

Declaration Reaffirming Independence & Protesting Na'i Aupuni and United States Federal Recognition

Whereas Kanaka Maoli are the first peoples of Ko Hawai'i Pae 'Āina (the Hawaiian Archipelago) since time immemorial;

Whereas the Kingdom of Hawai'i was recognized as a nation in 1843 by the then Family of Nations;

Whereas the multi-ethnic Kingdom of Hawai'i – the majority of which were Kanaka Maoli – was overthrown in 1893 by a small clique of American businessmen with the assistance of the United States (US) military;

Whereas the living descendants of the citizens of the Kingdom of Hawai'i, like their ancestors, continue to assert unrelinquished sovereignty over Ko Hawai'i Pae 'Āina;

Whereas in 2014 the Department of Interior (DOI) ignored all verbal testimony for restitution, reconciliation, self-determination, and Independence as the DOI continues to pursue the path of Federal Recognition for Hawai'i;



Therefore, be it resolved that we the undersigned:

Reaffirm our right to Independence and self-determination;

Repudiate Na'i Aupuni's false claim to be the representative voice of the Kanaka Maoli people;

Reject the present and future US attempts through the DOI to Federally Recognize the Kanaka Maoli people on a par with a Native American Tribe under the document entitled "Procedures for Reestablishing a Formal Government-to-Government Relationship with the Native Hawaiian Community;"

Assert our commitment to Uphold and Honor the ongoing endeavors to rebuild our Lāhui via, among other ways:

- 1) the reclamation of our gathering rights,
- 2) the spread of 'ōlelo Hawaii and the re-envisioning of our educational systems,
- 3) the revitalization of our traditional resource stewardship that assured food sustainability through responsible stream, estuary/reef management as well as kalo farming and fishpond upkeep;
- 4) resistance of the perils of climate change via the pursuit of a truly independent economic system free from the strangle-hold of transnational corporations;
- 5) the re-invigoration of traditional means of healing such as 'ai pono, ho'oponopono, lomilomi, and the protection of wahi pana like Mauna Kea, Waipi'o, and Haleakalā;
- 6) the expansion of scholarly research to uncover the full range of traditional knowledge that our kūpuna gifted us;

Finally, **we shall Unify** all efforts to **create** an Independent Hawai'i, and so **restore** Ko Hawai'i Pae 'Āina to the descendants of the Hawaiian Kingdom **for a better future** for generations to come...

GO TO www.ahaalohaaina.com TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

Declaration from Lāhui Kanaka Rejecting and Condemning Na‘i Aupuni ‘Aha

We, the undersigned, firmly reject the illegitimate Na‘i Aupuni ‘Aha objective to create a Native Hawaiian government. We stand in opposition to any governing documents and governing body that is produced through this ‘aha. We continue to stand for the unification of our people through a transparent process, free from any state or federal interference, control, or prescribed destiny.

The ‘Aha 2016 stems from a top-down approach in which all of the terms: the use of Hawaiian trust monies; participation; timeline; representation; the convention, and outcomes have been determined by a small number of people, including former Governor Abercrombie; the State legislature; the Governor-appointed Kana‘iolowalu commissioners; the OHA Board of Trustees; the OHA-selected Na‘i Aupuni Board; and approximately 150 self-appointed ‘aha participants. Each of these parties is complicit in driving an agenda that has divided our people more than ever.

In addition to this deeply flawed process, the 150 individuals who have not been elected or vetted have nevertheless decided to produce governing documents that will attempt to create a governing body on behalf of the Hawaiian nation in a private meeting. This approach violates the most basic principles of self-determination, upholds the status quo, and must be rejected.

The undersigned demand that the ‘Aha 2016 cease and desist from continuing to produce any *governing documents*. We stand in opposition to any attempt by individuals or organizations selected and sponsored by the State of Hawai‘i to speak for the Hawaiian nation or to determine our future. We support an open and transparent process that is based on education, consultation, consent and unity.

We call upon the ‘Aha participants to join us in demanding nothing less than an initiative envisioned and designed by the lāhui, open to all kānaka who wish to participate, free from conditions that we had no part in creating. Such a process should include an appropriate time frame for such an important task; it should be open; and it should be free of any State of Hawai‘i interference, control or prescribed destiny.

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