AN ACT

To express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2010”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the Constitution vests Congress with the authority to address the conditions of the indigenous, native people of the United States and the Supreme Court has held that under the Indian Commerce, Treaty, Supremacy, and Property Clauses, and the War Powers, Congress may exercise that power to rationally promote the welfare of the native peoples of the United States so long as the native people are a “distinctly native community”;

(2) Native Hawaiians, the native people of the Hawaiian archipelago that is now part of the United States, are 1 of the indigenous, native peoples of the United States, and the Native Hawaiian people are a distinctly native community;

(3) the United States has a special political and legal relationship with, and has long enacted legislation to promote the welfare of, the native peoples of the United States, including the Native Hawaiian people;

(4) under the authority of the Constitution, the United States concluded a number of treaties with
the Kingdom of Hawai‘i, and from 1826 until 1893, the United States—

(A) recognized the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Hawaii as a nation;

(B) accorded full diplomatic recognition to the Kingdom of Hawaii; and

(C) entered into treaties and conventions of peace, friendship and commerce with the Kingdom of Hawaii to govern trade, commerce, and navigation in 1826, 1842, 1849, 1875, and 1887;

(5) pursuant to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42), the United States set aside approximately 203,500 acres of land in trust to better address the conditions of Native Hawaiians in the Federal territory that later became the State of Hawaii and in enacting the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, Congress acknowledged the Native Hawaiian people as a native people of the United States, as evidenced by the Committee Report, which notes that Congress relied on the Indian affairs power and the War Powers, including the power to make peace;

(6) by setting aside 203,500 acres of land in trust for Native Hawaiian homesteads and farms,
the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, assists
the members of the Native Hawaiian community in
maintaining distinctly native communities through-
out the State of Hawaii;

(7) approximately 9,800 Native Hawaiian fami-
lies reside on the Hawaiian Home Lands, and ap-
proximately 25,000 Native Hawaiians who are eligi-
able to reside on the Hawaiian Home Lands are on
a waiting list to receive assignments of Hawaiian
Home Lands;

(8)(A) in 1959, as part of the compact with the
United States admitting Hawaii into the Union,
Congress delegated the authority and responsibility
to administer the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act,
1920, lands in trust for Native Hawaiians and es-
established a new public trust (commonly known as
the “ceded lands trust”), for 5 purposes, 1 of which
is the betterment of the conditions of Native Hawai-
ians, and Congress thereby reaffirmed its recogni-
tion of the Native Hawaiians as a distinctly native
community with a direct lineal and historical succe-
sion to the aboriginal, indigenous people of Hawaii;

(B) the public trust consists of lands, including
submerged lands, natural resources, and the reve-
ues derived from the lands; and
(C) the assets of this public trust have never been completely inventoried or segregated;

(9) Native Hawaiians have continuously sought access to the ceded lands in order to establish and maintain native settlements and distinct native communities throughout the State;

(10) the Hawaiian Home Lands and other ceded lands provide important native land reserves and resources for the Native Hawaiian community to maintain the practice of Native Hawaiian culture, language, and traditions, and for the continuity, survival, and economic self-sufficiency of the Native Hawaiian people as a distinctly native political community;

(11) Native Hawaiians continue to maintain other distinctly native areas in Hawaii, including native lands that date back to the ali‘i and kuleana lands reserved under the Kingdom of Hawaii;

(12) through the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homelands Assembly and Native Hawaiian homestead associations, Native Hawaiian civic associations, charitable trusts established by the Native Hawaiian ali‘i, nonprofit native service providers and other community associations, the Native Hawaiian people have actively maintained native traditions and
customary usages throughout the Native Hawaiian community and the Federal and State courts have continuously recognized the right of the Native Hawaiian people to engage in certain customary practices and usages on public lands;

(13) on November 23, 1993, public law 103–150 (107 Stat. 1510) (commonly known as the “Apology Resolution”) was enacted into law, extending an apology to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the people of the United States for the United States’ role in the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii;

(14) the Apology Resolution acknowledges that the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii occurred with the active participation of agents and citizens of the United States, and further acknowledges that the Native Hawaiian people never directly relinquished to the United States their claims to their inherent sovereignty as a people over their national lands, either through the Kingdom of Hawaii or through a plebiscite or referendum;

(15)(A) the Apology Resolution expresses the commitment of Congress and the President—

(i) to acknowledge the ramifications of the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii; and
(ii) to support reconciliation efforts be-
tween the United States and Native Hawaiians;

(B) Congress established the Office of Hawai-
ian Relations within the Department of the Interior
with 1 of its purposes being to consult with Native
Hawaiians on the reconciliation process; and

(C) the United States has the duty to reconcile
and reaffirm its friendship with the Native Hawaiian
people because, among other things, the United
States Minister and United States naval forces par-
ticipated in the overthrow of the Kingdom of Ha-

(16)(A) despite the overthrow of the Govern-
ment of the Kingdom of Hawaii, Native Hawaiians
have continued to maintain their separate identity as
a single distinctly native political community
through cultural, social, and political institutions,
and to give expression to their rights as native peo-
ple to self-determination, self-governance, and eco-
nomic self-sufficiency; and

(B) there is clear continuity between the ab-
original, indigenous, native people of the Kingdom of
Hawaii and their successors, the Native Hawaiian
people today;
(17) Native Hawaiians have also given expression to their rights as native people to self-determination, self-governance, and economic self-sufficiency—

(A) through the provision of governmental services to Native Hawaiians, including the provision of—

(i) health care services;

(ii) educational programs;

