

TESTIMONY FOR SB 674 RELATING TO WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Testifier's Name: Colin Kekuhaupi'o Kalama Malani, a Hawaiian Subject

Committee: ENE and CPN

Date and Time: Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 2:45 p.m. HST

Measure Number: SB 674

Aloha mai, my name is Colin Kekuhaupio Kalama Malani and I am the *Hope 'Kuhina Nui* of the Daughters and Sons of Hawaiian Warriors **MAMAKAKAUA** and a *Pu Kaua Koa* of the *Lua Pa, Pa Kui a Holo, Oahu 2010*. I am not writing on the behalf of either organization, but as a concerned Hawaiian subject and cultural practitioner.

I am objecting to SB 674.

As a Native Hawaiian *kanaka maoli* I am a proud descendant of my ancestors *kupuna kahiko* who've passed their [language] *olelo*, [teaching & instruction] *mana'o*, and cultural practices through countless generations beginning with the *Kumalipo* [Genesis, our Creation] back to *Papa* and *Wakea* [Sky Father and Earth Mother] The ancestral and cultural artifacts *Iwi* [bone] and *niho* [teeth] and other associated items listed within the language of this SB 674 criminalizes my use, possession, preservation and protection of our current family and organizational heirlooms. Our Hawaiian Cultural Organizations utilize many of these implements briefly described below at various cultural gatherings and events. These very same items are respected throughout Hawaii, the world and given

high places of reverence and are treated with the utmost respect, status and appropriate protocols at all Hawaiian cultural events.

The ivory from Sperm Whales were *kapu* to the *Ali'i*. The *lei niho palaoa* [ivory necklace] was a symbol of their rank and the [internal power or chi] *mana* they possessed. You'll see many of these implements in use at our events and assemblies.

Prior to the arrival of Captain James Cook in the late 1770's, Walrus Tusks, Whale Teeth, Whale Bone, White Shark, Tiger Shark *niuhi* [man eater prized for weaponry and drum skins] *pahu* and Dog Canine Teeth *Ilio lei niho* were used to fashion assorted *lei niho kupe'e* [wrist and ankle adornments], *lei o mano* hand fashioned shark tooth weapons of war and other items of personal adornment were carried and worn by our *Ali'i*. Ivory decorated our hand *kahili*, the tusks of the Narwhal Whale were utilized for our *puloulou* or tabu stick as seen today in the Throne Room at 'Iolani Palace.

Ivory fashioned into cultural symbols, identify us as Hawaiians, the indigenous people of these islands. It is outrageous that this law would cause our Hawaiian Cultural Artisans and Practitioners to become Criminals in their homeland.

If passed, this SB 674 would relegate us to use and wear cheap Plastic or Resin Cast facsimiles from China or the Philippine islands.

Mahalo nui loa, for your time and consideration, a meka ha'a ha'a [with humility]