



**STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

SISTER-STATE APPLICATION FORM

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in proposing a new Sister-State Relationship for the State of Hawaii. In addition to completing this application form, please provide other pertinent information/supporting documents that would be useful to the Hawaii Sister-State Committee during the decision-making process.

Mahalo.

Office of International Affairs/Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

REQUIRED INFORMATION		
Name of Proposed Sister- XXX Sister-Province	Province of Aklan, Republic of the Philippines	
Governing Agency of Sister-XXX Sister-Province	Office of Honorable Florencio T. Miraflores Provincial Governor, Provincial Capitol, Kalibo, Aklan, 5600 Philippines	
Liaison: Former Vice Governor & Initial Contact of Rep. Mizuno Designated by Gov. Miraflores to coordinate and serve as Liaison for this project	Last Name: Calizo-Quimpo	First Name: Ms Gabrielle "Billie"
	Address (complete): Office of the Governor, Province of Aklan, Provincial Capitol, 5600, Kalibo, Aklan, Philippines	
	Telephone: () +63 036 268 6251	Fax: () +63 036 262 3132
	E-mail: aklanpgo@yahoo.com	
List Existing Sister-State Relationships:	1. NONE	6.
	2.	7.
	3.	8.
	4.	9.
	5.	10.
Please attach official documentation of proof of interest to establish a Sister-State Relationship with the State of Hawaii (legislation, cover letter of request, etc.). Refer to "Attachment A"		
Please provide any additional information and/or requirements pertaining to your Sister-State policy. Refer to "Attachment A"		

* Please attach additional sheets to expand on your responses.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS	
Major Industries (please list):	Tourism and Agriculture
<i>Please describe government policies, programs, etc. for the following categories.</i>	
Trade: (Free Trade Zone or Economic Zone)	Please refer to soft copy of Trade and Investment Code of the Province of Aklan, General Ordinance No. 2008-007
Environment:	Please refer to soft copy of the Environment Code of the Province of Aklan, General Ordinance No. 2009-005
Labor:	Please refer to soft copy of Trade and Investment Code of the Province of Aklan, General Ordinance No. 2008-007
Health:	Please refer to soft copy of the Health and Sanitation Code of the Province of Aklan, General Ordinance No. 004 s. 2015
Education: (including technical education programs)	The Province is guided by the Republic Acts covering Basic Education (Elementary to Senior High) Technical and Vocational Education, Higher Education (College), guides our the various programs on Education, Please refer to our Website.
Tourism:	Please refer to softcopy of the Tourism Code of the Province of Aklan, General Ordinance No.2009-003
Agriculture:	The Province is guided by the National Program/Projects, but also has local Initiatives and allocates a considerable share of the Provincial annual budget for the development and modernization of agriculture.
Science and Technology:	The Province is guided by the National Program/Projects
Arts and Entertainment:	The Province is guided by the National Program/Projects
Other Industries:	Please refer to softcopy of Public Private Partnership Code of the Province of Aklan, General Ordinance No.002 s. 2015

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Official Language: Tagalog (Pilipino), English	Head of State: Governor	Government System: Presidential
Governmental Structure: Please refer to "Attachment B"	Legal System: Please refer to "Attachment B"	Transportation Systems: Please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book "

Demographic Information

Population:	Male:	Female:	Average Earnings:
Religions:	Ethnic Diversity:		Climate:
Educational System:	Health/Medical System (hospitals; areas of expertise):		International Programs & Exchanges:

Business, Independent Research Organizations, Think Tanks, Civic and/or Community Organizations, International Exchange Organizations and Affiliations (list along with major events).

Organization Name	Events	Dates
1. Please refer to "Attachment E"		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		

9.		
10.		
MEDIA Please refer to "Attachment F"		
Official Website:		
Major Television Stations:	Major Radio Stations:	
Trade Publications:	Other Internet-based Media:	
OTHER IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS		
<i>Special Attractions and Cultural Diversity (ethnic groups, activities, etc.):</i>		
Museums:	Please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"	
Symphony:	"	
Theatre and Performing Arts:	"	
Folk Arts:	"	
Festivals:	"	
Traditional Handicrafts:	"	
Zoo:	Not Available	
Aquarium:	Not Available	
Other special attractions/examples of cultural diversity:	Please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"	
<i>Sports Teams/Sporting Events</i> Please refer to "Attachment G"		
Professional:	"	
Semi-professional:	"	
Amateur:	"	
Official Sport:	"	
Sports Clubs:	"	
Major Sporting Events:	"	
HISTORICAL INFORMATION		
Please provide a brief description on any applicable historical facts and/or notable historical figures that will contribute to the proposed Sister-State Relationship. Please also explain any previous relationships or nexus with Hawaii that prompted your interest in forming a Sister-State Relationship.		
Please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"		

JUSTIFICATION IN ESTABLISHING SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE OF HAWAII

1. Please explain why a Sister-State Relationship with the State of Hawaii is important to your state/province/prefecture.