(iii) employment and training programs;

(iv) economic development assistance programs;

(v) children’s services;

(vi) conservation programs;

(vii) fish and wildlife protection;

(viii) agricultural programs;

(ix) native language immersion programs;

(x) native language immersion schools from kindergarten through high school;

(xi) college and master’s degree programs in native language immersion instruction; and

(xii) traditional justice programs; and
(B) by continuing their efforts to enhance
Native Hawaiian self-determination and local
control;

(18) Native Hawaiian people are actively en-
gaged in Native Hawaiian cultural practices, tradi-
tional agricultural methods, fishing and subsistence
practices, maintenance of cultural use areas and sa-
cred sites, protection of burial sites, and the exercise
of their traditional rights to gather medicinal plants
and herbs, and food sources;

(19) the Native Hawaiian people wish to pre-
serve, develop, and transmit to future generations of
Native Hawaiians their lands and Native Hawaiian
political and cultural identity in accordance with
their traditions, beliefs, customs and practices, lan-
guage, and social and political institutions, to con-
trol and manage their own lands, including ceded
lands, and to achieve greater self-determination over
their own affairs;

(20) this Act provides a process within the
framework of Federal law for the Native Hawaiian
people to exercise their inherent rights as a distinct,
indigenous, native community to reorganize a single
unified Native Hawaiian governing entity for the
purpose of giving expression to their rights as a native people to self-determination and self-governance;

(21) Congress—

(A) has declared that the United States has a special political and legal relationship for the welfare of the native peoples of the United States, including Native Hawaiians;

(B) has identified Native Hawaiians as an indigenous, distinctly native people of the United States within the scope of its authority under the Constitution, and has enacted scores of statutes on their behalf; and

(C) has delegated broad authority to the State of Hawaii to administer some of the United States’ responsibilities as they relate to the Native Hawaiian people and their lands;

(22) the United States has recognized and reaffirmed the special political and legal relationship with the Native Hawaiian people through the enactment of the Act entitled, “An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 18, 1959 (Public Law 86–3; 73 Stat. 4), by—

(A) ceding to the State of Hawaii title to the public lands formerly held by the United
States, and mandating that those lands be held
as a public trust for 5 purposes, 1 of which is
for the betterment of the conditions of Native
Hawaiians; and

(B) transferring the United States responsi-
sibility for the administration of the Hawaiian
Home Lands to the State of Hawaii, but retain-
ing the exclusive right of the United States to
consent to any actions affecting the lands in-
cluded in the trust and any amendments to the
Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42
Stat. 108, chapter 42), that are enacted by the
legislature of the State of Hawaii affecting the
beneficiaries under the Act;

(23) the United States has continually recog-
nized and reaffirmed that—

(A) Native Hawaiians have a direct genea-
logical, cultural, historic, and land-based con-
nection to their forebears, the aboriginal, indig-
enous, native people who exercised original sov-
ereignty over the Hawaiian Islands;

(B) Native Hawaiians have never relin-
quished their claims to sovereignty or their sov-
ereign lands;
(C) the United States extends services to Native Hawaiians because of their unique status as the native people of a prior-sovereign nation with whom the United States has a special political and legal relationship; and

(D) the special relationship of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians to the United States arises out of their status as aboriginal, indigenous, native people of the United States; and

(24) the State of Hawaii supports the reaffirmation of the special political and legal relationship between the Native Hawaiian governing entity and the United States, as evidenced by 2 unanimous resolutions enacted by the Hawaii State Legislature in the 2000 and 2001 sessions of the Legislature and by the testimony of the Governor of the State of Hawaii before the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate on February 25, 2003, and March 1, 2005.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ABORIGINAL, INDIGENOUS, NATIVE PEOPLE.—The term “aboriginal, indigenous, native people” means a people whom Congress has recognized as the original inhabitants of the lands that later be-
came part of the United States and who exercised sovereignty in the areas that later became part of the United States.

(2) Apology Resolution.—The term “Apology Resolution” means Public Law 103–150 (107 Stat. 1510), a Joint Resolution extending an apology to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the United States for the participation of agents of the United States in the January 17, 1893, overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

(3) Commission.—The term “Commission” means the Commission established under section 8(b).

(4) Council.—The term “Council” means the Native Hawaiian Interim Governing Council established under section 8(c)(2).

(5) Indian Program or Service.—

(A) In general.—The term “Indian program or service” means any federally funded or authorized program or service provided to an Indian tribe (or member of an Indian tribe) because of the status of the members of the Indian tribe as Indians.

(B) Inclusions.—The term “Indian program or service” includes a program or service
provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service, or any other Federal agency.

(6) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

(7) INDIGENOUS, NATIVE PEOPLE.—The term “indigenous, native people” means the lineal descendants of the aboriginal, indigenous, native people of the United States.

(8) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING GROUP.—The term “Interagency Coordinating Group” means the Native Hawaiian Interagency Coordinating Group established under section 6.

(9) NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNING ENTITY.— The term “Native Hawaiian governing entity” means the governing entity organized pursuant to this Act by the qualified Native Hawaiian constituents.

(10) NATIVE HAWAIIAN MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION.—The term “Native Hawaiian membership organization” means an organization that—

(A) serves and represents the interests of Native Hawaiians, has as a primary and stated
purpose the provision of services to Native Hawaiians, and has expertise in Native Hawaiian affairs;

(B) has leaders who are elected democratically, or selected through traditional Native leadership practices, by members of the Native Hawaiian community;

(C) advances the cause of Native Hawaiians culturally, socially, economically, or politically;

(D) is a membership organization or association; and

(E) has an accurate and reliable list of Native Hawaiian members.

