The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) STRONGLY SUPPORTS SCR5, a measure in OHA’s 2021 Legislative Package. This resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted longstanding data challenges faced by state, county, and private entities throughout Hawai‘i. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are broad—affecting our community’s health, employment, and housing security, for example—and may also include more nuanced, secondary effects such as increases in domestic violence. Unfortunately, efforts to better understand and address the significant and unique impacts of the pandemic on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have been stymied by insufficient and inconsistent demographic data collection, processing, retention, and sharing by and between critical government entities and programs. Notably, these data governance challenges have been a source of concern for many years, even prior to the pandemic, and have long inhibited the development of data-driven, fact-based, and tailored policies and interventions to address the varied and unique needs of our Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities.

SCR5 seeks to address these longstanding data challenges by: (1) requesting that certain state agencies, the county police departments, and the Judiciary compile and share existing disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders; (2) urging those same entities to work with OHA and the Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawai‘i COVID-19 Response, Recovery, and Resilience Team to develop procedures and agreements for improved data collection, processing, retention, and sharing; and (3) urging the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Collection to assess the current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures, needs, and challenges across state agencies.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and
consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decisionmaking for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.
April 12, 2021

To: Representative Mark Nakashima
And members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

**Testimony in Support of SCR 5 Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policy Making**

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SCR 5.

This resolution recognizes the importance of data that disaggregates Native Hawaiians from other Pacific Islanders. Without good data, we can’t make good policy. Data that highlights ethnic and cultural differences can help us develop more effective approaches to pandemic response and recovery.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director
The mission of The Queen’s Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai‘i.

To: The Honorable Mark N. Nakashima, Chair  
The Honorable Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair  
Members, House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Dr. Gerard Akaka, Vice President, Native Hawaiian Affairs & Clinical Support, The Queen’s Health Systems  
Colette Masunaga, Director, Government Relations & External Affairs, The Queen’s Health Systems

Date: April 14, 2021

Re: Support for SCR5: Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking

The Queen’s Health Systems (Queen’s) is a nonprofit corporation that provides expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawai‘i and the Pacific Basin. Since the founding of the first Queen’s hospital in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, it has been our mission to provide quality health care services in perpetuity for Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai‘i. Over the years, the organization has grown to four hospitals, and more than 1,500 affiliated physicians and providers statewide. As the preeminent health care system in Hawai‘i, Queen’s strives to provide superior patient care that is constantly advancing through education and research.

Queen’s appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR5, which among other initiatives, seeks to improve data governance, disaggregate data on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPI), and establishes a 21st Century Data Governance task force. As more processes are digitized, the scope and volume of data generated offer significant opportunities of improvement. Data governance will ensure disaggregated data is accessible and protected, leading to improved support and better data-driven decision making. As a partner with the Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawai‘i COVID-19 Response, Recovery, and Resilience Team, Queen’s is committed to working with other stakeholders to improve data governance and protocols for collection, processing, retention and sharing.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass SCR5. Thank you for allowing us to testify on this measure.
To: House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness

Re: SCR 5 – Recognizing the importance of 21st century data governance for fact-based policymaking
Hawai‘i State Capitol, via videoconference, room 325
April 14, 2021, 2:00 PM

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and committee members,

On behalf of Hawai‘i Children’s Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in support of SCR 5. This resolution recognizes the importance of data that disaggregates Native Hawaiians from other Pacific Islanders in pandemic response and recovery efforts for these communities and for the State as a whole, as well as urges action from various state government entities to achieve that goal.

Without good data, we can’t make good policy. The recent Data Justice report1 by Papa Ola Lokahi, a Native Hawaiian health advocacy organization, and the Hawai‘i Budget & Policy Center highlights the lack of adequate data about the Native Hawaiian community and calls for the state to improve its collection of ethnic and racial data. They state:

Collecting, analyzing and utilizing data sets the course for state program development and improvement. Yet, our research revealed that state programs’ data practices fail to adequately detail needs and successes of Native Hawaiians. Some programs combine Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander demographic data and don’t break out Native Hawaiians from other multi-racial clients.

Native Hawaiians still face disproportionate rates of poor indicators in health, wealth and other social determinants. Our state needs better data in order to ensure that public programs are addressing the greatest needs and achieving the best results our Native Hawaiian keiki and their families.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Please pass this resolution.

