

**Report to the Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
2008 Regular Session**

**Interim Report  
Aha Kiole Advisory Committee**



Prepared by:  
Aha Kiole Advisory Committee  
State of Hawai'i

In response to:  
Act 212 Relating to Native Hawaiians

December 28, 2007

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## 1. BACKGROUND

On June 27, 2007, Governor Linda Lingle signed into law SB1853 SD2 HD2 CD1, A Bill for an Act Relating to Native Hawaiians (Act 212). The law was enacted on July 1, 2007. The Act creates the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee to advise the Legislature to carry out the purposes of the Act.

Through Act 212, the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee is mandated with providing the Hawaii Legislature with an interim report to prior to the 2008 legislature.

The Act also directs the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee with the following tasks:

- Provide information to the legislature on the creation of an Aha Moku Council System, whose purpose will be to advise the State of Hawaii on Native Hawaiian resource management practices; derive a comprehensive set of native Hawaiian best practices for natural resource management; foster understanding and practical utilization of this knowledge; ensure the future sustainable use of marine, land, cultural, agricultural and natural resources; enhance community education and cultural awareness; and participate in the protection and preservation of the State's natural resources.
- Engage in discussion with the community to develop consensus on establishing an Aha Moku Council System and Aha Moku Council Commission.
- Develop an administrative structure for the creation of an Aha Moku Council Commission with eight Aha Kiole members representing each of the eight main Hawaiian Islands.
- Establish standard eligibility criteria and a selection process for each Aha Kiole and the selection of an executive director.
- Establish goals and objectives for an Aha Moku Council Commission to accomplish, including benchmarks and sustainable objectives.
- Submit an operational budget for the Aha Moku Council Commission to conduct meetings, cover administration expenses, and disseminate information and advice for the creation of an Aha Moku Council Commission.

The Act appropriated \$111,000 for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the same sum for fiscal year 2008-2009 for administrative costs related to carrying out the duties of the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee and for allowing each of the thirty-seven moku statewide to actively participate and engage in discussion on the creation of the Aha Moku Council System. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the purposes of this Act.

## **2. AHA KIOLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

As mandated by Act 212, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs submitted a list of nominees for the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee to Governor Linda Lingle. The Association presented a list of twenty-one nominees to the Governor's office on October 9, 2007.

On November 1, 2007, the Governor announced the selection of the eight Aha Kiole Advisory Committee members representing each of the main Hawaiian Islands from the list submitted by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs. News of the announcement has been widely publicized (Appendix A) by the media.

The Aha Kiole Advisory Committee members are as follows:

- Timothy Paulokaleioku Bailey, biological science technician, Haleakala National Park, Maui
- Jean Ieialoha Keale Beniamina, associate professor, student services, Kauai Community College, Kauai
- Winifred I. K. Basques, retired, Lanai Community Hospital, Lanai
- Vanda Hanakahi, homemaker, community Hawaiian cultural specialist, Molokai
- Charles William Kanaha Kapua, retired, Honolulu Police Department, Oahu
- Leslie A. Kuloloio, cultural consultant, Kahoolawe
- Hugh S. Lovell, agricultural research specialist, Research Corporation University of Hawaii, Kamuela, Hawaii
- Sharon A. Pomroy, Lehua Mamo Flower Farm, Kauai

When the selection was announced, all eight members were attending the Hoohanohano I Na Kupuna Puwalu V, Hooni I Na Kai Ewalu, which was meeting Oct. 31 to Nov. 1, 2007, at the Pagoda Hotel in Honolulu. The Aha Kiole Advisory Committee members were sworn in on November 1, 2007. At the end of the conference, they took advantage of the special circumstance of their all being together to briefly meet. During this time, they selected Vanda Hanakahi of Molokai as chairperson. They asked Leimana Damate of Kau to assist them as community coordinator.

## **3. NEXT STEPS**

The Aha Kiole Advisory Committee chairperson has tasked each member of the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee with determining the meetings and events to be held by the moku of their mukupuni in 2008 (Appendix B). The Aha Kiole Advisory Committee members will participate in these meeting and events to engage in discussion with the community to develop consensus on establishing an Aha Moku Council System and Aha Moku Council Commission.