(11) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the United States Office of Hawaiian Relations established by section 5(a).

(12) QUALIFIED NATIVE HAWAIIAN CONSTITUENT.—For the purposes of establishing the roll authorized under section 8, and prior to the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, the term “qualified Native Hawaiian constituent” means an individual who the Commission determines has satisfied the following
criteria and who makes a written statement certifying that he or she

(A) is—

(i) an individual who is 1 of the indigenous, native people of Hawaii and who is a direct lineal descendant of the aboriginal, indigenous, native people who—

(I) resided in the islands that now comprise the State of Hawaii on or before January 1, 1893; and

(II) occupied and exercised sovereignty in the Hawaiian archipelago, including the area that now constitutes the State of Hawaii; or

(ii) an individual who is 1 of the indigenous, native people of Hawaii and who was eligible in 1921 for the programs authorized by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42), or a direct lineal descendant of that individual;

(B) wishes to participate in the reorganization of the Native Hawaiian governing entity;

(C) is 18 years of age or older;

(D) is a citizen of the United States; and
(E) maintains a significant cultural, social, or civic connection to the Native Hawaiian community, as evidenced by satisfying 2 or more of the following 10 criteria:

(i) Resides in the State of Hawaii.

(ii) Resides outside the State of Hawaii and—

(I)(aa) currently serves or served as (or has a parent or spouse who currently serves or served as) a member of the Armed Forces or as an employee of the Federal Government; and

(bb) resided in the State of Hawaii prior to the time he or she (or such parent or spouse) left the State of Hawaii to serve as a member of the Armed Forces or as an employee of the Federal Government; or

(II)(aa) currently is or was enrolled (or has a parent or spouse who currently is or was enrolled) in an accredited institution of higher education outside the State of Hawaii; and
(bb) resided in the State of Hawaii prior to the time he or she (or such parent or spouse) left the State of Hawaii to attend such institution.

(iii)(I) Is or was eligible to be a beneficiary of the programs authorized by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42), and resides or resided on land set aside as "Hawaiian home lands", as defined in such Act; or

(II) Is a child or grandchild of an individual who is or was eligible to be a beneficiary of the programs authorized by such Act and who resides or resided on land set aside as "Hawaiian home lands", as defined in such Act.

(iv) Is or was eligible to be a beneficiary of the programs authorized by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42).

(v) Is a child or grandchild of an individual who is or was eligible to be a beneficiary of the programs authorized by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42).
(vi) Resides on or has an ownership interest in, or has a parent or grandparent who resides on or has an ownership interest in, “kuleana land” that is owned in whole or in part by a person who, according to a genealogy verification by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs or by court order, is a lineal descendant of the person or persons who received the original title to such “kuleana land”, defined as lands granted to native tenants pursuant to Haw. L. 1850, p. 202, entitled “An Act Confirming Certain Resolutions of the King and Privy Council Passed on the 21st day of December, A.D. 1849, Granting to the Common People Allodial Titles for Their Own Lands and House Lots, and Certain Other Privileges”, as amended by Haw. L. 1851, p. 98, entitled “An Act to Amend An Act Granting to the Common People Allodial Titles for Their Own Lands and House Lots, and Certain Other Privileges” and as further amended by any subsequent legislation.
(vii) Is, or is the child or grandchild of, an individual who has been or was a student for at least 1 school year at a school or program taught through the medium of the Hawaiian language under section 302H–6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or at a school founded and operated primarily or exclusively for the benefit of Native Hawaiians.

(viii) Has been a member since September 30, 2009, of at least 1 Native Hawaiian membership organization.

(ix) Has been a member since September 30, 2009, of at least 2 Native Hawaiian membership organizations.

(x) Is regarded as Native Hawaiian and whose mother or father is (or if deceased, was) regarded as Native Hawaiian by the Native Hawaiian community, as evidenced by sworn affidavits from two or more qualified Native Hawaiian constituents certified by the Commission as possessing expertise in the social, cultural, and civic affairs of the Native Hawaiian community.
(13) **Secretary.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(14) **Special political and legal relationship.**—The term “special political and legal relationship” shall refer, except where differences are specifically indicated elsewhere in the Act, to the type of and nature of relationship the United States has with the several federally recognized Indian tribes.

**SEC. 4. UNITED STATES POLICY AND PURPOSE.**

(a) **Policy.**—The United States reaffirms that—

(1) Native Hawaiians are a unique and distinct, indigenous, native people with whom the United States has a special political and legal relationship;

(2) the United States has a special political and legal relationship with the Native Hawaiian people, which includes promoting the welfare of Native Hawaiians;

(3)(A) Congress possesses and hereby exercises the authority under the Constitution, including but not limited to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, to enact legislation to better the conditions of Native Hawaiians and has exercised this authority through the enactment of—
(i) the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42);

(ii) the Act entitled “an Act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 18, 1959 (Public Law 86–3; 73 Stat. 4); and

(iii) more than 150 other Federal laws addressing the conditions of Native Hawaiians;

(B) other sources of authority under the Constitution for legislation on behalf of the indigenous, native peoples of the United States, including Native Hawaiians, include but are not limited to the Property, Treaty, and Supremacy Clauses, War Powers, and the Fourteenth Amendment, and Congress hereby relies on those powers in enacting this legislation; and

(C) the Constitution’s original Apportionment Clause and the 14th Amendment Citizenship and amended Apportionment Clauses also acknowledge the propriety of legislation on behalf of the native peoples of the United States, including Native Hawaiians;

(4) Native Hawaiians have—
(A) an inherent right to autonomy in their internal affairs;

(B) an inherent right of self-determination and self-governance;

(C) the right to reorganize a Native Hawaiian governing entity; and

(D) the right to become economically self-sufficient; and

(5) the United States shall continue to engage in a process of reconciliation and political relations with the Native Hawaiian people.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide a process for the reorganization of the single Native Hawaiian governing entity and the reaffirmation of the special political and legal relationship between the United States and that Native Hawaiian governing entity for purposes of continuing a government-to-government relationship.