Please refer to "Attachment H"

2. Please describe what your state envisions with a Sister-State Relationship with the State of Hawaii.

Please refer to "Attachment H"

3. Please prioritize the reasons for a sister relationship with Hawaii.

Please refer to "Attachment H"

Please return completed form to:
State of Hawaii Sister-State Committee
Office of International Affairs
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
USA

ATTACHMENT A

1. Letter of Vice Governor Gabrielle V. Calizo-Quimpo (2013-2016) dated March 28, 2016, addressed to Honorable Members of the House of Representatives, 28th Legislatures, State of Hawaii
2. Letter of Aklan Governor Florencio T. Miraflores (2013-2016;2016-2019) dated June 20, 2016 addressed to Mr. Brian L. Takeshita, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives, 415 S. Beretania St. Rm.207 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
3. Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Aklan (Provincial Legislative Body) Committee Report No. 078-2016, dated June 13, 2016.
4. Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Aklan (Provincial Legislative Body) Resolution 2016-010,dated July 18, 2016 Authorizing Governor Florencio T. Miraflores to enter to a Sisterhood Agreement between the State of Hawaii of United State of America and the Province of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines
5. Letter of Governor Florencio T. Miraflores dated September 5, 2016,addressed to Mr. Luis P. Salaveria, Director, State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, No. 1 Capitol District Bldg. 250 S. Hotel St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
KALIBO, AKLAN

OFFICE OF THE VICE GOVERNOR

March 28, 2016

THE HONORABLE MEMBERS

House of Representatives
Twenty-Eight Legislature, 2016
State of Hawaii

Your Honors:

As the Regular Presiding Officer of the Honorable Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Aklan, the 16th Provincial Legislature of this Province, may I express the sincerest appreciation of the Provincial Government of Aklan and her people to the House of Representatives, Twenty-Eight Legislature, 2016, State of Hawaii for especially considering the establishment of the sister-state relationship between the State of Hawaii, USA and the Province of Aklan, Philippines.

We in Aklan are highly gratified by the favorable endorsement of the House Committee on Veterans, Military and International Affairs and Culture and the Arts for favorably endorsing the establishment of the said sister-state-province relationship between the Province of Aklan and the State of Hawaii.

It has to be recalled that the Philippines and the Filipinos, particularly the Province of Aklan and Aklanons, have long established links with the Hawaiians even before World War II when several Aklanons had migrated to Hawaii since that time as migrant workers, specifically sugar plantation workers. Several Aklanons, too, had been inducted to the US Military, particularly in the United States Navy when World War II erupted and remained as organic members of the US military even after the end of the war.

Aklan and Hawaii share the same potentials in the economic field, Aklan anchoring its provincial economy on agriculture and tourism. Aklan's economy is mainly agricultural which when modernized and developed can turn Aklan into an industrial economy, and to this end, the Hawaii experience can be replicated by this young province. Agriculture in Aklan contributes the most to the gross provincial product of this province.

Like Hawaii, Aklan's tourist attraction is bannered by the fine white sand beach like of Boracay Island, already drawing more than 1.5 million tourists annually, almost one-third of the tourist arrivals of the country, the Philippines. And, this natural attraction of Aklan are akin and similar to what the State of Hawaii is famous of.

As I write to your end, I am very much certain that Aklanons will be very happy to be identified and closely linked to Hawaii and the Hawaiians.

Thus, we fervently hope and pray that your State Legislature shall officially embrace Aklanons in the Province of Aklan as brothers and sisters of the Hawaiian people.



"Attachment A"

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR

LORENCO T. MIRAFLORES
Provincial Governor

June 20, 2016

MR. BRIAN L. TAKESHITA
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives
415 S. Beretania St. Rm. 027
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Takeshita:

Greetings from Aklan, Philippines!