Thank you,

Nicole Woo
Director, Research and Economic Policy

1 https://www.hibudget.org/projects/data-justice
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR5

REPRESENTATIVE MARK M. NAKASHIMA, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE SCOT Z. MATAYOSHI, VICE-CHAIR

HOUSE COMMITTEE JUDICARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: April 14, 2021 Room Number: 325

To: Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee

From: Amy Agbayani, Co-Chair and Pat McManaman, Co-Chair

The Hawai‘i Friends of Civil Rights STRONGLY SUPPORTS SCR 5. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (NHPI) and Asian populations is important for NHPI, immigrant communities, and for Hawai‘i as a whole.¹ SCR 5 is a critical step forward to assure health equity and informed, data-driven decision-making in our state.

The pandemic has underscored the importance of disaggregated race, ethnicity, and spoken language data in the delivery of critical health care information and other services for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and limited English proficient persons. A not insignificant percentage of Hawai‘i’s total population. Data disaggregation will allow government entities to determine immediate community-specific needs and impacts in any emergency, natural disaster, or health pandemic and to also meet those needs in relevant languages and in a culturally appropriate manner. Importantly, disaggregated data will also provide government entities the ability to leverage and incorporate the data in federal grant applications.

Disaggregating the data collected by public health, safety and welfare programs compliments these organizations’ missions and enhances their business models to provide care for all Hawai‘i’s residents in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR5
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE
FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: 4/14/2021 Room Number: 325

Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Eli, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights SUPPORTS SCR 5. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) populations is important for immigrant communities and for Hawai‘i as a whole, and SCR 5 is a critical step for health equity and informed, data-driven decision-making in our state.

It is well documented that state agencies let down NHPI communities, including Pacific Islander immigrants, during the early days of the pandemic. The Department of Health’s decision to delay releasing disaggregated COVID-19 morbidity and mortality data was an unnecessary barrier to addressing health inequities and curbing the pandemic.¹ And the consequences were deadly, as Pacific Islanders were twice as likely to be killed or hospitalized by COVID-19.²

Data disaggregation concerns are not limited to the work of the Department of Health. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) also let down the NHPI community, particularly Pacific Islander immigrants, as individuals were unable to access Unemployment Insurance due to language access, technology access, and even initial confusion about COFA eligibility.³ The Department of Human Services also saw an increase in demand for social


services when the pandemic hit, even as COVID-19 made them more difficult to access. Without the release of disaggregated data, we have no way of understanding the overall extent of the consequences of departmental challenges and shortcomings, beyond community stories of NHPI families unable to access benefits which they had paid into and where entitled to receive.

Finally, disparities in NHPI experiences with the Judiciary and county law enforcement must be taken seriously in Hawai‘i. In particular, county law enforcement has a history of racial disparities in policing, well known to the community through countless individual stories—some reported by news sources and many quietly shared among neighbors—but county law enforcement has repeatedly denied existence of racial disparity problems. The data that does exist is troubling: for example, with the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, Micronesians represented 26% of those taken into custody for violating the orders, even though they represent only 1% of the whole state population. The only way to truly understand the problem is with greater and more transparent disaggregated data.

The importance of data disaggregation is well studied, and here in Hawai‘i, while there are existing efforts at data disaggregation, they have not gone far enough or come fast enough. SCR 5 is necessary for state agencies to address data disaggregation in a systematic, transparent manner so that Hawai‘i can recover from COVID-19 and the economic downturn in as efficient, effective, and equitable way as possible. Data disaggregation is a matter of health equity, racial justice, and civil rights. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Catherine Chen, Co-chair, Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Liza Ryan Gill, Co-chair, Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

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6 Victor Rubin, et. al., Counting a Diverse Nation: Disaggregated Data on Race and Ethnicity to Advance a Culture of Health, PolicyLink (2018).
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair  
Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair  

Hearing Date: April 14, 2021  

**Re: Support of SCR5: Recognizing The Importance Of 21st Century Data Governance For Fact-Based Policymaking**

Dear Committee Members,

The Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) represents patients at a community health center with their legal needs. Most of our clients are from Pacific Islander communities and have been disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. We strongly support SCR5.