SEC. 5. UNITED STATES OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN RELATIONS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Office of the Secretary the United States Office of Hawaiian Relations.

(b) DUTIES.—The Office shall—
(1) continue the process of reconciliation with
the Native Hawaiian people in furtherance of the
Apology Resolution;

(2) upon the reaffirmation of the government-
to-government relationship between the single Native
Hawaiian governing entity and the United States,
effectuate and coordinate the special political and
legal relationship between the Native Hawaiian gov-
erning entity and the United States through the
Secretary, and with all other Federal agencies;

(3) provide timely notice to, and consult with,
the Native Hawaiian governing entity before taking
any actions that may have the potential to signifi-
cantly affect Native Hawaiian resources, rights, or
lands;

(4) work with the Interagency Coordinating
Group, other Federal agencies, and the State of Ha-
waii on policies, practices, and proposed actions af-
fecting Native Hawaiian resources, rights, or lands;

(5) prepare and submit to the Committee on
Indian Affairs and the Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee
on Natural Resources of the House of Representa-
tives an annual report detailing the activities of the
Interagency Coordinating Group that are undertaken with respect to the continuing process of reconciliation and to effect meaningful consultation with the Native Hawaiian governing entity and may provide recommendations for any necessary changes to Federal law or regulations promulgated under the authority of Federal law.

(c) Applicability to Department of Defense.—This section shall have no applicability to the Department of Defense or to any agency or component of the Department of Defense, but the Secretary of Defense may designate 1 or more officials as liaison to the Office.

SEC. 6. NATIVE HAWAIIAN INTERAGENCY COORDINATING GROUP.

(a) Establishment.—In recognition that Federal programs authorized to address the conditions of Native Hawaiians are largely administered by Federal agencies other than the Department of the Interior, there is established an interagency coordinating group, to be known as the “Native Hawaiian Interagency Coordinating Group”.

(b) Composition.—The Interagency Coordinating Group shall be composed of officials, to be designated by the President, from—
(1) each Federal agency whose actions may significantly or uniquely impact Native Hawaiian programs, resources, rights, or lands; and

(2) the Office.

(c) Lead Agency.—

(1) In General.—The Department of the Interior and the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs shall serve as the leaders of the Interagency Coordinating Group.

(2) Meetings.—The Secretary shall convene meetings of the Interagency Coordinating Group.

(d) Duties.—The Interagency Coordinating Group shall—

(1) coordinate Federal programs and policies that affect Native Hawaiians or actions by any agency or agencies of the Federal Government that may significantly or uniquely affect Native Hawaiian resources, rights, or lands;

(2) consult with the Native Hawaiian governing entity, through the coordination referred to in paragraph (1), but the consultation obligation established in this provision shall apply only after the satisfaction of all of the conditions referred to in section 8(c)(8); and
(3) ensure the participation of each Federal agency in the development of the report to Congress authorized in section 5(b)(5).

(e) Applicability to Department of Defense.—This section shall have no applicability to the Department of Defense or to any agency or component of the Department of Defense, but the Secretary of Defense may designate 1 or more officials as liaison to the Interagency Coordinating Group.

SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPRESENTATIVE.

The Attorney General shall designate an appropriate official within the Department of Justice to assist the Office in the implementation and protection of the rights of Native Hawaiians and their political and legal relationship with the United States, and upon the recognition of the Native Hawaiian governing entity as provided for in section 8, in the implementation and protection of the rights of the Native Hawaiian governing entity and its political and legal relationship with the United States.
SEC. 8. PROCESS FOR REORGANIZATION OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNING ENTITY AND REAFFIRMATION OF SPECIAL POLITICAL AND LEGAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNING ENTITY.

(a) Recognition of Native Hawaiian Governing Entity.—The right of the qualified Native Hawaiian constituents to reorganize the single Native Hawaiian governing entity to provide for their common welfare and to adopt appropriate organic governing documents is recognized by the United States.

(b) Commission.—

(1) In general.—There is authorized to be established a Commission to be composed of 9 members for the purposes of—

(A) preparing and maintaining a roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents; and

(B) certifying that the individuals on the roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents meet the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent set forth in section 3.

(2) Membership.—

(A) Appointment.—

(i) In general.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall appoint the mem-
bers of the Commission in accordance with subparagraph (B).

(ii) CONSIDERATION.—In making an appointment under clause (i), the Secretary may take into consideration a recommendation made by any Native Hawaiian membership organization or other entity with expertise and experience in the determination of Native Hawaiian ancestry and lineal descendancy.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Each member of the Commission shall demonstrate, as determined by the Secretary—

(i) not less than 10 years of experience in the study and determination of Native Hawaiian genealogy (traditional cultural experience shall be given due consideration); and

(ii) an ability to read and translate into English documents written in the Hawaiian language.

(C) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission—

(i) shall not affect the powers of the Commission; and
(ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(3) EXPENSES.—Each member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission.

