

DOC HASTINGS

4TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

**COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES**
RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER



1203 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5816

2715 SAINT ANDREWS LOOP, SUITE D
PASCO, WA 99301
(509) 543-9396

105 SOUTH 3RD STREET, SUITE 107
YAKIMA, WA 98901
(509) 452-3243

www.hastings.house.gov

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

December 15, 2009

Chairman Nick J. Rahall, II
House Natural Resources Committee
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Tonight, we both received a letter that expresses the “strong opposition” of the Governor and Attorney General of the State of Hawaii to the changes proposed to H.R. 2314, the *Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2009*. This is an extremely disconcerting and troubling development considering that both leaders have been active, outspoken and long-time advocates in favor of the original, introduced version of H.R. 2314.

The magnitude of the changes being proposed deserve careful consideration and an opportunity for all those who may be impacted, especially the people and elected leaders of the State of Hawaii, to properly review the rewritten text. The proposed changes have only been available to the Republican side of the Committee for a matter of days, and the State of Hawaii has had the full text of the proposed changes for only a matter of hours.

The Committee should not attempt to rush this bill through a hastily-scheduled markup that prevents a fair opportunity for the rewritten text to be thoroughly analyzed and vetted by all parties. For these reasons, I ask that you remove H.R. 2314 from consideration at tomorrow’s markup.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Doc Hastings', written over a blue ink stamp of the name.

Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican Member