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EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

GEORGE R. ARIYOSHI
GOVERNOR

November 30, 1976

Steve
McConkey

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Proclamation 4468, titled "Native American Awareness Week, 1976," honored the contributions of American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts, but failed to recognize native Hawaiians as a group of native Americans that played an "impressive role in our society." Native Hawaiians have added beauty, distinction, and color to American culture and society. On behalf of the people of Hawaii, I am taking this opportunity to voice my concern over the exclusion of native Hawaiians.

Under the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (PL 93-644, Title VIII) native Hawaiians, as well as native Alaskans and American Indians, are native Americans. A native Hawaiian is defined as "any individual any of whose ancestors were natives of the area which consists of the Hawaiian Islands prior to 1778." At present, approximately 140,000 ethnic Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians reside in the State of Hawaii.

Due to a lack of national recognition, native Hawaiians, as a group, have been excluded in federal legislation. The result is that native Hawaiians are not receiving all benefits in health, education, manpower, and other social programs which have been accorded to other groups of native Americans. We feel it is important to establish native Hawaiians as native Americans and to receive the appertaining rights and privileges. Therefore, although Native American Awareness Week has passed, we are calling your attention





EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

November 30, 1976

GEORGE P. ARVON
GOVERNOR

The President

Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Proclamation 4488, titled "Native American Awareness Week, 1976," honored the contributions of American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts, but failed to recognize native Hawaiians as a group of native Americans that played an "impressive role in our society." Native Hawaiians have seen beauty, distinction, and color to American culture and society. On behalf of the people of Hawaii, I am taking this opportunity to voice my concern over the exclusion of native Hawaiians.

Under the Native American Programs Act of 1974 (PL 93-644, Title VII) native Hawaiians, as well as native Alaskans and American Indians, are native Americans. A native Hawaiian is defined as "any individual any of whose ancestors were natives of the area which consists of the Hawaiian Islands prior to 1778." At present, approximately 140,000 ethnic Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians reside in the State of Hawaii.

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WHITE HOUSE
MAIL ROOM

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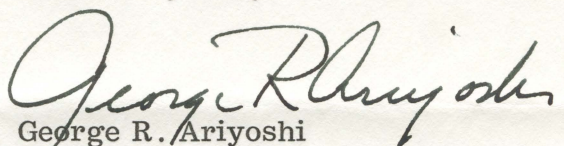
The President

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to the exclusion of Hawaiians. It is our intent to bring to the attention of national leaders the recognition of native Hawaiians as an integral part of American culture and society.

With warm personal regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,


George R. Ariyoshi

cc: The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
The Honorable Spark M. Matsunaga
The Honorable Cecil Heftel
The Honorable Daniel Akaka



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

12/15/76

TO: BILL BAROODY

FROM: STEVE MCCONAHEY

For your information _____

Comments:

Control
For a draft response.

Thanks. *File*