(4) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

(A) prepare and maintain a roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents as set forth in subsection (c); and

(B) certify that the individuals on the roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents meet the definition of that term as set forth in section 3.

(5) STAFF.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may, without regard to the civil service laws (including regulations), appoint and terminate an executive director and such other additional personnel as are necessary to enable the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission.

(B) COMPENSATION.—
(i) In General.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Commission may fix the compensation of the executive director and other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

(ii) Maximum Rate of Pay.—The rate of pay for the executive director and other personnel shall not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) Detail of Federal Government Employees.—

(A) In General.—An employee of the Federal Government may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement.

(B) Civil Service Status.—The detail of the employee shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(7) Procurement of Temporary and Intermittent Services.—The Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services in accordance
with section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(8) Expiration.—The Secretary shall dissolve the Commission upon the reaffirmation of the special political and legal relationship between the Native Hawaiian governing entity and the United States.

(c) Process for Reorganization of Native Hawaiian Governing Entity.—

(1) Roll.—

(A) Contents.—The roll shall include the names of the qualified Native Hawaiian constituents who are certified by the Commission to be qualified Native Hawaiian constituents, as defined in section 3.

(B) Formation of roll.—Each individual claiming to be a qualified Native Hawaiian constituent shall submit to the Commission documentation in the form established by the Commission that is sufficient to enable the Commission to determine whether the individual meets the definition set forth in section 3; pro-
vided that an individual presenting evidence
that he or she satisfies the definition in Section
2 of Public Law 103–150 shall be presumed to
meet the requirement of section 3(12)(A)(i).

(C) DOCUMENTATION.—The Commission
shall—

(i)(I) identify the types of documentation that may be submitted to the Commission that would enable the Commission to determine whether an individual meets the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent set forth in section 3.

(II) recognize an individual’s identification of lineal ancestors on the 1890 Census by the Kingdom of Hawaii as a reliable indicia of lineal descent from the aboriginal, indigenous, native people who resided in the islands that now comprise the State of Hawaii on or before January 1, 1893; and

(III) permit elderly Native Hawaiians and other qualified Native Hawaiian constituents lacking birth certificates or other documentation due to birth on Hawaiian Home Lands or other similar cir-
cumstances to establish lineal descent by sworn affidavits from 2 or more qualified Native Hawaiian constituents;

(ii) establish a standard format for the submission of documentation and a process to ensure veracity; and

(iii) publish information related to clauses (i) and (ii) in the Federal Register.

(D) CONSULTATION.—In making determinations that each individual proposed for inclusion on the roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents meets the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent in section 3, the Commission may consult with bona fide Native Hawaiian membership organizations, agencies of the State of Hawaii, including but not limited to, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the State Department of Health, and other entities with expertise and experience in the determination of Native Hawaiian ancestry and lineal descendancy.

(E) NOTIFICATION.—The Commission shall—
(i) inform an individual whether they have been deemed by the Commission a qualified Native Hawaiian constituent; and

(ii) inform an individual of a right to appeal the decision if deemed not to be a qualified Native Hawaiian constituent.

(F) CERTIFICATION AND SUBMITTAL OF ROLL TO SECRETARY.—The Commission shall—

(i) submit the roll containing the names of those individuals who meet the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent in section 3 to the Secretary within 2 years from the date on which the Commission is fully composed; and

(ii) certify to the Secretary that each of the qualified Native Hawaiian constituents proposed for inclusion on the roll meets the definition set forth in section 3.

(G) PUBLICATION.—Upon certification by the Commission to the Secretary that those listed on the roll meet the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent set forth in section 3, the Commission shall publish the notice of the certification of the roll in the Federal Reg-
ister, notwithstanding pending appeals pursuant to subparagraph (H).

(H) APPEAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Commission, shall establish a mechanism for an administrative appeal for any person whose name is excluded from the roll who claims to meet the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent in section 3.

(I) PUBLICATION; UPDATE.—The Commission shall—

(i) publish the notice of the certification of the roll regardless of whether appeals are pending;

(ii) update the roll and provide notice of the updated roll on the final disposition of any appeal;

(iii) update the roll to include any person who has been certified by the Commission as meeting the definition of qualified Native Hawaiian constituent in section 3 after the initial publication of the roll or after any subsequent publications of the roll; and

(iv) provide a copy of the roll and any updated rolls to the Council.
(J) **Effect of Publication.**—The publication of the initial and updated roll shall serve as the basis for the eligibility of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents whose names are listed on those rolls to participate in the reorganization of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

(2) **Organization of Council.**—

(A) **Organization.**—The Commission, in consultation with the Secretary, shall hold a minimum of 3 meetings, and each meeting shall be at least 2 working days, of the qualified Native Hawaiian constituents listed on the roll established under this section—

(i) to develop criteria for candidates to be elected to serve on the Council;

(ii) to determine the structure of the Council, including the number of Council members; and

(iii) to elect members from individuals listed on the roll established under this subsection to the Council.

(B) **Powers.**—

(i) **In General.**—The Council—
(I) shall represent those listed on
the roll established under this section
in the implementation of this Act; and

(II) shall have no powers other
than powers given to the Council
under this Act.

(ii) FUNDING.—The Council may
enter into a contract with, or obtain a
grant from, any Federal or State agency to
carry out clause (iii).