This is to acknowledge with grateful appreciation, House Resolution No. 77 H.D. 1 of the State of Hawaii, *"requesting the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to review and consider the establishment of a state/province relationship between the State of Hawaii of the United States of America and the Province of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines"*.

Indeed, we are one with the State of Hawaii in our *"common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, educational, and financial bridge between ethnic Filipinos living in Hawaii with their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the Philippines"*.

We will be happy to have a state-province relationship with the State of Hawaii as several provinces in our country already have.

Our provincial legislative body, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Aklan, which has also received a copy of said resolution has referred the same to the SP Committee in Tourism, Trade, Industry and Commerce, Committee on Cooperatives, Food and Agriculture and Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Peace and Order *"to explore possible areas of cooperation"*.

Again, our thanks and prayers that this will soon be achieved for our common benefits.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,


FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES
Provincial Governor

cc.: **ATTY. SELWYN C. IBARRETA**
Provincial Administrator



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
KALIBO, AKLAN

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND (2ND) REGULAR SESSION FOR CY 2016 OF THE 17TH SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN (2016-2019) HELD ON JULY 18, 2016 AT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SESSION HALL, PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, KALIBO, AKLAN.

PRESENT:

HONORABLE REYNALDO M. QUIMPO	- Vice Governor, Presiding Officer
HONORABLE RAMON S. GELITO	- SP Member-Western District
HONORABLE JOSE MIGUEL M. MIRAFLORES	- SP Member-Western District
HONORABLE JAY E. TEJADA	- SP Member-Western District
HONORABLE ESEL L. FLORES	- SP Member-Western District
HONORABLE NELSON D. SANTAMARIA	- SP Member-Western District
HONORABLE NEMESIO P. NERON	- SP Member-Eastern District
HONORABLE EMMANUEL SOVIET RUSSIA A. DELA CRUZ	- SP Member-Eastern District
HONORABLE LILLIAN Q. TIROL	- SP Member-Eastern District
HONORABLE HARRY C. SUCGANG	- SP Member-Eastern District
HONORABLE IMMANUEL L. SODUSTA	- SP Member-Eastern District
HONORABLE APOLINAR C. CLEOPE	- SP Member, PCL President

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-010

"A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A STATE-PROVINCE SISTERHOOD RELATIONSHIP AND AUTHORIZING GOVERNOR FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES TO ENTER INTO A SISTERHOOD AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES"

"Attachment A"

Page 2 of 2 Pages
Res. No. 2016-010
Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Kalibo, Aklan
July 18, 2016

RESOLVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN IN SESSION DULY ASSEMBLED: To Establish A *State-Province Sisterhood Relationship And Authorize Governor Florencio T. Miraflores To Enter Into A Sisterhood Agreement Between The State Of Hawaii Of The United States Of America And The Province Of Aklan Of The Republic Of The Philippines.*

Provided, that the sisterhood agreement shall embody the areas of cooperation to be agreed by both parties such as in tourism, agriculture and disaster risk mitigation among others.

Let a copy of resolution be furnished to the President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, Governor of the State of Hawaii, Chairperson of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee, President of the Republic of the Philippines, Malacañang Palace, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Department of Tourism and Department of Interior and Local Government.

APPROVED, JULY 18, 2016.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.



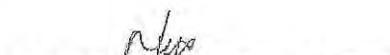
JOSEFA ELENA S. MARTIN
Local Legislative Staff Officer IV

ATTESTED:



ATTY. REYNALDO M. QUIMPO
Vice Governor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:



FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES
Provincial Governor

*Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Aklan*

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 078-2016

Submitted by the Committee on Cooperatives, Food and Agriculture, the Committee on Tourism, Trade, Industry and Commerce and the Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Peace and Order on June 13, 2016.

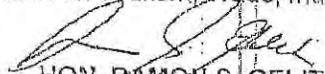
Madam Chairman:

The Committee on Cooperatives, Food and Agriculture, the Committee on Tourism, Trade, Industry and Commerce and the Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Peace and Order to which was referred the House Resolution No. 77, H.D. 1 of the House of Representatives of the State of Hawaii - "Requesting The Hawaii Sister-State Committee To Review And Consider The Establishment Of A State/Province Relationship Between The State Of Hawaii Of The United States Of America And The Province Of Aklan Of The Republic Of The Philippines", for the committee to study and take the initiative to explore of the possible areas of cooperation in tourism, agriculture and disaster preparedness, have considered the same and have the honor to report back to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan with the recommendation that the same **BE LAID ON THE TABLE WHILE AWAITING FOR THE PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENT HEADS PARTICULARLY FROM THE PROVINCIAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURIST AND AKLAN PROVINCIAL TOURISM OFFICE.**