Data disaggregation is necessary to competently and equitably serve and protect all of Hawai‘i’s residents. It is now well-documented that state agencies let down NHPI communities during the early days of the pandemic, and the Department of Health’s decision to delay releasing disaggregated COVID-19 morbidity and mortality data was an unnecessary hurdle in this fight.¹ The consequences were deadly, as Pacific Islanders were twice as likely to be killed or hospitalized by COVID-19.²

The need for data disaggregation is not limited to the Department of Health but applies to all the agencies listed by SCR 5. First, many NHPI families were unable to access Unemployment Insurance at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations due to language access, technology access, and even initial confusion about COFA eligibility.³ Second, although county law enforcement has repeatedly denied the existence of racial

disparity problems, the community has long shared stories of racial disparities in policing. The data that does exist is troubling: for example, with the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, Micronesians represented 26% of those taken into custody for violating the orders, even though they represent only 1% of the whole state population.

The advocates at the MLP have heard story after story of these disparities and their harmful effects on families, but where anecdotes are not enough to move policy, we need data. The only way to truly understand the problem is with greater and more transparent disaggregated data, a powerful tool for both community members and state agencies. The state needs to take the lessons of COVID-19 seriously and address the disparities facing the NHPI community. SCR 5 is an important step in that process, and its passage is a matter of health equity, racial justice, and civil rights.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony supporting SCR5.

Dina Shek
Legal Director, Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai‘i

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SCR 5 – RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICY MAKING. STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha,

SCR 5 seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

SCR 5 is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Data gaps that currently exist have disproportionately negatively impacted Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. SCR 5 will address these gaps.

Kūpuna for the Moʻopuna is in strong support of these policies and procedures proposed in this measure and urge this Committee to PASS SCR 5. Mahalo.

Ua mau ke ea o ka ʻāina i ka pono!
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice-Chair

IN SUPPORT
SCR 5 – RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING
Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 2:00 PM, Conference Room 325/Videoconference

Papa Ola Lōkahi is the Native Hawaiian Health Board responsible with raising the health status of Native Hawaiians and their families, which we do through public health policy and strategic partnerships. Only accurate, disaggregated data has enabled us to present the true picture of Hawaiian health status to support the development and implementation of appropriate and acceptable programs and services throughout our communities. Papa Ola Lōkahi continues to advocate for improvements in health data governance at federal and state levels to better serve our people to pursue their self-determined ideal state of health.

Papa Ola Lōkahi and other partners around the United States and jurisdictions worked closely with our congressional delegation in the 1990s, which led to the 1997 revision in Office of Management and Budget Circular 15 (OMB 15) recommending that federal agencies, offices and institutes disaggregate the collection and reporting of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders separately from that of Asian Americans.

On March 11, 2021, CDC’s National Vital Statistics System released a report causing celebration in Hawai’i for the nation’s greatest life expectancy at 81 years (males at 78, females at 84). Yet, the Hawaii Health Survey, which disaggregates life expectancy by ethnicity, tells us that life expectancy for Native Hawaiians (2010) is 76.6 years (males at 73.9 and females at 79.4).

Recently, POL partnered with the Hawai’i Budget & Policy Center to assess how data is collected and how funding brought into the State for Native Hawaiians has been allocated. The findings, in a joint report entitled Data Justice: About Us, By Us, For Us, highlights a deficiency in standardization of race/ethnicity data across the State departments, although promising examples exist and State units generally appear open to adopting governance protocols. It also underscores a lack of accountability for funds that are brought into the State using Native Hawaiian data.

The resolution’s call for the Departments of Health, Labor and Industrial Relations, Human Services, Judiciary, and county police departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders is key to greater understanding of health, economic and many social issues across the lifespan.

We strongly support the establishment of a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance, which we believe will strengthen the State’s overall data infrastructure to better serve the public and identify health priorities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.
SCR5
Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance For Fact-Based Policymaking
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
April 14, 2021 at 2:00pm
Room 325

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Darrah Kauhane and I am the Executive Director of Project Vision Hawaii. I submit testimony in SUPPORT as this measure will allow us to continue our mission of eliminating homelessness and disparities in access to care for the people of Hawaii.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it even more apparent that we need accurate and disaggregated NHPI data to ensure we can provide the highest level of care for NHPI communities across the state.