(iii) ACTIVITIES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Council
shall conduct, among the qualified
Native Hawaiian constituents listed
on the roll established under this sub-
section, a referendum for the purpose
of determining the proposed elements
of the organic governing documents of
the Native Hawaiian governing entity,
including but not limited to

(aa) the proposed criteria
for future membership in the Na-

tive Hawaiian governing entity,

provided that membership is vol-

untary and can be relinquished;
(bb) the proposed powers and authorities to be exercised by the Native Hawaiian governing entity, as well as the proposed privileges and immunities of the Native Hawaiian governing entity;

(cc) the proposed civil rights and protection of the rights of the citizens of the Native Hawaiian governing entity and all persons affected by the exercise of governmental powers and authorities of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, including the rights protected under section 202 of the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 (25 U.S.C. 1302);

(dd) the protection and preservation of the rights vested on the date of enactment of this Act of those Native Hawaiians who are eligible to reside on the Hawaiian homelands under the authority of the Hawaiian Homes
Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42); and

(ee) other issues determined appropriate by the Council.

(II) Development of Organic Governing Documents.—Based on the referendum, the Council shall develop proposed organic governing documents for the Native Hawaiian governing entity and may seek technical assistance from the Secretary on the draft organic governing documents to ensure that the draft organic governing documents comply with this Act and other Federal law.

(III) Distribution.—The Council shall publish to all qualified Native Hawaiian constituents of the Native Hawaiian governing entity listed on the roll published under this subsection notice of the availability of—

(aa) a copy of the proposed organic governing documents, as drafted by the Council; and
(bb) a brief impartial description of the proposed organic governing documents;

(IV) ELECTIONS.—

(aa) IN GENERAL.—Not sooner than 180 days after the proposed organic governing documents are drafted and distributed, the Council, with the assistance of the Secretary, shall hold elections for the purpose of ratifying the proposed organic governing documents.

(bb) PURPOSE.—The Council, with the assistance of the Secretary, shall hold the election for the purpose of ratifying the proposed organic governing documents 60 days after publishing notice of an election.

(cc) OFFICERS.—On certification of the organic governing documents by the Secretary in accordance with paragraph (4), the Council, with the assistance
of the Secretary, shall hold elections of the officers of the Native Hawaiian governing entity pursuant to paragraph (5).

(3) **Submittal of Organic Governing Documents.**—Following the reorganization of the Native Hawaiian governing entity and the adoption of organic governing documents, the Council shall submit the organic governing documents of the Native Hawaiian governing entity to the Secretary.

(4) **Certifications.**—

(A) **In General.**—Within the context of the future negotiations to be conducted under the authority of section 9(c)(1), and the subsequent actions by the Congress and the State of Hawaii to enact legislation to implement the agreements of the 3 governments, not later than 180 days, which may be extended an additional 90 days if the Secretary deems necessary, after the date on which the Council submits the organic governing documents to the Secretary, the Secretary shall certify or decline to certify that the organic governing documents—

(i) establish the criteria for membership in the Native Hawaiian governing en-
tity and provide that membership is vol-
untary and can be relinquished;

(ii) were adopted by a majority vote of
those qualified Native Hawaiian constitu-
ents whose names are listed on the roll
published by the Secretary and who voted
in the election;

(iii) provide authority for the Native
Hawaiian governing entity to negotiate
with Federal, State, and local govern-
ments, and other entities;

(iv) provide for the exercise of inher-
ent and other appropriate governmental
authorities by the Native Hawaiian gov-
erning entity;

(v) prevent the sale, disposition, lease,
or encumbrance of lands, interests in
lands, or other assets of the Native Hawai-
ian governing entity without the consent of
the Native Hawaiian governing entity;

(vi) provide for the protection of the
civil rights of the citizens of the Native
Hawaiian governing entity and all persons
affected by the exercise of governmental
powers and authorities by the Native Ha-
waiian governing entity, including the rights protected under section 202 of the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 (25 U.S.C. 1302);

(vii) provide for the protection and preservation of the rights vested on the date of enactment of this Act of those Native Hawaiians who are eligible to reside on the Hawaiian homelands under the authority of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42); and

(viii) are consistent with applicable Federal law.

(B) Resubmission in case of non-compliance.—

(i) Resubmission by the Secretary.—If the Secretary determines that the organic governing documents, or any part of the documents, do not meet all of the requirements set forth in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall resubmit the organic governing documents to the Council, along with a justification for each of the
Secretary’s findings as to why the provisions are not in full compliance.

(ii) Amendment and resubmission of organic governing documents.—If the organic governing documents are resubmitted to the Council by the Secretary under clause (i), the Council shall—

(I) amend the organic governing documents to ensure that the documents meet all the requirements set forth in subparagraph (A); and

(II) resubmit the amended organic governing documents to the Secretary for certification in accordance with this paragraph.

(C) Certifications deemed made.—The certifications under this paragraph shall be deemed to have been made if the Secretary has not acted within 180 days after the date on which the Council has submitted the organic governing documents of the Native Hawaiian governing entity to the Secretary.

(5) Elections.—On completion of the certifications by the Secretary under paragraph (4), the Council, with the assistance of the Secretary, shall
hold elections of the officers of the Native Hawaiian
governing entity.

(6) Provision of Roll.—The Council shall
provide a copy of the roll of qualified Native Hawai-
ian constituents to the governing body of the Native
Hawaiian governing entity.

(7) Termination.—The Council shall cease to
exist and shall have no power or authority under
this Act after the officers of the governing body who
are elected as provided in paragraph (5) are in-
stalled.

