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July 7, 2005

Honorable Governor Linda Lingle
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Governor:

I challenge you or a designate, including the distinguished Attorney General Mark Bennett, to a public debate addressing the Akaka bill.

I understand the Hawaii State Capitol Auditorium is available Saturday July 23 9-11 AM and Tuesday July 26 9-11 AM. Grassroot Institute of Hawaii, in the interest of healthy public discourse, recommends that the debate be under the auspices of the Hawaii League of Women Voters and with a reputable moderator, perhaps your former Senior Policy Advisor, Professor Randy Roth. The time and place of the debate would be of your choosing. If the suggested time and place are not convenient for you, Attorney General Bennett or your other designate, we will adjust to your requirements, within the last two weeks of July.

The pending legislation for both the residents of Hawaii and the entire United States is too important to be left to uninformed views, whether by voters or officeholders.

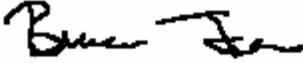
In the June 24, 2005 issue of the Honolulu Advertiser, you assail critics of the bill as wrongfully suggesting that if a Native Hawaiian sovereignty was erected, then Native Hawaiians would escape application of laws of the United States, such as the United States Constitution. You are quoted as follows: "Continuing to put out misconceptions, really, it leaves you with a false conclusion based on facts that simply aren't true."

I, United States Senator Jon Kyl (R. Ariz.), and others sharply disagree with your assertion. For example, if the equal protection commands of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution applied to the Native Hawaiian entity contemplated by the Akaka bill, then all civil and political rights extended to Native Hawaiians would be required to be extended equally to non-Native Hawaiians. That equality would turn the legislation into sound and fury signifying nothing. Its entire purpose is a race-based government.

I think you would agree that the people of Hawaii, whether supporters, detractors, or neutral on the Akaka bill, would be disserved and deprecated by the absence of an informative and mutually respectful debate over the legislation. Fundamental liberty and property interests are at stake, as is the sacred national creed E Pluribus Unum.

I am confident that you agree with Justice Louis D. Brandeis' wisdom that the remedy for ill-advised counsels is more speech, not enforced silence or evasion. I would be grateful for a response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Fein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "B" and a long, sweeping tail.

Bruce Fein

Attorney-Consultant for the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

Cc: Honorable Mark Bennett, Esquire
Richard O. Rowland, President, Grassroot Institute of Hawaii