The Aha Kiole Advisory Committee will also begin meeting in 2008 to discuss a common approach and message to take to the communities and to discuss the input that is received from the moku. (Appendix C)

However, actions by the Advisory Committee members are dependent on release of funds from the Department of Land and Natural Resources or the establishment of an agreement between the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee and the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the processing of the funds appropriated in Act 212. By request from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, a draft budget has been submitted (Appendix D). The Advisory Council is now waiting for completion of the state processes that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Division of Budget and Finance must undergo to address the appropriations of the funds.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

The members of the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee *mahalo* the legislature for this great opportunity that you have given us and acknowledge the trust you have placed on us. We do not take this responsibility lightly. We have all committed to accomplishing this great task for the betterment of all of Hawaii.

The public has been notified about the Aha Moku Councils, native Hawaiians have expressed great interest in revitalizing this traditional natural resource system, and we look forward to the release of the funds so we can begin our work.

### News of the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee (partial list)

- “Aha Kiole Advisory Committee Selected,” by Rep. Mele Carroll. Hawaii House Blog (<http://hawaiihouseblog.blogspot.com/2007/11/aha-kiole-advisory-committee-selected.html>). November 1, 2007.
- Senator Norman Sakamoto newsletter. November 2007. ([http://normansakamoto.org/documents/2007November\\_000.pdf](http://normansakamoto.org/documents/2007November_000.pdf))
- “Gov. names aha kiole advisory committee members.” Your Street. Nov. 4, 2007. <http://www.yourstreet.com/2007/11/4/69/1769155/gov-names-aha-kiole-advisory-committee-members>
- “Aha kiole advisory committee members selected.” The Molokai Times. Nov. 8, 2007. <http://www.molokaitimes.com/articles/7116234915.asp>
- “7 Selected for New State Committee.” KGMB9. com. Nov. 8, 2007.
- “Governor Lingle Names Members to Aha Kiole Advisory Committee.” Press release. Nov. 9, 2007. [http://www.hawaii.gov/gov/news/releases/Folder.2007-01-31.1527/News\\_Item.2007-11-09.3145](http://www.hawaii.gov/gov/news/releases/Folder.2007-01-31.1527/News_Item.2007-11-09.3145)
- “Hawaiian practices advisory group named.” Pacific Business News. Nov. 9, 2007.
- “8 tapped in Hawaiian community for DLNR panel.” Honolulu Advertiser. Nov. 9, 2007.
- “Lingle names eight to ‘Aha Kiole committee.” Garden Island. Nov. 10, 2007. <http://www.kauaiworld.com/articles/2007/11/11/government/gov02.prt>
- “Gov. Lingle Names Members to Aha Kiole Advisory,” by Russell Pang. Hawaii Reporter. Nov. 12, 2007.
- “Nine named to aid lawmakers on BLNR advisory panel effort.” Maui News. Nov. 19, 2007. <http://www.mauinews.com/news/2007/11/19/03nine1119.html>
- “Aha Moku Councils Move Forward.” Sen. Kalani English newsletter. Nov. 20, 2007. <http://www.kalanienglish.com/pdf/senenglish-2007-report3.pdf>
- “Aha Moku council moves forward with newly announced advisory committee.” *Ka Wai Ola* (Office of Hawaiian Affairs newspaper), December 2007, page 11.
- “Aka ‘ula building next generation of leaders,” by Gov. Linda Lingle. The Molokai Times. Dec. 3, 2007. <http://www.molokaitimes.com/articles/712303446.asp>
- “UH students ideas, research to local activists.” [www.savekauai.org](http://www.savekauai.org). Dec. 10, 2007.