(8) Reaffirmation.—Notwithstanding any
other provision of law, the special political and legal
relationship between the United States and the Na-
tive Hawaiian people is hereby reaffirmed and the
United States extends Federal recognition to the
Native Hawaiian governing entity as the representa-
tive sovereign governing body of the Native Hawai-
ian people after—

(A) the approval of the organic governing
documents by the Secretary under subpara-
graph (A) or (C) of paragraph (4); and

(B) the officers of the Native Hawaiian
governing entity elected under paragraph (5)
have been installed.
SEC. 9. REAFFIRMATION OF DELEGATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY TO STATE OF HAWAII; GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY AND POWER; NEGOTIATIONS; CLAIMS.

(a) Reaffirmation.—The delegation by the United States of authority to the State of Hawaii to address the conditions of the indigenous, native people of Hawaii contained in the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 18, 1959 (Public Law 86–3; 73 Stat. 4), is reaffirmed.

(b) Governmental Authority and Power.—

(1) In general.—Consistent with the policies of the United States set forth in section 4(a)(4), the Native Hawaiian governing entity shall be vested with the inherent powers and privileges of self-government of a native government under existing law, except as set forth in this Act. Said powers and privileges may be modified by agreement between the Native Hawaiian governing entity, the United States, and the State of Hawaii pursuant to the negotiations authorized in subsection (c)(1), and subject to the enactment of implementing legislation and to the limit described by section 10(a).

(2) Membership.—Once the United States extends Federal recognition to the Native Hawaiian
governing entity, the United States will recognize
and affirm the Native Hawaiian governing entity’s
inherent power and authority to determine its own
membership criteria, to determine its own member-
ship, and to grant, deny, revoke, or qualify member-
ship without regard to whether any person was or
was not deemed to be a qualified Native Hawaiian
constituent under this Act. The Native Hawaiian
governing entity must provide that membership in
the Native Hawaiian governing entity is voluntary
and can be relinquished.

(c) Negotiations.—

(1) In general.—Upon the reaffirmation of
the special political and legal relationship between
the United States and the Native Hawaiian gov-
erning entity, the United States and the State of
Hawaii may enter into negotiations with the Native
Hawaiian governing entity designed to lead to an
agreement or agreements addressing such matters
as—

(A) the transfer of State of Hawaii lands
and surplus Federal lands, natural resources,
and other assets, and the protection of existing
rights related to such lands or resources;
(B) the exercise of governmental authority over any transferred lands, natural resources, and other assets, including land use;

(C) the exercise of civil and criminal jurisdiction;

(D) the exercise of the authority to tax and other powers and authorities that are recognized by the United States as powers and authorities typically exercised by governments representing indigenous, native people of the United States;

(E) any residual responsibilities of the United States and the State of Hawaii; and

(F) grievances regarding assertions of historical wrongs committed against Native Hawaiians by the United States or by the State of Hawaii.

(2) AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LAWS.—Upon agreement on any matter or matters negotiated with the United States or the State of Hawaii, and the Native Hawaiian governing entity, the parties may submit—

(A) to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, and the Com—
mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives recommendations for proposed amendments to Federal law that will enable the implementation of agreements reached between the governments; and

(B) to the Governor and the legislature of the State of Hawaii, recommendations for proposed amendments to State law that will enable the implementation of agreements reached between the governments.

(3) During the period between the reaffirmation of the special political and legal relationship between the United States and the Native Hawaiian governing entity, and the subsequent enactment of legislation to implement the agreement or agreements negotiated under paragraph (1):

(A) There shall be no Indian country within the State of Hawaii.

(B) The United States shall not take land in trust for the benefit of the Native Hawaiian governing entity or for the benefit of members of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

(C) The United States shall not restrict the alienability of land owned by the Native Hawaiian governing entity.
(D) Members of the Native Hawaiian governing entity shall continue to be subject to the civil and criminal jurisdiction of Federal and State courts.

(E) Nothing in this Act alters or preempts the existing legislative, regulatory, or taxation authority of the State of Hawaii over individuals who are members of the Native Hawaiian governing entity or over property owned by those individuals.

(F) The Native Hawaiian governing entity shall not exercise criminal, civil, adjudicative, legislative, regulatory, or taxation authority or jurisdiction over individuals who are not members of the Native Hawaiian governing entity without their express consent.

(G) The Native Hawaiian governing entity shall not exercise criminal, civil, adjudicative, legislative, regulatory, or taxation authority or jurisdiction over corporations or other associations or entities that are owned wholly or in majority part by persons who are not members of the Native Hawaiian governing entity without their express consent.
The Native Hawaiian governing entity shall be immune from any lawsuit in any Federal or State court, with the exception described in section 10(e)(3) and the exceptions set forth in clauses (i) through (iii) of this subparagraph.

(i) The Native Hawaiian governing entity may waive its sovereign immunity, provided that it does so clearly and unequivocally.

(ii) The Native Hawaiian governing entity shall not be immune from any lawsuit brought by the United States in any Federal court.

(iii) Real property owned in fee simple by the Native Hawaiian governing entity shall not be immune from any in rem action filed by the State of Hawaii.

(I) Governmental, nonbusiness, non-commercial activities undertaken by the Native Hawaiian governing entity, or by a corporation or other association or entity wholly owned by the Native Hawaiian governing entity, shall not be subject to the regulatory or taxation authority of the State of Hawaii, provided that nothing in this subparagraph shall exempt any nat-
ural person (except an officer or employee of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, acting within the scope of his or her authority), from the regulatory, taxation, or other authority of the State of Hawaii. In determining whether an activity is covered by this subparagraph, due consideration shall be given to the constraints described in subparagraphs (A), (F), and (G).