Respectfully submitted :


HON. EMMANUEL SOVIET RUSSIA A. DELA CRUZ

Chairman, Committee on Cooperatives, Food and Agriculture
Member, Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Peace and Order
Member, Committee on Tourism, Trade, Industry and Commerce


HON. RAMON S. GELITO

Member, Committee on Cooperatives, Food and Agriculture

ORIGINAL SIGNED

HON. NELSON D. SANTAMARIA

Member, Committee on Cooperatives, Food and Agriculture


HON. LILLIAN C. TIROL

Member, Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Peace and Order
Member, Committee on Tourism, Trade, Industry and Commerce


HON. ESEL L. FLORES

Chairman, Committee on Tourism, Trade, Industry and Commerce

"Attachment A"

In like manner, as the Regular Presiding Officer of the Provincial Legislature of Aklan since 2007 until now, during the 14th, 15th and 16th Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Aklan, I must assure the Honorable Members of the State Legislature of Hawaii that we can facilitate very easily an official legislative action on our part to establish the Hawaii-Aklan sister-state relationship.

One more, from the people of Aklan to the people of Hawaii, thank you very much.


GABRIELLE V. CALIZO-QUIMPO
Vice Governor
Province of Aklan



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

"Attachment A"

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR

FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES
Provincial Governor

September 5, 2016

MR. LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
State of Hawaii Department of Business,
Economic Development and Tourism
No. 1 Capitol District Building
250 S. Hotel Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Salaveria:

Greetings from Aklan, Philippines!

This is to express my unconditional support for the immediate establishment of a sister state-province relationship between the Province of Aklan, Philippines and the State of Hawaii, U.S.A.

The considerable number of Aklanons constituting immigrants and descendants of immigrants to Hawaii who have successfully integrated themselves into the social, cultural, and political traditions of their host state/country even as they manage to retain and maintain affinity with their roots in the province/country of their origin is a strong rationale for the bringing into existence of such a relationship between our two government entities.

Indeed, as House Resolution No. 77 of the State of Hawaii declares, there is an abundance of *"historical precedents exemplifying the common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, educational, and financial bridge between ethnic Filipinos living in Hawaii with their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the Philippines"*.

Our provincial legislative body shares with us this desire as expressed in its Resolution No. 2016-010 authorizing us *"to enter into a sisterhood agreement between the State of Hawaii of the United States of America and the Province of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines"*.

We, therefore, look forward to the establishment of such a relationship.

Sincerest thanks and best regards.

Very truly yours,


FLORENCIO T. MIRAFLORES
Provincial Governor



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

“Attachment B”

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Official Language

Tagalog (Pilipino)
English

Head of Province

Governor

Government System

Presidential

Government Structure

Provincial Government

Co-Equal Bodies (Executive, Legislative, Judiciary)

17 Municipalities (Local Government Units within Province)

327 Barangays (Smallest Political Unit within the 17 Municipalities)

Legal System – Please refer to **“Attachment B”**

Transportation Systems – Please refer to **“Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book”**



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

"Attachment B"

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Demographic Information:

Population : 574,823 as of August 01, 2015

Male :

Female :

Average Earnings :

Religions : Roman Catholic, Iglesia ni Cristo, Aglipayan Church, Jehovah's Witnesses, Muslim,

Ethnic Diversity : Akeanon/Aklanon:Hiligaynon/longo:Tagalog:Kankanay/Kankaney/
Kankanaey:Cebuano & others

Climate : Two pronounced seasons a year, Dry Season (November to April) and Wet Season (May to October), Temperature is almost constant yearound, January at 20°C, it rises steadily to 29° C in May, and then decline gradually to the January level.