- Accurate and disaggregated NHPI data is needed to best understand the needs of our NHPI communities and effectively provide support to individuals affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- If we do not disaggregate NHPI data, NHPI will continue to lack access to much needed care and resources.
- To best understand the impact of COVID-19 on our NHPI community, we must be vigilant with the methods by which data is collected, segmented, and shared.

I urge the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Darrah Kauhane
Executive Director
Project Vision Hawaii
Date: April 13, 2021

To: Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
   Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
   Members of the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Re: Support for SCR 5, Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking.

Hrg: April 14, 2021 at 2:00 PM via Videoconference

The Hawai‘i Public Health Institute is in Support of SCR 5, which seeks disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (NHPI) and better data governance policies by state and county agencies.

The events of 2020 saw widespread acknowledgement of racism as a public health crisis, and greater understanding of the influence of social determinants of health on Hawaii’s communities. Without sound data to support action, we risk losing momentum, and an opportunity to decrease health risks for Hawaii’s most vulnerable populations.

Timely, detailed, and disaggregated data is a key component to develop good policy. In particular, disaggregated data for NHPIs will identify critical community needs and inform policies. This is especially relevant in light of the disparities highlighted and exacerbated by COVID-19. Beyond the pandemic, good data will be key to ending long-standing inequities for the NHPI community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 5.

Mahalo,

Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Executive Director

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1 Hawai‘i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.
Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR5
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
April 14, 2021, 2:00 p.m.
Room 325/Videoconference

Aloha e Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:

The above-named organizations STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, a critical measure and step toward ensuring that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (“NHPIs”) get the specific and data-informed relief that they desperately need amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adequately serving Hawai‘i’s NHPI communities necessitates that State agencies and their departments collect and use disaggregated data to inform the creation of and funding for the policies and programs they implement. Although the Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander,” the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data. The State,
however, has historically failed to collect specific data on NHPIs, hindering agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and masking challenges faced by distinct NHPI groups in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence, and incarceration.

SCR5 seeks to address longstanding data challenges that impact NHPIs by: (1) recognizing the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts; (2) urging the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance; and (3) urging the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges. In addition to urging certain State departments to compile and share existing disaggregated Data on NHPIs, this resolution urges those departments to work with OHA and the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Response, Recovery, and Resiliency Team to develop procedures and agreements for improving data practices, governance, and sharing with respect to Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and other relevant demographics.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts is based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this necessary measure.
Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the committee:

We write in SUPPORT of SCR5.

This measure calls for improved data collection and reporting practices by certain state departments, namely practices disaggregating data for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders and developing procedures in partnership with certain stakeholders. Proposals in SCR5 provide best practices not only for immediate needs for COVID-19, but also for all programs serving populations struggling to access successful social determinants of health, such as food security, affordable housing, living-wage work, and social justice.

Hawai‘i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice works to build a more socially just Hawai‘i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. Data is key to informing our research, as well as providing full understanding of systemic issues for Hawai‘i residents struggling to get by. Yet, we often find that state programs either lack detailed disaggregated data, do not collect data at all, or do not provide enough detailed data to the public. These poor data practices impede solutions that will justly and effectively support marginalized people in Hawai‘i.

Importance of Data Disaggregation & Determination
SCR5 provides two vital directions for improving the health and well-being of Hawai‘i residents, especially for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders: (1) disaggregating racial/ethnic data, and (2) partnering with stakeholders from impacted communities to develop data collection, processing, retention, governance, and sharing.

Disaggregated data is information broken down into meaningful component parts, such as by race/ethnicity, age, gender, geographic area, or other characteristics that render the information meaningful for various uses. Without disaggregation, data cannot reveal disproportionate impacts on key groups. We saw an example of the adverse impacts of this in the early months of the pandemic. The state Department of Health failed to disaggregate data of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, which hid the disease’s high prevalence in communities. If advocates had not spoken up about the need for the state disaggregate data, we may not have implemented today’s targeted services, and we may have seen many more unnecessary deaths.

