



**RESOLUTION
AFFIRMING
THE HAWAII REPUBLICAN PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO
PRINCE KUHIO'S VISION:
THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT**

WHEREAS, Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianaʻole, Hawaii's last heir apparent, declared at the 1902 founding Convention of our Party that he was "a Republican from the top of [his] head to the bottom of [his] feet" and received the party's nomination as our candidate for Hawaii's Congressional Delegate, after which he handily defeated incumbent Robert Wilcox; and

WHEREAS, serving as Hawaii's Congressional Delegate from 1903 until his death in 1922, Prince Kūhiō's landmark piece of legislation, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA), that became law on July 9, 1921, allocated 203,000 acres of Territorial lands for homes and farms, on 99-year leases, for native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, almost 100-years since its enactment, the HHCA and its implementing State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands have failed to solve significant, systemic problems, preventing the vision of Prince Kūhiō from becoming reality; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 report by Hawaii House Minority Leader Gene Ward entitled *Broken Promises* found that DHHL is a land rich, cash poor department that has suffered a myriad of problems, including mismanagement, lands not allocated, lease documents not suitable for mortgage loans, and missed opportunities to use lands for income and beneficial exchanges meeting the purposes of the trust; and

WHEREAS, according to DHHL's most recent Annual Report, 28,123 applicants still await a Hawaiian Homes lease and only 9,876 leases have been awarded, yet nearly 100 years have passed since Prince Kūhiō's success in enacting the HHCA; and

WHEREAS, under Republican Governor Linda Lingle more Hawaiian Homes leases were awarded, and homes built, than under any other governor; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Hawaii Republican Party, carrying on Prince Kūhiō's legacy at its 2019 State Convention in Kahului, Maui, that we affirm the commitment of our nation and state to native Hawaiians through the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921 and hereby commit to improve the Hawaiian Homes Program so as to enable home and farm ownership for native Hawaiians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Republican Party affirms the belief that an effective and efficient Hawaiian Homes program is consistent with the Hawaii Constitution Article XX, Section 5, that state lands are to be used for 'home and farm ownership to the widest extent consistent with applicable law,' and that an improved program will materially assist all residents of this State by decreasing homelessness and expanding economic opportunities for native Hawaiians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Republican Party re-affirms its existing platform and urges the State of Hawaii and United States Department of the Interior to sufficiently fund the Department, and to take effective legal and land-management steps to enable more Hawaiian homes and usable farm parcels to be, not only awarded, but built upon and used for Prince Kuhio's purpose; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, members of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, members of Hawaiian Homestead Associations, the Secretary of the Interior, the Governor, the Speaker of the State House and the President of the Senate.