

S 708

A bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians, to provide a process for the reorganization of a Native Hawaiian government and the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian government, and for other purposes.

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Native Americans

**Introduced:** Mar 25, 2009

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3798

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3798-3801) (Mar 25, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/708>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** HI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Mar 25, 2009
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 25, 2009
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Mar 25, 2009
Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]	D · ND		Mar 30, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 25, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Native Americans

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 3945	Related bill	<b>Nov 15, 2010:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.
111 HR 2314	Related bill	<b>Mar 16, 2010:</b> Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 319.
111 S 1011	Related bill	<b>Mar 11, 2010:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 314.
111 HR 862	Related bill	<b>Jul 23, 2009:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
111 HR 1711	Related bill	<b>Mar 25, 2009:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
111 S 381	Related bill	<b>Feb 4, 2009:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1547-1550)

## Summary (as of Mar 25, 2009)

Establishes the U.S. Office for Native Hawaiian Affairs (Office) within the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

Requires the Attorney General to designate a Department of Justice official to assist the Office in the implementation and protection of the rights of Native Hawaiians and their political, legal, and trust relationship with the United States.

Establishes the Native Hawaiian Interagency Task Force to: (1) coordinate federal policies or actions that may significantly or uniquely affect Native Hawaiian resources, rights, or lands; (2) assure that each federal agency develops a policy on consultation with Native Hawaiians; and (3) assure the participation of such agencies in the development of an annual report on the Task Force.

Establishes a process for development of a membership roll for organizing a Native Hawaiian Interim Governing Council and for election of a Native Hawaiian government. Recognizes the right of the Native Hawaiian people to adopt organic governing documents.

Extends federal recognition to the government as the representative governing body of the Native Hawaiian people upon election of officers and certification by the Secretary.

Permits the United States, upon federal recognition of the Native Hawaiian government, to enter into an agreement with the state of Hawaii and such government regarding the transfer of lands, resources, and assets dedicated to Native Hawaiian use.

Prohibits the Native Hawaiian government and Native Hawaiians from conducting gaming activities as a matter of claimed inherent authority or under the authority of any federal law.

## Actions Timeline

- **Mar 25, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 25, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3797-3798)
- **Mar 25, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3798-3801)