The efforts of advocates during the COVID-19 pandemic show the importance of the state partnering...
with communities and stakeholders to develop data practices for better informed and effective services for disproportionately impacted groups. Convening and consulting with impacted communities on data collection and reporting practices is best practice that should carry over into all agencies. By bringing community stakeholders to the table, officials can incorporate cultural knowledge, skills and goals in service design. Communities have inherent strengths that may not be found in generic models. By working collaboratively with these communities to identify the data that matters, these community strengths can be leveraged in a way that benefits us all.

**Ineffective Data Practices by State Agencies**

SCR5 urges the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures, needs, and challenges across state agencies. This process is needed not just for the current emergency and recovery, but also for existing programs addressing all social determinant of health. Research shows there is a lack of data and ineffective data practices across all agencies, but we cannot create solutions without knowing the problem.

Hawai‘i Budget & Policy Center, a project of Hawai‘i Appleseed, and Papa Ola Lōkahi recently released a relevant report, “Data Justice: About Us, By Us, For Us.” The report reviews the data collection practices of several departments and programs that disproportionately serve Native Hawaiians. Our research revealed that poor data practices on race and ethnicity were found across departments. For example:

- The Judiciary Branch of the state government does not collect or report ethnic/racial data of any kind, even though Native Hawaiians are over-represented in correctional facilities; and
- The Corrections Division at DPS records a wide variety of ethnic information about inmates, and their records show that 37 percent of the people in jails and prisons identify as Native Hawaiian. However, current data collection only allows people to indicate one race, which may miss data for part-Native Hawaiians. Because of this method, the percentage of Native Hawaiians in the correctional system is likely higher.
- The Department of Health’s Behavioral Health Division collects information in such categories as “Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander” and “more than one race,” which may include Native Hawaiians of mixed race. The largest number of MHD’s clients (29 percent) are reported as “race not available,” which also may include Native Hawaiians.

Our Data Justice report’s small sample size shows it is highly likely that SCR5’s Task Force would reveal systemic problems with state agencies’ collection of disaggregated data and its use in designing and improving programs. The Task Force report would help the Legislature and advocates make long-lasting change, so our state can be prepared to analyze needs and create effective programs for any type of emergency.

Hawai‘i Appleseed urges the committee to **PASS SCR5** to address our immediate public health emergency, as well as to prepare for the future. Detailed data, especially disaggregated racial/ethnic data, can help sculpt targeted services. With clear data, we can allocate time and resources to those most impacted by services, reducing systemic needs in the long run.

We appreciate your consideration of this testimony.
Testimony SUPPORTING SCR 5

Aloha, Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the Committee:

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i SUPPORTS SCR 5 recognizing the importance of quality data for better, fact-based policymaking in Hawai‘i.

As you know, statistical data drives government resources and decision-making. Native Hawaiians still have many socio-economic issues and are in need of funding to address some of those problems, such as basic and higher education, affordable housing, health disparities, and the high cost of living. In trying to address systemic inequities, however, there continue to be substantial data gaps.

SCR 5 encourages state agencies and county departments to compile and share data, and to disaggregate groups such as Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. By disaggregating data, we can advocate for targeted policies and interventions that are appropriate to each sector, thus engaging in informed policymaking and interventions.

SCR 5 also establishes a task force to assess data collection and challenges, and report back to the Legislature. This would be a valuable step toward ensuring that government data collection is thorough, accurate, and useful for making decisions.

We encourage the passage of SCR 5.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me ka mahalo nui,

JUANITA MAHIENAENA BROWN KAWAMOTO, Chair

Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i
Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5, Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Harley Broyles, and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century. The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration has long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.
Sincerely,

Harley Broyles
Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5 - 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Cu Ri Lee, and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai’i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century. The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration has long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai’i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.

Sincerely,

Cu Ri Lee
I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.
I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.
Aloha Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

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Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide this testimony,

Kamakana Aquino
STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

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I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.
Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5, Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples. SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.
Comments:

Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5 - 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Gloria Palma, and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century, and it would recognize the importance of detailed and disaggregated data in pandemic response and recovery efforts. This measure would also urge: (1) the State and its departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data and to develop procedures and agreements for improving data governance, and (2) the Governor to establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance to assess the current data collection procedures, needs, and challenges.

