

NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RENAMING FORT KAMEHAMEHA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) is made up of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian State Legislators from 18 states and is organized to provide a forum for discussion, education and increased communication. Additionally, the NCNASL identifies and proposes legislation and administrative actions to eliminate barriers to achievement of a better quality of life for Native people.

WHEREAS born circa 1758 in Kokoiki in the Kohala District of Hawaii Island, King Kamehameha I, also known as King Kamehameha the Great, grew into a courageous warrior and chief; and

WHEREAS after the death of his uncle, Chief Kalaniopu'u, Kamehameha's cousin, Kiwalao, inherited control of Hawaii Island, while Kamehameha was given custody of the war gods and temples; and

WHEREAS district chiefs, dissatisfied with Kiwalao's land redistricting, joined forces and under the leadership of Kamehameha defeated the forces of Kiwalao, whereby Kamehameha attained control over half of Hawaii Island; and

WHEREAS in 1790, after gaining control over the entire Island of Hawaii, Kamehameha successfully invaded the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, later conquering the island of Oahu, and finally obtaining control over the island of Kauai, thereby fulfilling his destiny and uniting all the inhabited islands of Hawaii by 1810; and

WHEREAS as king, Kamehameha the Great placed capable followers in charge of large districts and encouraged trade and other peaceful activities with foreign nations, opening Hawaii up to the rest of the world and turning Hawaii into a great monarchy; and

WHEREAS Kamehameha the Great, responsible for the unification of the Hawaiian Islands and the formation of the Kingdom of Hawaii among other great deeds, is considered by many to be the most important and greatest of all of the monarchs to ever rule over Hawaii; and

WHEREAS the wastewater treatment plant at Hickam Air Force Base on the island of Oahu is named the Fort Kamehameha Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS given the importance and significance of Kamehameha the Great, attaching his name to a wastewater treatment plant is an inappropriate and unsuitable use for such a revered name in Hawaii history; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS that the inherent sovereignty of Tribes as recognized through historical treaties and legal relationships that exist between Tribal Nations and the United States of America is undeniable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE NATIONAL CAUCUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN STATE LEGISLATORS that the Congress of the United States and Commander of Hickam Air Force Base on the island of Oahu, Hawaii are urged to rename the Fort Kamehameha Wastewater Treatment Plant out of respect for this revered leader of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

Sponsored by: Rep. Karen Awana (HI)

Approved date is: June 25, 2010

Committee of Jurisdiction:

Certified by Committee Chair: Rep. Karen Awana (HI)

Certified by Caucus Chair: Rep. John McCoy (WA)

Ratified certified by:

Distribution List: Members of Congress
Administration
Commander of Hickam Air Force Base