**List of Moku Meeting and Events (partial list)**

July 14, 2007	Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Oahu District Council Meeting, O'ahu
July 16, 2007	Sustainability 2050 Meeting, O'ahu
July 18, 2007	Hawaiian Electric Ocean Planning Meeting, O'ahu
July 28, 2007	Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Board Meeting, O'ahu
July 21, 2007	Puna Community Meeting, Puna, Hawaii
Aug. 3, 2007	Puako Kohala Community Meeting, Hawai'i
Aug. 23, 2007	Aloha Festivals Celebration Gathering, Volcano Arts, Volcano
Aug. 27, 2007	Earth Maui Nature Summit, Kapalua, Maui
Aug. 29, 2007	Maunaloa Plantation Festival, Moloka'I
Sept. 29, 2007	AHCC Oahu District Council Meeting, O'ahu
Oct. 2007	National Park Division Meeting, Maui
Oct. 7, 2007	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Hawaii Fishing and Seafood Festival, O'ahu
Oct. 14, 2007	Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Convention, Alaska
Oct. 31-Nov 1, 2007	Ho'ohanohano I Na Kupuna Puwalu 'Elima, O'ahu
Nov. 13, 2007	Waianae Neighborhood Board Meeting, O'ahu,
Dec 12, 2007	Water Resource Meeting, Kahului, Maui
Dec 28, 2007	Habitat Restoration of Waihee, Central Maui
Jan. 13, 2008	Royal Order of Kamehameha, Maui Chapter, Kahului, Maui
Jan. 24, 2007	East Maui Community Meeting, East Maui
Jan. 2008	Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, Maui,
Jan. 2008	Kailua-Kona Community Meeting, Kona, Hawaii
Jan. 3, 2008	Kuliouou/Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board, Oahu
Jan. 8, 2008	Waikiki Neighborhood Board, Waikiki, O'ahu
Jan. 10, 2008	Ewa Beach Neighborhood Board, Ewa
Jan. 14, 2008	Waimanalo Neighborhood Board, Waimanalo, O'ahu
Feb. 7, 2008	Kailua Neighborhood Board, Kailua, O'ahu
Feb. 14, 2008	Koolauloa/Hauula Neighborhood Board, Hauula



APPENDIX D

**Aha Kiole Advisory Committee Draft Budget Summary**

	FY 2007- 2008	FY 2008- 2009
	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Total Amount to be expended: \$222,000.	111,000.00	111,000.00
<b><u>Community Meetings and Events-Venues, supplies, equipment rental</u></b>		
Mokupuni (Island) Planning Meetings (see table below)	3,200.00	3,200.00
Ahupua'a Community Meetings (49 @ 300.00) (see table below)	14,700.00	14,700.00
Puwalu (Symposium)	4,210.00	4,210.00
<b><u>Travel</u></b>		
Aha Kiole – 7 (air, lodging, ground transportation, per diem)	10,500.00	10,500.00
Symposium participants (65 air from all islands)	13,050.00	13,050.00
Community Coordinator-Aha Kiole support (air,lodging,perdiem)	1,920.00	1,920.00
<b><u>Contracts</u></b>		
Community Meetings Coordinator	40,000.00	40,000.00
Reports/Proceedings – design/production of community/symposium reports	10,000.00	10,000.00
Facilitation-symposium and island-wide meetings	5,020.00	5,020.00
Transcription-recording services to document large meetings	2,500.00	2,500.00
<b><u>Equipment and Supplies</u></b>		
Printing-meeting materials and reports, informational/educational material	3,000.00	3,000.00
Postage-Kiole communications	250.00	250.00
Office Supplies	1,750.00	1,750.00
<b><u>Other</u></b>		
Community and Kiole meeting notices	<u>900.00</u>	<u>900.00</u>

ISLAND	MOKU NO.	AHUPUA'A	MEETINGS	MOKUPUNI
Hawaii	6	174	10	1
Maui	12	181	12	2
Lana'i	2	13	1	1
Moloka'i	5	59	5	1
O'ahu	6	91	14	1
Kaua'i	6	61	5	2
Niihau	2	n/a	1	n/a
Kahoolawe	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Totals</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>8</b>

Act 212



GOV. MSG. NO 983

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

June 27, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President  
and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on June 27, 2007, the following bill was signed into law:

SB1855 SD2 HD2 CD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATIVE  
HAWAIIANS,  
(ACT 212)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Lingle".

