HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS

Legislative Committee Meeting

January 9, 2014, Leimomi’s Residence

1. Call to Order: Davis Price, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Members present: Davis Price, Pohai Ryan, Kamaile Maldonado, Rayton Vares, and Leimomi Khan.

2. Approval of Agenda: Leimomi Khan moved, seconded by Kamaile Maldonado to adopt the agenda with amendment to add pule. Motion adopted unanimously.

3. Old Business: Chair Davis reviewed the 2013 HAC Legislative priorities, noting that priority was on five areas, Agriculture/Environment/Energy, Education, Government, Land, and Miscellaneous. He highlighted some of the bills that HAC supported and their status.

1. HB224 and SB410, Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program – Last action was that bills ended in conference committee; carried over to 2014 regular session. Despite not being passed in 2013, legislature did appropriate funds to DOE for this work.
2. HB174, HD1, Relating to Food Labeling; and HB733 and SB1290 Related to Labeling of Genetically Engineered Foods. Bills were not adopted in 2013 session; carried over to 2014 regular session.
3. HB 220 and SB 405, Relating to Training. Bills were not adopted in 2013 session; carried over to 2014 regular session.
4. Public Land Development Corporation Repeal bills. Adopted.
5. SB3, Relating to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, providing for the election of the OHA board members through a system of nonpartisan primary and general elections to begin with the 2014 elections. Adopted.

4. New Business

1. Appointment of New Chair for the Legislative Committee: Chair Davis appointed Rayton Vares and Leimomi Khan as co-chairs, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee. He also circulated Standing Rules 2012-1, February 1, 2013, Legislation Committee, that outlines the policies and procedures that guide the management and operation of the HAC Legislation Committee.
2. OHA and DHHL Legislative Priorities: The Chair circulated the OHA and DHHL legislative priorities for information; Pohai Ryan circulated the legislative timetable and the actual DHHL bills. Besides these priorities, members anticipate additional bills concerning self-governance, early childhood, kupuna care, etc. Leimomi encouraged consideration of bills concerning health and human services (homeless).
3. HAC 2014 Legislative Agenda
4. Steering committee meeting will be held next week at which appointment of the legislative committee co-chairs will be confirmed.
5. Legislative committee to meet the following week to develop the HAC legislative agenda for 2014.
6. General membership meeting to be held early February to adopt the HAC legislative agenda. Speakers such as Colin Kippen will be invited to do a presentation.
7. Chair will immediately send out invitation to the Hawaiian Affairs Caucus membership inviting their participation on the legislative committee and also to seek their mana’o on issues they wish the legislative committee to consider.
8. DPH SCC Legislative Priorities: Leimomi Khan circulated the DPH SCC Legislation Committee reports that contained the proposed DPH legislative priorities. They are: Increasing the Minimum Wage; Early Childhood Education; Support of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Education; Increasing Neighbor Island Participation in the Legislative Process; Invasive Species Protection, Climate Change; GMO Labeling; and supporting home rule at the county level concerning GMO. The proposed DPH legislative priorities will be acted upon at the upcoming SCC meeting on Saturday, January 11. Kamaile Maldonado moved and Rayton Vares seconded to support the SCC proposed legislative priorities. Motion adopted unanimously. Leimomi noted that the proposed DPH legislative priorities were earlier circulated to the HAC Executive Committee and she has received no comments voicing objection to them.
9. Other Proposals:
10. Pohai Ryan recommended that the legislative committee consider a survey of candidates on Native Hawaiian issues and that the results of the survey be published to the DPH membership. She will draft an outline of a plan to do this.
11. Leimomi Khan suggested that the HAC conduct education, for example by information flyers, to its membership about the election process for OHA in 2014; and inviting candidates that make it to the general election to speak to the HAC membership. She will also draft a proposal plan to do this.
12. Chair Price spoke to the importance of building alliances with other groups.

5. Announcements: Pohai Ryan shared her proposal to hold the all-caucus social at the convention.

6. Adjournment: There being no other business, Chair Price adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

LEIMOMI KHAN

Member, HAC Legislative Committee

January 10, 2013