Educational System: Please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"

Health/Medical System: Please refer to "Attachments I, Aklan Tourism Book and C"

International Programs & Exchanges: Please refer to "Attachment D"

Business, Independent Research Organizations, Think Tanks, Civic and/or Community Organizations, International Exchange Organizations and Affiliations - Please refer to "Attachment E"



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

"Attachment B"

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

LEGAL SYSTEM

REGIONAL TRIAL COURT, BRANCH 1, KALIBO
BRANCH 2, KALIBO
BRANCH 3, KALIBO
BRANCH 4, KALIBO
BRANCH 5, KALIBO
BRANCH 6, KALIBO
BRANCH 7, KALIBO
BRANCH 8, KALIBO
BRANCH 9, KALIBO

MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, KALIBO

1ST MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, NEW WASHINGTON-BATAN

2ND MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, BANGA-LIBACAO-MADALAG

3RD MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, MALINAO-LEZO-NUMANCIA

4TH MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, MAKATO-TANGALAN

5TH MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, BURUANGA-MALAY

6TH MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, ALTAVAS-BALETE

7TH MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT, IBAJAY-NABAS



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

“Attachment C”

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

HEALTH/MEDICAL SYSTEM

The Province of Aklan provides preventive and curative health services for all its constituents. There is a total of 19 rural health units, eight public hospitals and five private hospitals in the entire province. Some of the public health programs that are being provided by the health facilities are the following:

- Maternal and Child Health
- Nutrition Program
- Family Planning Program
- Rabies, Leprosy, Filariasis, and Schistosomias Elimination Program
- Tuberculosis Control Program
- Dengue Control Program
- Non Communicable Disease Program
- Communicable Disease Program
- Adolescent Health Program
- Surveillance
- Water and Sanitation Program
- Disaster and Emergency Program

Further, the Aklan Hospital Management Office oversees the hospital operations of all the public hospitals of the entire province.



Republic of the Philippines
 PROVINCE OF AKLAN
 Kalibo, Aklan

“Attachment D”

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS & EXCHANGE

Organization Name	Events	Dates
1. USAid Funded	Matching Grant Program (Family Planning and Maternal Health and Nutrition Program)	1998- 2002
2. Swiss Government	Capacity Building: Migration Development Initiative Project	Sept 2014- April 2016
3. AusAid	- <i>Provincial Road Management Facility</i> - Coordinating Roads and Infrastructure Investment Development Project	2011- 2014
4. The Asia Foundation	Coordinating Roads and Infrastructure Investment Development Project	On-going
5. Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation	GAD Program	2011-2015
6. World Bank	Philippine Rural Development Project	On-going
7. Korea International Cooperation Agency	Construction of School buildings	2015
8. Japan International Cooperation Agency	Fish Landing Center, roads and other establishments	On-going



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

“Attachment E”

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

BUSINESS, INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS, THINK TANKS, CIVIC AND/OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE ORGANIZATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Aklan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 - Affiliated with the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Boracay Chamber of Commerce
 - Affiliated with the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Kalibo Chinese Chamber of Commerce
 - Affiliated with the Philippine Chinese Chamber of Commerce
- Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Aklan Chapter
- Aklan Press Club, Incorporated
 - Affiliated with the Philippines Press Club Incorporated
- Kapisanan ng mga Broadcaster sa Pilipinas (KBP), Aklan Chapter
 - Affiliated with KBP Philippines
- Rotary Club of Kalibo
- Rotary Club of Boracay
- Aklan Jaycees, Incorporated
- Kiwanis Club of Kalibo
- Kiwanis Club of Boracay
- Soroptimist International of Kalibo, Incorporated
 - Affiliated with Soroptimist International of the Philippines Region (SIPR) and Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA)
- Archbishop Gabriel M. Reyes Foundation Incorporated
- Kalibo Santo Niño Ati-atihan Foundation, Incorporated (KASAFI)
- Aklan Tourism Officers Association (AKTOA)
- Kalibo Ati-atihan Tourism Council (KATC)
- USWAG Development Foundation Incorporated
- Kalibo Save the Mangroves Association (KASAMA)
- Philbikers Motor Sport Riders Association, Kalibo Chapter



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

"Attachment F"

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

MEDIA

Official Website	:	www.aklan.gov.ph
Major Television Stations	:	Kalibo Cable TV Network, Aklan Cable TV, Paradise Cable TV Boracay
Major Radio Stations	:	GMA DYRU, Bombo Radyo Kalibo, RMN DYKR, Energy FM, Todo Radyo Kalibo Love Radio Kalibo, DYRG Kalibo, Katribu Radyo, Boracay Beach Radio 97.3 FM, Radyo Boracay FM 106.1.
Trade Publications	:	Madyaas Pen, Aklan Reporter, Hala Birada, West Explorer, Boracay Explorer, Panay News
Other Internet-based Media	:	All radio & TV stations have Live Streaming