LINDA LINGLE

Approved by the Governor  
On JUN 27 2007  
THE SENATE  
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007  
STATE OF HAWAII

**ACT 212**  
**S.B. NO.** 1853  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 2  
C.D. 1

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, over the past two  
2 hundred years, Hawai'i has seen and experienced severe changes.  
3 These changes include the deterioration of the Hawaiian culture,  
4 language, values, and land tenure system, which have in part  
5 resulted in the over-development of the coastline, alteration of  
6 fresh water streams, destruction of the life-giving watersheds,  
7 decimation of the coral reefs, and the decline of endemic marine  
8 and terrestrial species.  
9           Native Hawaiian culture has knowledge that has been passed  
10 on for generations, and still living for the purposes of  
11 perpetuating traditional protocols, caring for and protecting  
12 the environment, and strengthening cultural and spiritual  
13 connections. It is through the 'aha moku council that native  
14 Hawaiians protected their environment and sustained the  
15 abundance of resources that they depended upon for thousands of  
16 years.

2007-3686 SB1853 CD1 SMA-1.doc



1 Today, many Hawaiian communities are becoming revitalized  
2 by using the knowledge of cultural practitioners that was passed  
3 down through kupuna, and experienced farmers (mahi'ai) and  
4 fishers (lawai'a) to engage and enhance sustainability,  
5 subsistence, and self-sufficiency. Furthermore, many Hawaiian  
6 communities are interested, concerned, involved, willing, and  
7 able to advise government agencies, organizations, and other  
8 interested groups in integrating traditional knowledge and  
9 ahupua'a management practices.

10 The legislature further finds that on August 15-17, 2006,  
11 the Ho'chanoano i Ma Kupuna Puwale series began and native  
12 Hawaiian cultural and traditional practitioners who are versed  
13 in lawai'a and mahi'ai, ocean, and land ahupua'a methods gathered  
14 to discuss and bring forth the wisdom of the kupuna and  
15 ancestors. It was a gathering of empirical knowledge handed  
16 down from generation to generation on traditional fishing,  
17 agriculture, streams, fishponds, and land use methodology based  
18 on the ahupua'a system. Representatives from thirty-seven moku  
19 in the State and over one hundred ahupua'a practitioners,  
20 including kupuna and the acknowledged traditional experts of



1 each moku, all joined together to come forth with their mana'o  
2 and concerns.

3 The conclusion of Puwale 'Ehahi was the creation of a  
4 resolution calling on native Hawaiians to begin a process to  
5 uphold and continue Hawaiian traditional land and ocean  
6 practices. Perpetuating and preserving the knowledge of the  
7 practitioners through the continuation of the konohiki  
8 management, the kapu system, and the creation of an 'aha moku and  
9 the ahupua'a management system was the consensus.

10 On November 8 and 9, 2006, Puwale 'Ehahi brought together  
11 educators, administrators, cultural practitioners, and kupuna to  
12 discuss practices such as: values and the spiritual connection  
13 between natural resources and native Hawaiians; the ahupua'a  
14 concept; generational knowledge and learning; the importance of  
15 place names and mo'olelo; seasonal closures and lunar calendars;  
16 fishing practices; Northwest Hawaiian islands; konohiki  
17 connections; marine protected areas; 'upena (nets); placed based  
18 kapu; limu; and pu'uhonua concepts that could be developed as an  
19 educational framework to integrate this knowledge into a  
20 curricula for all public, private, charter, and Hawaiian  
21 immersion schools in Hawai'i.

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1           On December 19 and 20, 2006, Puwale 'Elua brought together  
2 major policymakers and stakeholders in the protection of the  
3 Hawai'i ecosystem. Native Hawaiian practitioners and experts in  
4 traditional methods of sustainability, government policymakers  
5 including members of the legislature, state agency directors,  
6 environmental groups, educational leaders, and Hawaiian  
7 community organizations discussed existing programs and their  
8 successes and failures in community building. In conclusion, it  
9 was agreed that the statutes and ordinances, and a framework for  
10 community consultation using the Hawaiian perspective and  
11 traditional methods such as the ahupua'a management system was  
12 needed, and the creation of the 'aha moku councils should be  
13 established.