(J) Commercial or business activities undertaken by the Native Hawaiian governing entity, or by a corporation or other association or entity owned, operated, or sponsored by the Native Hawaiian governing entity, shall be subject to the regulatory and taxation authority of the State of Hawaii to the same extent as commercial or business activities undertaken by others.

(K) Subject to subparagraph (I), activities conducted on real property owned by, leased by, or subject to the control of the Native Hawaiian governing entity shall be subject to the regulatory and taxation authority of the State of Hawaii to the same extent as activities conducted on real property owned by, leased by, or subject to the control of others.
(L) Subject to subparagraph (O), real property owned by, leased by, or subject to the control of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, and development of such property, shall be subject to the regulatory and taxation authority of the State of Hawaii to the same extent as real property owned by, leased by, or subject to the control of others.

(M) Any commercial or business corporation or other commercial or business association or entity owned, operated, or sponsored by the Native Hawaiian governing entity shall be subject to the regulatory and taxation authority of the State of Hawaii to the same extent as commercial and business corporations and other commercial and business associations and entities owned, operated, or sponsored by others.

(N) Any specific power, authority, or restriction set forth in this paragraph shall expire upon enactment of legislation that implements an agreement or agreements negotiated under paragraph (1) and that expressly replaces or alters such power, authority, or restriction.

(O) Nothing in this paragraph diminishes any right or immunity (including any immunity
from State or local taxation) granted to Native Hawaiians or their property by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42), the Act entitled “An Act to pro-
vide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 18, 1959 (Public Law 86–3; 73 Stat. 4), or sections 10001 through 10004 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1994 (sections 10001 through 1004 of Public Law 103–139; 107 Stat. 1418, 1480 (1993)).

(4) Nothing in paragraph (3) should be interpreted as establishing any presumption about the powers or authorities that could properly be exercised by the United States, the State of Hawaii, or the Native Hawaiian governing entity after further legislation, including legislation enacted to imple-
ment any agreement negotiated under this sub-
section.

(d) CLAIMS.—Nothing in this Act—

(1) alters existing law, including case law, re-
garding obligations of the United States or the State of Hawaii relating to events or actions that occurred prior to recognition of the Native Hawaiian gov-
erning entity;
(2) creates, enlarges, revives, modifies, diminishes, extinguishes, waives, or otherwise alters any Federal or State claim or cause of action against the United States or its officers or the State of Hawaii or its officers or any other person or entity, or any defense (including the defense of statute of limitations) to any such claim or cause of action, except in the case of claims or causes of action challenging the constitutionality or legality of programs benefitting Native Hawaiians to the extent that this Act creates or enlarges any defense to any such claim or cause of action;

(3) amends section 2409a of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Quiet Title Act”), chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Federal Tort Claims Act”), section 1491 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Tucker Act”), section 1505 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the “Indian Tucker Act”), the Hawaii Organic Act (31 Stat. 141), or any other Federal statute, except as expressly amended by this Act; or

(4) alters the sovereign immunity of the United States or of the State of Hawaii.
SEC. 10. APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAWS.

(a) INDIAN GAMING REGULATORY ACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Native Hawaiian governing entity and Native Hawaiians may not conduct gaming activities as a matter of claimed inherent authority or under the authority of any Federal law, including the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) or under any regulations thereunder promulgated by the Secretary or the National Indian Gaming Commission.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The prohibition contained in paragraph (1) regarding the use of Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) and inherent authority to game applies regardless of whether gaming by Native Hawaiians or the Native Hawaiian governing entity would be located on land within the State of Hawaii or within any other State or territory of the United States.

(b) SINGLE GOVERNING ENTITY.—This Act will result in the recognition of the single Native Hawaiian governing entity. Additional Native Hawaiian groups shall not be eligible for acknowledgment pursuant to the Federal Acknowledgment Process set forth in part 83 of title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, or any other administrative acknowledgment or recognition process.

(c) INDIAN PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND LAWS.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, nothing in this Act extends eligibility for any Indian program or service to the Native Hawaiian governing entity or its members unless a statute governing such a program or service expressly provides that Native Hawaiians or the Native Hawaiian governing entity is eligible for such program or service. Nothing in this Act affects the eligibility of any person for any program or service under any statute or law in effect before the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER TERMS.—Subject to paragraph (3), in Federal statutes or regulations in force prior to the United States recognition of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, the terms “Indian” and “Native American”, and references to Indian tribes, bands, nations, pueblos, villages, or other organized groups or communities, shall not apply to the Native Hawaiian governing entity or its members, unless the Federal statute or regulation expressly applies to Native Hawaiians or the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

(3) INDIAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1968.—The Council and the Native Hawaiian governing entity shall be subject to sections 201 through 203 of the
Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 (25 U.S.C. 1301–1303). Nothing in such Act, and nothing in this paragraph, shall be interpreted to expand the powers and authorities of the Council or the Native Hawaiian governing entity that are described elsewhere in this Act.

(d) **Real Property Transfers.**—Section 2116 of the Revised Statutes (commonly known as the “Indian Trade and Intercourse Act”) (25 U.S.C. 177) does not apply to any purchase, grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands, or of any title or claim thereto, from Native Hawaiians, Native Hawaiian entities, or the Kingdom of Hawaii that occurred prior to the date of the United States’ recognition of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

**Sec. 11. Severability.**

If any section or provision of this Act is held invalid, it is the intent of Congress that the remaining sections or provisions shall continue in full force and effect.
There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives February 23, 2010.

Attest:

Clerk.
AN ACT

To express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

H. R. 2314

111th CONGRESS

2ND SESSION

[477x512]111TH CONGRESS 2ND SESSION

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To express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.