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Dr. Pua Aiu
Administrator
State Historic Preservation Division
Kakuhihewa Building
601 Kamokila Blvd, Suite 555
Honolulu, HI 96706

Subject: Request for Non-Destructive, Non-Invasive Mitochondrial DNA Testing on remains of Kaomileika`ahumanu to establish lineal descent and legal standing conclusively

Dear Dr. Aiu,

I am hereby formally submitting a request to you, as Administrator of the State Historic Preservation Division, delegated by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, to implement provisions and sections of both Chapter 6E, HRS and Chapter 13-300, HAR, regarding all matters pertaining to ancestral Native Hawaiian human skeletal remains.

My request is seeking approval to conduct a non-destructive, non-invasive, mitochondrial DNA testing of the human skeletal remains discovered on January 5, 2001 at One'ula Beach in the area fronting the 'Ewa Marina proposed ocean entrance channel through State owned lands.

According to the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany, they have developed a nondestructive extraction method for bone, tooth, and skin samples. They found that it is possible to amplify mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) sequences up to at least 414 bp long from samples up to 164 years old. Using this method, almost 90% (35 of 40) of the investigated samples yielded amplifiable mtDNA. Moreover, they found that repeated extractions of the same samples allowed amplifications of the expected length for all samples at least three times and for some samples up to at least five times. Thus this method opens up the possibility to perform mtDNA analyses without damaging the specimens and thus without reducing the value of irreplaceable collections for morphological analyses.

Since my efforts to establish lineal descent through the submission of oral and written information pursuant to Section 13-300-35(a), HAR, to these subject remains have been repeatedly frustrated, to my irreparable detriment, and to the irreparable detriment of the ali'i buried at One'ula Beach, I have no other recourse but to seek scientific confirmation of my descendant status. I look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

Michael Kumukauoha Lee