

O'AHU COUNTY DEMOCRATS (OCD) CONVENTION
PRE-CONVENTION AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 20, 2019

Mr. Richard Halverson, Chair, and the House of Delegates
O'ahu County Democrats Convention

Aloha,

The Affirmative Action Committee convened on April 20, 2019, 9:10 a.m. at the Kalakaua Intermediate School. The sign-up sheet was circulated and is on file. The agenda was circulated with the rules for participating in the committee meeting.

Report of Achievements: The co-chairs presented a report on the committee's achievements since the last convention, noting the following significant achievements:

- a. Affirmative Action Plan was adopted on March 23, 2019 by the O'ahu County Committee
- b. Advocated for legislation that impacted upon the physically disabled and Micronesians
- c. Developed an Affirmative Action survey which will conclude after this convention
- d. Organized the participation of the OCC in the Martin Luther King Parade
- e. Submitted proposal to establish the Affirmative Action Committee as a Standing Committee and require the Chair and Vice Chair of the OCC to be elected as a combined slate of two different genders
- f. Submitted at the Oahu County Democrats Pre-Convention Committee meetings resolutions on 1) Supporting the 2020 US Census; 2) Supporting Equal Treatment of Compact of Free Association (COFA) Residents in the Issuance and Renewal of driver's Licenses; 3) Requesting the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to Accept the National Orientation and Mobility Certification for Teachers Providing Orientation and Mobility

OCC AA Plan: Co-Chair Jasper reviewed the plan. On goal 4, non-substantive change will be made to this goal to replace "physically disabled" to disabled, as there are many forms of disability. Also, the committee agreed that it should participate in the ADA Disabilities Act celebration on July 26, 2019. Co-Chair Jasper will help to organize and consider partnership with the Dept of Public Safety, Transportation, and Human Services. At a future meeting, the committee will establish a calendar of those events it will participate in.

Legislative Report: A report of legislative measures impacting upon the physically disabled and Micronesians was circulated. The OCC AA Committee gave testimony on 11 measures.

Affirmative Action Survey: The sample reports produced by Chair Halverson on the test AA survey were reviewed. **AA survey will conclude 30 days after this convention**, after which the survey results will be analyzed. Adam Manalo Camp volunteered to collate the Survey Monkey results.

Report on Changing the Name of the AA Committee: The report of Betty Vega, District 49 Chair, OCC AA Committee Member, that provided background information and recommendation for consideration of a name change to replace "Affirmative Action" with an updated, more meaningful term was circulated. Besides the information in Ms. Vega's report, consideration was also given to the SCC AA Committee's proposed name change to Diversity Outreach and Inclusion Committee. **Mr. Tada moved,**

seconded by Ms. Vega, that the name of the OCC Affirmative Action Committee be changed to Inclusion and Diversity Committee (IDC) and that the AA Committee seek an amendment to the OCC bylaws to effect this change. Motion adopted unanimously. The Committee's rationale is that this name change aligns with the spirit and intent of the 1) the goal of diversity in the OCC; 2) Inclusionary efforts to seek that diversity and engagement; 3) Government and Corporate move from the "affirmative action" term to Diversity and Inclusion, including at the state level, Governor Ige's Diversity and Civic Engagement Committee. The new name of the OCC Committee would also distinguish itself from the State Committee and thus avoid confusion since many members serve on both committees.

Removal of the AA Committee as a Convention Committee: Dr. Puette recommended that the OCC AA Committee be removed as a Convention Committee, assuming that the OCD delegates will approve establishing it as a standing committee at the May 4, 2019 convention. As a standing committee, the AA Committee does work year round, not just at convention, and it was noted that all taskings in the Affirmative Action Plan are to various components of the OCC, with oversight by the Executive Committee. Too, this would avoid conflict about who the appropriate authority is for the AA Plan, the OCD or the OCC? Lastly, as a standing committee, the OCC AA Committee would still give a report at convention, but would not hold a meeting. Members agreed that removal of the AA Committee as a convention committee would allow for their participation in other committee meetings, representing the spirit and intent of AA. **Mr. Salisbury moved, seconded by Mr. Tada that the OCC bylaws be amended to remove the Affirmative Action Committee from being a convention committee, assuming adoption of the proposed bylaws amendment to create the Affirmative Action Committee as a standing committee. Motion adopted unanimously.**

Withdrawal of the Proposed Resolution, "Supporting the 2020 Census": Since submission of the resolution, we have learned that several states have filed law suits against the inclusion of this question on the Census questionnaire. There is an appeal at the U.S. Supreme Court to resolve the legal battle over the citizenship question. Plaintiffs belief that the question was motivated by bias against immigrant communities of color and intended to depress census participation among these groups. There is also a concern about targeting persons who might answer this question with a "no" for deportation. The Supreme Court is set to hear oral arguments on April 23 about an earlier ruling by a federal judge in New York who also blocked the citizenship question, as well as about whether including the question on the 2020 census is constitutional. It is anticipated that the Supreme Court will render its decision by June 2019. **As a result, the OCC AA Committee unanimously supported withdrawing its resolution and the Resolutions Chair was so informed.** The committee will seek adoption of the resolution, if appropriate, at a future OCC meeting after the Supreme Court renders its decision.

The Committee recessed two times to allow participation of committee members in the Rules and Resolutions Committees meetings. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.. The Co-Chairs thanked all for their enthusiastic participation.

We wish a to express our appreciation for the opportunity to serve under the leadership of OCC Chair Richard Halverson, who was supportive of the committee's work, especially helping to post and test the Affirmative Action survey and producing sample power point slides of the data.

Delegates in Attendance: Leimomi Khan and TJ Jasper, Co-Chairs; Adam Manalo Camp, Justin Salisbury, Michael Tada, Betty Vega

Respectfully submitted, Leimomi Khan, and TJ Jasper, Co-Chairs