



COUNCIL FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN ADVANCEMENT

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Community Presentations entitled, *The Akaka Bill and Current Lawsuits: National Policies for Native Needs* to be held statewide

(Honolulu, HI) – A series of educational workshops focused on the Akaka Bill are scheduled across the state and will be presented by the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, a nonprofit dedicated to training and community development support. Entitled *The Akaka Bill and Current Lawsuits: National Policies for Native Needs*, this workshop series will provide participants with the current status of the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2005, review all sections of the legislation, as well as litigation filed to take down Hawaiian programs.

“This is a crucial time for Native Hawaiians,” said Robin Puanani Danner, President and CEO of CNHA. “Public policy, legislative initiatives like the Akaka Bill and the lawsuits filed against some of our most core programs and institutions are critical elements of community development, impacting not only Hawaiian communities, but the entire state.”

The educational workshops are sponsored in part by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to support the ability of communities to access relevant information. The State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations (SCHHA) and Hui Kako`o Aina Ho`opulapula, both statewide advocates of beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Land trust are partners in the delivery of public policy information that impacts Hawaiians.

Community presentations are free, the public is welcome to attend and will be held at the following locations from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.:

- Kauai – March 23, 2005 Kekaha Neighborhood Center
- Kauai – March 24, 2005 Kauai Veterans Hall
- Maui – March 29, 2005 Lahaina Civic Center
- Maui – March 30, 2005 Wailuku Community Center
- Lanai – April 7, 2005 Lanai High School Cafeteria
- Oahu – April 12, 2005 Washington Middle School Cafeteria (Honolulu)

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- Oahu – April 21, 2005 Kapolei High School Cafeteria
- Oahu – May 3, 2005 Blanche Pope Elementary School Cafeteria (Waimanalo)
- Hawaii – April 27, 2005 Kealakehe Elementary School Cafeteria (Kona)
- Hawaii – April 28, 2005 Keaukaha Elementary School Cafeteria (Hilo)
- Molokai – May 10, 2005 Mitchell Pauole Community Center

“The more our communities have access to information, the stronger we become in implementing solutions for ourselves and our communities.” said Tony Sang, Chairman of the State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations (SCHHA). “Passage of the Akaka Bill is crucial to our homestead communities, and for the benefit of all Hawaiians. We encourage individuals to attend and to find out how to become involved.”

CNHA is a national, member-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting community development in Native communities. Operating a Public Policy Program, CNHA conducts educational workshops on federal legislation of interest to Native communities in the areas of healthcare, education, affordable housing, cultural preservation and economic development. For more information, please contact CNHA at 808.521.5011 (toll free at 808.709.2642) or visit their website at www.hawaiiancouncil.org.

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