

Testimony in Favor of the Sister City Relationship between Honolulu & Zhangzhou

I would like to thank the City Council and the City & County of Honolulu for your continued support of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and our many events, which are designed to promote the Chinese culture in Honolulu and enhance and promote cultural and business exchange between Honolulu and China.

One of our most significant events is the Narcissus Festival. Now in its 64th year, it was designed to promote the Chinese culture as well as provide young women of Chinese ancestry the opportunity to not only learn about their culture, but also give them access to programs, which would help them to become leaders and contributors to our community.

The city of Zhangzhou, in Fujian Province in China is the home of the Narcissus flower. This is but one of the many significant ties we have to this city. Zhangzhou is also a tourist destination and has a very busy shipping port. Zhangzhou is considered a major hometown of overseas Chinese.

Since we began discussions with the leaders of Zhangzhou in early June, interest in developing a Sister City relationship has increased. In fact, Mayor Carlisle and Chamber Past President Jeffrey Lau recently visited Zhangzhou and renewed the interest in pursuing this relationship. Mr. Lau also signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Zhangzhou China Council for the Promotion of International Trade. This Agreement provides the framework for both organizations to collaborate and promote economic exchange.

It is our sincere hope that the City Council will also find a Sister City relationship with the City of Zhangzhou beneficial as well. I humbly ask that you approve this relationship.

Thank you,

Leonard J. K. H. Kam
Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
President

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
C & C OF HONOLULU
2012 OCT -1 AM 9:08