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

"Attachment G"

OTHER IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS

Special Attractions and Cultural Diversity (ethnic groups, activities, etc.):

Museums	:	}	<i>Please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"</i>
Symphony	:		
Theatre and Performing Arts:	:		
Fold Arts	:		
Festivals	:		
Traditional Handicrafts	:		
Zoo	:	Not available	
Aquarium	:	Not available	

Other Special attractions/examples of cultural diversity:

All above information except for the Zoo & Aquarium please refer to "Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"

Sports Teams/sporting events

Professional	:	None
Semi-professional	:	None
Amateur	:	Various Schools Sports Teams
Official Sports Events	:	Annual Basketball Cup (Governor's Cup), West Visayan Meet, Aklan District Meet, Aklan Private School Association Meet
Sports Clubs	:	Ati-atihan Badminton Club, Capitol Tennis Club, Fairways and Blue Waters Golf Club Boracay
Major Sporting Events	:	Boracay International Dragon boat Festival, Nestea Beach Volleyball, Boracay Open Frisbee, Boracay International Funboard Cup, Sama Sama Cup

HISTORICAL INFORMATION - Please refer to *"Attachment I, Aklan Tourism Book"*



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
Kalibo, Aklan

"Attachment H"

JUSTIFICATION IN ESTABLISHING SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE OF HAWAII

1. *Please explain why a Sister-State Relationship with the State of Hawaii is important to your state/province/prefecture.*

- It has to be recalled that the Philippines and the Filipinos, particularly the Province of Aklan and Aklanons, have long established links with the Hawaiians even before World War II when several Aklanons had migrated to Hawaii since that time as migrant workers, specifically sugar plantation workers. Several Aklanons, too, had been inducted to the US Military, particularly in the United States Navy when World War II erupted and remained as organic members of the US military even after the end of the war.
- Aklan and Hawaii share same potentials in the economic field, Aklan anchoring its provincial economy on agriculture and tourism. Aklan's economy is mainly agricultural which when modernized and developed can turn Aklan into an industrial economy, and to this end, the Hawaii experience can be replicated by this young province. Agriculture in Aklan contributes the most to the gross provincial product of this province.

2. *Please describe what your state envisions with a Sister-State Relationship with the State of Hawaii.*

- Like Hawaii, Aklan's tourist attraction is bannered by the fine white sand beach like Boracay Island, already drawing more than 1.5 million tourists annually, almost one-third of the tourist arrivals of the country, the Philippines. And, this natural attraction of Aklan are akin and similar to what the State of Hawaii is famous of.

3. *Please prioritize the reason for a sister relationship with Hawaii.*

- Proposed priority areas of cooperation (sharing of experiences, best practices and other learnings/available technology) are 1. Tourism (e.g. Beach enhancement program, waste and water management, sustainable tourism development particularly in an Island destination like Boracay, brand management, development of the cruise industry, preservation of culture and arts); 2. Disaster Risks Management; 3. Development of local agriculture to supply the needs of the visitor industry as well as ensure food sufficiency for all Aklanons.



Republic of the Philippines "Other Information"
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE on Labor
Economic Enterprise Development Department
Provincial Capitol, Kalibo, Aklan
Tel. No. (036) 262-4587/Telefax No. (036) 268-32-02
E-Mail Address: akl@peso.gov.ph, akl@doe.gov.ph

AKLAN PROVINCIAL PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE (PESO)

The Provincial PESO is a multi-employment service facility, serving the Aklanons thru the provision of prompt, timely and efficient employment-related services.

Core Services of Provincial PESO:

1) Local and Overseas Employment Facilitation thru:

- a. Job Fairs
- b. Recruitment Activities (Local and Overseas)
- c. Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) or Summer Job
- d. Referral of Applicants
- e. Pre-Employment/Deployment Briefing of Local & Overseas Applicants
- f. Career Guidance and Counseling

2) Other Employment-Related Services:

- a. OWWA, POEA and DOLE Help Desk:
 - OWWA Scholarships: EDSP and OFWDSP
 - DOLE Reintegration Program thru NRCO
 - POEA's Anti Illegal Recruitment & Anti Human Trafficking Campaign
 - Financial Literacy Campaign
- b. NBI Clearance and Passport Application Facilitation

Thru the office' continuous partnership with various national and provincial government agencies, local business establishments and licensed overseas recruitment agencies, it has helped in the promotion and empowerment of Aklanon OFWs, local job applicants and employees and their families' welfare and reintegration.

