

GREG KATSAS AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS

Highlights:

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Katsas Opposed Legislation That Would Give Federal Recognition To Native Hawaiians

DURING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION, KATSAS OPPOSED THE “AKAKA BILL,” WHICH WOULD HAVE GIVEN FEDERAL RECOGNITION TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS

During The Bush Administration, Katsas Opposed The “Akaka Bill,” Which Would Have Given Federal Recognition To Native Hawaiians. According to the Honolulu Advertiser, “Gov. Linda Lingle said yesterday she will continue to lobby support from Republican lawmakers and talk with the White House about the hard line it has taken against the Akaka bill. ‘That’s my role and I’m going to continue to play it because I believe so strongly in the importance of passing this legislation,’ she said. The Senate Indian Affairs Committee is expected to vote today on the bill, which would create a process for a Native Hawaiian governing entity to be formed and gain federal recognition. Lingle, in Washington for the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders, said she would be attending the session. [...] At the hearing, Gregory Katsas, a Justice Department attorney, said the administration opposed the bill because, ‘We think it’s wrong to balkanize the governing institutions of this country along racial and ancestral lines.’ But Lingle said she would continue to lobby Republican lawmakers and to talk with the White House about not taking such a hard position on the bill.” [Honolulu Advertiser, 5/10/07]

The Akaka Bill Never Received A Vote In The Senate

The Akaka Bill Never Received A Vote In The Senate. According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, “The legislation, known as the Akaka Bill, passed the House in February but never received a vote in the Senate.” [San Diego Union-Tribune, [12/22/10](#)]