

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 1, 2006

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USCCR TO ADDRESS REMAINING BUSINESS FROM APRIL 2006 MEETING

Commission will determine future projects and finalize other issues

What: Business meeting of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring and protecting civil rights

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will finalize three reports and attend to other business matters at its May 4, 2006, meeting. First, the Commission will take action on its 2006 statutory report, addressing whether Congress should renew expiring provisions of the Voting Rights Act. The Commission then will decide on a report discussing its position on the Akaka bill, S. 147. Congressional passage of S. 147 would lead to federal recognition of a Native Hawaiian governing body. Opponents of the bill believe it would facilitate a race-based government in Hawaii. Also to be decided is the Commission's stand on its report concerning the adequacy of the data supporting the government's use of racial classifications. A meeting agenda follows:

- I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 10, APRIL 3, AND APRIL 7, 2006 MEETINGS
- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- IV. STAFF DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- V. PROGRAM PLANNING: 1) REPORTS: VOTING RIGHTS REAUTHORIZATION; BRIEFING ON THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT; BRIEFING ON DISPARITY STUDIES. 2) ANNUAL PROGRAM PLANNING
- VI. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LETTER
- VII. RECHARTER STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEES
- VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

When: Thursday, May 4, 2006, 3:00 p.m.

Where: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 624 Ninth Street NW, Room 540 Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with monitoring federal civil rights enforcement. Members include Chairman Gerald A. Reynolds, Vice Chairman Abigail Thernstrom, and Commissioners Jennifer C. Braceras, Peter N. Kirsanow, Arlan Melendez, Ashley L. Taylor, and Michael Yaki. Kenneth L. Marcus is Staff Director. Commission meetings are open to the media and general public.