Submitted by:

MS. VIVIAN RUIZ-SOLANO
PSO III/Provincial PESO Manager



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

DTS: 20161219143814

December 21, 2016

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Speaker
and Members of the House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

In response to House Resolution 77, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) is pleased to inform you that the Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu has submitted a Hawaii Sister-State application to start the process of establishing a sister-state/province relationship between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan, Republic of the Philippines. Aklan Governor, Florencio Miraflores, has sent a letter in support of the establishment of a sister-state relationship to me. In my response to Governor Miraflores, I have asked him to provide DBEDT with the process that the Province of Aklan goes through to review and evaluate proposed sister-state/province relationships and to provide a list of sister-provinces that the Province of Aklan have established to date.

DBEDT is currently reviewing the documents Aklan submitted and have asked Philippine Consul General, Gina Jamoralin, the point of contact for the Aklan community in Hawaii, to provide DBEDT and the Hawaii Sister-State Committee with the justification for Hawaii to establish a sister relationship with Aklan.

When DBEDT receives the information requested from Governor Miraflores and Consul General Jamoralin, DBEDT will schedule a meeting of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to review the application, supporting documents and letters of support and evaluate the proposed relationship. The Committee will then forward their recommendation to the Legislature and to Governor Ige. Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 229-3, "Initiating sister-state relationships," allows the Legislature, if it so chooses, to adopt a concurrent resolution or enact session law to initiate a sister-state relationship.

Response to HR77
December 21, 2016
Page 2

Please contact Milton Kwock, DBEDT staff to the Hawaii Sister State Committee, at milton.kwock@hawaii.gov or call him at 808-587-2759 should you or your staff have any questions about the proposed sister-state relationship between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luis P. Salaveria', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Luis P. Salaveria

Attachment

c: Legislative Reference Bureau



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
KALIBO, AKLAN

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF AKLAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RELEASED
BY: [Signature]
DATE: JAN 20 2017
TIME: 3:49 PM

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

January 20, 2017

MR. LUIS P. SALAVERIA

Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
No. 1 Capitol District Building
250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor
Honolulu Hawaii
96913

Dear Director Salaveria,

Reference is made to your letter to Governor Florencio T. Miraflores inquiring as to the process undertaken by the Provincial Government of Aklan on the Proposed Sisterhood between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan, Philippines.

The idea was brought up during the visit to Aklan of Vice Speaker John Mizuno of Hawaii's State Legislature. The members of our provincial legislature known as the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Aklan met with him over lunch and both discussed possible areas of cooperation considering that our province and Hawaii have a common industry which is tourism. Aklan is home of the world famous Boracay Island, many times voted by major international travel magazines and tourism organizations as The Best Tropical Beach in the World. Boracay is number 1 tourist destination in the Philippines, generating 30 to 35% of total tourist arrivals in the country. On the other hand, Hawaii is obviously an institution as far as tourism is concerned. We believe we could learn from both our experiences over the years to ensure a sustainable tourism development.

On June 03, 2016 Governor Miraflores received a letter from Mr. Brian Takeshita, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives, dated May 12, 2016 copying the Governor with **House Resolution No.77, H.D. 1**, which was adopted by the House of Representative of the 28th Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016 entitled "**Requesting the Hawaii-State Committee to Review and Consider the Establishment of a State/Province Relationship Between the State of Hawaii of the United State of America and the Province of Aklan of the Philippines**". The said Resolution was referred by the Governor to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan and the latter during its Regular Session referred the same to the Joint Committees on Trade and Tourism which favorably recommended to authorize the Governor through **SP Resolution No. 2016-010**, entitled "**a Resolution Establishing a State-Province Sisterhood Relationship and Authorizing Governor Florencio T. Miraflores to enter into a Sisterhood Agreement between the State of Hawaii of the United States of America and the Province of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines**". The application for Sisterhood and required supporting documents were submitted to your office through the Consulate Office of the Philippines, Dr. Gina Jamoralin, Consul General.



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KALIBO, AKLAN

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

We were advised that the voluminous documents were duly submitted to your office for your review and endorsement to the State Legislature and the Governor of Hawaii.

With much enthusiasm and great anticipation, we look forward to your favorable endorsement and final approval of the Sisterhood Agreement between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan.

With our highest esteem!

Very truly yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabrielle V. Calizo-Quimpo", is written over the printed name.

