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INSTITUTE

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Speech to Hawaiian Civic Clubs – All Should Know Hawaiian History

My Dear Friends,

Tomorrow as we observe and celebrate the birthday of a nobleman of the realm and a late Delegate to the Congress of the United States, Prince Kuhio Kalanianaʻole, we should recall that our dear Prince was a man of great vision. The Prince foresaw the active and important role of Hawaii in the affairs of our nation and the world. However, in sharing his dreams of the future with us, he spoke of the importance of preserving the history and heritage of Hawaii's past. He said that the success of Hawaii's future must be built on the foundation of Hawaii's great past.

In August of 1959, when Hawaii honored me by sending me to our nation's capital, I issued a statement strongly advocating that Kamehameha the Great be the first of Hawaii's illustrious personages to be honored in the Statuary Hall of our national Capitol. I was pleased to note that our State House of Representatives unanimously approved a bill to appropriately honor the great Pacific monarch. I hope that our State Senate will soon concur. I am certain this action would have been approved by Prince Kuhio.

I now strongly urge that our public school system take immediate steps to offer every child of Hawaii a comprehensive study course of the history of Hawaii's past. Every child in Virginia is acquainted with the great Robert E. Lee. Every child of Texas knows the Alamo. Every child of Hawaii should be well versed in the accomplishments of Kamehameha, Kaahumanu, Liliuokalani, Kuhio and others. I am certain our beloved Prince would have advocated such a program.

I regret that I cannot be with you this evening to thank our good Lord for sending Prince Kuhio to walk the pathways of Hawaii's historic past. We can well show our gratitude by

helping to make real the visionary dreams of our late Prince.