**HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS**

**Legislative Committee Report**

**January 29, 2014**

**TO: Davis Price, Chair, Hawaiian Affairs Caucus**

 **Members, Hawaiian Affairs Caucus**

**SUBJECT: Report of the Legislative Committee**

Aloha mai, kākou

1. **Legislative Priorities**: We held our first legislative committee meeting on January 22, 2014. It was a grueling meeting as we reviewed an 18-page listing of 103 bills compiled by co-chair Vares, plus the legislative priorities of OHA, DHHL, and the DPH. After much debate, the committee settled on the legislative priorities as shown on the attachment. We now ask for your adoption of this list of legislative priorities as a result of the meeting.

Additionally, several bills were introduced after our meeting. Co-Chair Vares will be reviewing these with the caucus at this evening’s meeting, and we will ask for a motion to adopt support for some of them to be added to our legislative priorities list.

Helping to track bills, write and give oral testimony are:

Agriculture and Environment: Juanita Brown Kawamoto

Cultural: Raytan Vares

Hawaiian Language and Education: Davis Price

Charter Schools: To be announced

Hawaiian Home Lands: To be announced

Governance and Public Lands: Leimomi Khan

All written testimony sent to the legislature will be approved by the HAC Chair Davis Price and all oral testimony will be consistent with the written testimony.

2. **Initiatives**: The Executive Committee and various members of the caucus have asked us to consider the following initiatives:

1. Host a U.S. Senate Forum at one of our general caucus meetings
2. Host a Forum of OHA Trustee Candidates who have made in to the General Election
3. Conduct education on the OHA Primary/General Election process
4. Review the DPH Platform to determine whether it should be improved upon as related to Native Hawaiians; write resolutions
5. Conduct a candidate survey
6. Arrange for guest speakers at our caucus meetings, subject to approval of the HAC Chair, such as on the topics of Homeless, Geothermal, ‘iwi, invasive species, charter schools, etc.

The extent to which we can implement these initiatives depends upon the time and resources available to us, and in particular, the number of volunteers to help to do the work. Thus, we are calling upon YOU to contact either of us to let us know of your interest and availability to help us with this work. Better still, join the legislative committee!

3. Legislative Committee Meetings, Dates, Times, and Locations: February 10 (Monday); March 10 (Monday); April 9 (Wednesday), 6:00 p.m., at Native Books in the Ward Warehouse. (Please watch for announcements of our meetings, since last minute circumstances could result in change).

Respectfully submitted

LEIMOMI KHAN RAYTAN VARES

Co-Chair Co-Chair

Attachment: HAC Legislative 2014 Priorities