



GOV. MSG. NO. 710

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

May 13, 2008

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on May 13, 2008, the following bill was signed into law:

SB1035 SD1 HD1 CD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MAKAHIKI DAY
COMMEMORATION.
(ACT 68)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Aiona, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
Acting Governor

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MAKAHIKI DAY COMMEMORATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Makahiki was a significant time throughout
2 Polynesia. The rising of the makalii, Pleiades, marks the
3 beginning of the Makahiki season that covers four consecutive
4 months. Conflict and war were set aside and unity and peace
5 prevailed as the people paid tribute to the god Lono.

6 After harvesting their crops, the people rested and let the
7 land lay fallow. Food was offered in tribute to the chiefs and
8 Lono in thanks for their wise stewardship because without
9 wisdom, the land would become barren.

10 A white tapa banner that symbolized Lono made the circuit
11 of the island. In 1778, Captain James Cook sailed into
12 Kealakekua Bay, also known as the path of God. His arrival
13 coincided with the Makahiki Observance. The sails of his ship
14 resembled the symbol of Lono. According to Hawaiian tradition,
15 one day Lono would return. Thus, the people welcomed Captain
16 James Cook as Lono. However, a seemingly minor incident led



1 from the deification of Captain James Cook to his demise and
2 changed the course of history forever.

3 To perpetuate the ancient wisdom of land conservation,
4 abundance, unity, and peace during the four months of Makahiki,
5 Polynesian regional governments celebrate the Makahiki season
6 and have designated November 20th as the start of the Makahiki
7 observance. Groups from Hawaii, Samoa, Tonga, New Zealand or
8 Aotearoa, Easter Island or Rapa Nui, Wallis and Futuna, and the
9 Marquesas Islands all gather in Tahiti to celebrate Matahiti Tau
10 Auhune, a time of harvest.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
12 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
13 read as follows:

14 "§8- Makahiki Commemoration Day. November 20th of each
15 year shall be known and designated as Makahiki Commemoration
16 Day. This day shall not be construed as a state holiday."

17 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon approval.



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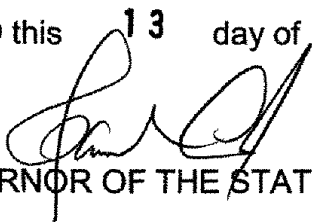
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APPROVED this 13 day of MAY, 2008



JAMES R. AIONA JR.
ACTING GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