The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration have long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.
Sincerely,

Gloria Palma
Comments:
I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Mahalo!
I strongly support this Resolution that recognizes the importance of quality data and urges the cooperation of other governmental agencies to share and disaggregate data.

Statistical data is very important as it drives policy making and governmental resources. It only makes sense that in order to help make our state better, and truly address issues that we care about, that we 1) get access to all the relevant data; 2) make it as accurate as possible; and 3) pull out as much information and indicators as possible to help understand what's going on. A statement without data and facts is an assumption, and I do not think anyone would want our state policies to be founded on assumptions.
Aloha:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SCR5. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Me ke aloha,

Kamuela Werner

OHA Beneficiary
Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

Mahalo nui for this opportunity to present testimony on SCR5, Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Emily Schlack, and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and help to address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century. The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic and gender based violence, and incarceration has long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Many of the decisions that are made regarding who gets help are based on who needs the most help, but this is not necessarily known. Since resources are finite, it is integral to have updated and correct information. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic goes on, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need. Thank you for this opportunity to share my strong support for SCR5.

Mahalo piha for your time, aloha, and compassionate leadership.
Me ke aloha,

Emily Schlack
SCR-5
Submitted on: 4/13/2021 1:28:33 PM
Testimony for JHA on 4/14/2021 2:00:00 PM

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Comments:

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SCR5, Recognizing the Importance of 21st Century Data Governance for Fact-Based Policymaking. My name is Meleana Shim and I strongly support this measure. I urge you to pass this measure and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Hawai‘i’s Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) peoples.

SCR5 would recognize the importance of data governance and facilitating fact-based policymaking in the 21st century. The current lack of data on NHPIs experiencing challenges in areas such as employment, education, domestic violence and incarceration has long hindered state agencies’ efforts to address systemic inequalities and the ongoing historical injustice against these distinct groups. The Office of Management and Budget’s Statistic Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15) establishes federal standards that group Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians together as “Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.” Though the State of Hawai‘i may create additional subcategories that further disaggregate data, the State has historically failed to collect targeted data on NHPIs, masking systemic injustices impacting these peoples today.

SCR5 is particularly critical as we increasingly rely on data and information to create programs, implement policies, and address problems we face in the 21st Century. Without accurate, disaggregated data that accounts for the experiences of our community’s most vulnerable populations, we cannot accurately know what problems exist or how to address them. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we must ensure that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders get the targeted and data-informed relief that they desperately need.

Mahalo for your compassionate leadership and the opportunity to testify on SCR5.

Sincerely,
Meleana Shim
I am in support of this resolution because disaggregated data is crucial for informed decisionmaking, and data governance protocols are necessary to properly disaggregate data. Mahalo!
# SCR-5
Submitted on: 4/14/2021 2:19:31 AM
Testimony for JHA on 4/14/2021 2:00:00 PM

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Submitted on: 4/14/2021 6:20:02 AM
Testimony for JHA on 4/14/2021 2:00:00 PM

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Comments:

I SUPPORT SCR5, to improve governance of Native Hawaiian data and in support of longer term Native Hawaiian data sovereignty goals.
SCR-5
Submitted on: 4/14/2021 9:24:36 AM
Testimony for JHA on 4/14/2021 2:00:00 PM

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Comments:

Aloha Committees PDR and JHA,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SCR5, this resolution seeks to obtain critical data necessary for effective and targeted responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, and to assess and modernize governmental data collection, processing, retention, and sharing practices to facilitate fact-based policymaking through the 21st century and beyond.

This resolution is an important step towards ensuring that policymaking for COVID-19 recovery efforts are based upon community-specific data that is timely, clear, and consistent. Disaggregated data on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders is particularly crucial to understanding how and to what extent these communities are specifically impacted by COVID-19, so that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively. Looking beyond the current pandemic, this resolution will also facilitate important and long-overdue conversations about data governance that can aid in the implementation of robust data infrastructure across state agencies, which will help to better inform policies and decision-making for generations to come.

Therefore, based on the foregoing reasons, I respectively urge the PDR and JHA Committees to Please PASS SCR 5.

Mahalo Nui,

Noalani Nakasone

Kaua`i Resident