14           The purpose of this Act is to initiate the process to  
15 create a system of best practices that is based upon the  
16 indigenous resource management practices of moku (regional)  
17 boundaries, which acknowledges the natural contours of land, the  
18 specific resources located within those areas, and the  
19 methodology necessary to sustain resources and the community.  
20 The 'aha moku council system will foster understanding and  
21 practical use of knowledge, including native Hawaiian  
22 methodology and expertise, to assure responsible stewardship and



1 awareness of the interconnectedness of the clouds, forests,  
2 valleys, land, streams, fishponds, and sea. The council system  
3 will include the use of community expertise and establish  
4 programs and projects to improve communication, education,  
5 provide training on stewardship issues throughout the region  
6 (moku), and increase education.

7 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the 'aha kōle  
8 advisory committee to advise the legislature in carrying out the  
9 purposes of this Act. The advisory committee shall consist of  
10 eight members appointed by the governor without regard to  
11 sections 26-34 and 78-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, from a list of  
12 nominations submitted by the Association of Hawaiian Civic  
13 Clubs. The advisory committee members shall select the  
14 chairperson of the committee and shall be reimbursed for  
15 expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the  
16 performance of their duties.

17 (b) The advisory committee shall:

18 (1) Explore, examine, and derive best practice models for  
19 the creation of an 'aha moku council system that will:


20 (A) Provide advisory input based upon the indigenous  
21 resource management practices of each moku to  
22 state and county agencies;



- 1 (B) Aid in the development of a comprehensive set of
- 2 best practices for natural resources management;
- 3 (C) Foster the understanding and practical use of
- 4 knowledge, including native Hawaiian methodology
- 5 and expertise;
- 6 (D) Ensure the future sustainable use of the State's
- 7 marine, land, cultural, agricultural, and natural
- 8 resources;
- 9 (E) Enhance community education and cultural
- 10 awareness; and
- 11 (F) Participate in the protection and preservation of
- 12 the State's natural resources;
- 13 (2) Engage in discussion with and participate in meetings
- 14 and events held by the various moku statewide to gain
- 15 perspective and develop a consensus on establishing an
- 16 'aha moku council system with an 'aha moku council
- 17 commission;
- 18 (3) Establish an administrative structure for the creation
- 19 of an 'aha moku council commission to oversee an 'aha
- 20 moku council system, which shall consist of eight 'aha
- 21 kiola members, representing each island;



- 1           (4) Establish a standard eligibility criteria and  
2           selection process for each 'aha kiole member and the  
3           selection of a executive director;
- 4           (5) Establish goals and objectives for an 'aha moku council  
5           commission to accomplish, including benchmarks for  
6           long-term planning and sustainable objectives; and
- 7           (6) Establish a feasible operational budget for an 'aha  
8           moku council commission to conduct meetings, cover  
9           administrative expenses, and disseminate information  
10          and advice for the creation of an 'aha moku council  
11          system.
- 12          (c) The advisory committee shall submit a written interim  
13          report of its findings and recommendations, including any  
14          proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the  
15          convening of the 2008 regular session. The advisory committee  
16          shall submit a written final report of its findings and  
17          recommendations, including any proposed legislation, no later  
18          than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2009 regular  
19          session.
- 20          (d) The department of land and natural resources shall  
21          provide support services to the advisory committee as the  
22          advisory committee deems necessary.

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1 (e) The 'aha kiole advisory committee shall cease to exist  
2 on June 30, 2009.

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$110,000 or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the  
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
7 2008-2009 for administrative costs related to carrying out the  
8 duties of the 'aha kiole advisory committee, and for allowing  
9 each of the thirty-seven moku statewide to actively participate  
10 and engage in discussion on the creation of an 'aha moku council  
11 system.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
13 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
15 provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,  
16 2007.



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Approved this day: JUN 27 2007

2007-3080 SB1853 CD1 SMR-1.doc  
