDY COMMISSION

Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to come to Hawaii for this hearing on H.R.5791, legislation introduced in the House by Congressmen Akaka and Heftel, establishing a Hawaiian Native Land Claims Study Commission. While I realize that this is not an issue that ranks high on the national scene, it is one which has long concerned the people of this state and one which, I am convinced, merits the attention of the United States Congress and the American people. I know that any issue which involves Native Americans, especially those of Pacific Island descent, is a matter of interest to you and we appreciate this demonstration of that interest and having you with us today for this hearing.

As you are aware, Native Hawaiian Claims is a question which has received the Hawaii Congressional Delegation's attention for the past for the past five years. In 1975, I introduced S.J.Res. 155, a bill similar to that which is presently before you. Though that measure was favorably reported by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, insufficient time remained in the 94th Congress to achieve full Senate approval. I again introduced it in the 95th Congress as S.J.Res. 4 which was favorably reported by the Senate Energy Committee and subsequently unanimously passed by the Senate in October of 1978. Unfortunately, the House of Representatives failed to act favorably.
The purpose of S.J.Res. 4 was simple and straightforward; is purported to accomplish three goals: First, it provides a clear statement by the Congress that, in 1893, a wrong was committed by representatives of the United States Government against the sovereign government of the Hawaiian Kingdom and her subjects, second, it set forth that this wrong has never been redressed, third, it provides a vehicle, the Hawaiian Native Claims Study Commission which will recommend the extent of the Federal obligation which is outstanding and the means by which that obligation can be met.

H.R.5791, which is before us here today, has similar goals. Like S.J.Res. 4 of the 95th Congress, the bill authorizes the establishment of a study commission directed to conduct a thorough investigation of the events surrounding the abdication of the indigenous government of the Hawaiian Kingdom and to make recommendations to the Congress based on its findings and conclusions. However, there are differences. Most obviously, H.R. 5791, eliminates any Congressional finding of improper or illegal conduct on the part of the United States and avoids mention of the federal government's obligation to endeavor to remedy the wrong represented by and resulting from its involvement in the affair. Also eliminated is the requirement that a majority of the commissioners be of some degree of Native Hawaiian blood. I realize that these and other modifications come in response to concerns expressed by opponents of S.J.Res. 4 during House floor debate and represent an earnest effort to avoid the barriers
and pitfalls encountered last year. I believe that this is a responsible approach to achieving House approval of a study commission measure in the 96th Congress, and I applaud Mr. Akaka and Mr. Heftel for their careful and candid evaluation of the situation and their commitment to seeing that a Native claims bill is accepted.

After the defeat of S.J.Res. 4 in September of 1978, I continued to meet with the Hawaiian leaders, individually and in groups to discuss and consider alternatives to the Study Commission Act. However, out of these discussions has grown an even stronger conviction that this is a just cause. While legitimate disagreement exists over the extent and nature of the proper redress there can be few who investigate the relevant past who in all honesty can doubt that a genuine grievance exists. Mr. Chairman, I believe that the facts in this case are clear, that the United States Government should finally acknowledge its responsibility in this shameful affair, and should seriously seek a fair and equitable means of repairing the injury visited upon the Native Hawaiians. Accordingly, on December 13th, Senator Matsunaga and I reintroduced the Hawaiian Native Claims Study Commission Act as it passed the Senate in the 95th Congress. I sincerely hope that both the Senate and House versions of the Act achieve the swift approval of their respective bodies and that a strong and mutually acceptable compromise measure can be worked out in conference; one which accurately reflects the issues involved and adequately provides for the
rights and concerns of the Hawaiian people.

Mr. Chairman, history sadly records that the United States did not choose a peaceful route to annexation of the Hawaiian Islands. Instead, by an act of war in January, 1893, official representatives of the United States participated significantly in the wrongful and illegal conspiracy and subsequent overthrow of an officially recognized and friendly government that had enjoyed amicable relations with the Government of the United States. That friendly government was the constitutional monarchy of Queen Liliuokalani of the independent and sovereign Kingdom of Hawaii which had prevailed for over 100 years and which was invested with a sophisticated social, economic, political and legal organization but which was militarily weak.

The coming of the white man, almost a century earlier, and the ravages of the diseases he brought, served to drastically weaken the Hawaiian people and their traditional laws and customs. By the last 1880's the increasing westernization of Hawaiian society and Government under pressure from Western religious and business interests was breaking down the traditional forms of the monarchy. Queen Liliuokalani's attempt to regain some of the powers and rights of the Hawaiian monarch in 1892 triggered a well-planned conspiracy by a small but influential foreign elite, many of whom were American citizens. Deeply involved in this conspiracy was the U.S. Representative to Hawaii, Mr. John L. Stevens, who arranged to have marines from the USS BOSTON docked in Honolulu Harbor and
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Mr. President, the full repair of the injury suffered by the Hawaiian people is still unfinished business of this government. I realize that the legislation that is the subject of these hearings today is but one small step toward the final resolution of this issue. However, I believe it is a fair, reasonable, and perhaps the only currently feasible means of directing the Congress' attention to a serious consideration of the legitimate claims and the present needs of the Native Hawaiian people.

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HR 5791 does not represent a drastic departure from these goals. Like the Senate passed version, the bill authorizes the establishment of a study commission directed to conduct a thorough investigation of the events surrounding the abdication of the indigenous government of the Hawaiian Kingdom and to make recommendations to the Congress based on its findings and conclusions. However, there are differences. Most obviously, HR 5791, eliminates any Congressional finding of improper or illegal conduct on the part of the United States and avoids mention of the federal government's obligation to endeavor to remedy the wrong represented by and resulting from its involvement in the affair. Also eliminated is the requirement that a majority of the commissioners be of some degree of Native Hawaiian blood. I realize that these and other modifications come in response to concerns expressed by opponents of S.J. Res 4 during House floor debate and represent an earnest effort to avoid the barriers and pitfalls encountered last year. I believe that this is a responsible approach to achieving House approval of a study commission measure in the 96th Congress and I applaud Mr. Akaka and Mr. Heftel for their careful and candid evaluation of the situation and their commitment to seeing that a Native claims bill is accepted.

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