GABRIELLE V. CALIZO-QUIMPO
Consultant to the Governor for Tourism and Trade
Former Vice Governor (July 2007- June 2016)
Province of Aklan

cc: Hon. Florencio T. Miraflores, Governor, Province of Aklan
Atty. Reynaldo M. Quimpo, Vice Governor, Province of Aklan
Dr. Gina Jamoralin, Consul General, Philippine Consulate General Honolulu
Ms. May Mizuno, President, Congress of Visayan Organizations
Ms. Mary Jean Castillo, Aklan Society of Hawaii
Ms. Joyleen Espinosa Santos, Consul, Philippine Consulate General



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF AKLAN
KALIBO, AKLAN

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT - AKLAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RELEASED
DATE: Feb 8, 2017
TIME: 5:45 pm

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

To: **MR. Roberto T. Bernardo, Acting Head of Post**
MS. Joyleen Espinosa Santos, Consul
Philippine Consulate of the Republic of the Philippines Honolulu, Hawaii

Re: *Your email exchanges with Mr. Milton Kwock and Mr. Dennis T. Ling dated January 31, 2017, February 1, 2017 respectively and Letter of Mr. Roberto T. Bernardo dated February 1, 2017*

From: **MS. Billie V. Calizo-Quimpo**
Consultant to Governor Florencio T. Miraflores for Trade and Tourism

Dear Mr. Bernardo & Ms. Santos,

Greetings!

As previously informed to the Philippine Consulate, Governor Florencio T. Miraflores of the Province of Aklan has tasked me to coordinate with you and the State Legislature of Hawaii the matter of the proposed Sisterhood Agreement between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan.

In reply to Messrs. Dennis Ling and Milton Kwock's concerns and may I quote as follows

- 1.) Their should be a strong justification for the establishment of a sister state/province relationship by identifying programs and projects that Hawaii could benefit from the said agreement.
- 2.) The evaluation committee is expected to review the documents with the eye on what a sister relationship with Akan Province can do for Hawaii especially in regards to investment into the State of Hawaii, Trade expansion for Hawaii products and business expansion.
- 3.) If Aklan has never had a sister state relationship, where was the impetus for Hawaii to be its first and for what reason? How will this relationship benefit Hawaii?

The aforesaid comments/questions coming from Messrs. Dennis T. Ling and Milton Kwock understandably are logical basis when any of the 2 parties are to evaluate the benefits each of the party can derive from in a usual Sisterhood Agreement. However, in the case of the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan it is very obvious that Hawaii is one of the fifty (50) States of the United States of America, a develop country and a world leader whilst the Province of Aklan is a 2nd class province, one (1) of the eighty (80) provinces of the Republic of the Philippines, a developing country. There is no point of comparison



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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

between the two parties as regards to what Aklan could contribute to benefit the State of Hawaii in terms of investments, trade expansion for Hawaii products and business expansion. With all humility, the Province of Aklan will not even venture as to assure the State of Hawaii that we can generate investments or a considerable trade exchanges to benefit Hawaii.

Admittedly, the only area common to both parties is their respective flourishing tourism industry. In our reply letter to the query of Mr. Luis P. Salaveria, Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism dated January 20, 2017 as to the process undertaken by the Provincial Government of Aklan on the proposed Sisterhood Agreement, it was explained very clearly not only the process but also the circumstances that brought about the idea of the proposed Sisterhood Agreement. A copy is herewith attached for your information and guidance.

In fact, the provincial government of Aklan is very appreciative that it was the State Legislature of Hawaii who initiated the proposed Sisterhood Agreement through House Resolution No.77, H.D. 1. which was adopted by the House of Representatives of the 28th Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016 entitled "*Requesting the Hawaii-State Committee to Review and Consider the Establishment of a State/Province Relationship Between the State of Hawaii of the United States of America and the Province of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines*".

Our appreciation of this noble gesture from the State Legislature particularly of its author Vice Speaker John Mizuno who visited Aklan and has personally experienced Aklan and the Philippines' premier destination, Boracay Island, was that, Hon Mizuno, saw the common challenges confronting the beaches of Hawaii and Boracay Island particularly, the effects of climate change causing erosion of the beach lines and frequent irregular high water level. Hon. Mizuno and myself, as I was Vice Governor of Aklan then, believes that both parties could explore areas of cooperation such as Disaster Risk Management, Climate Change Adaptation/Mitigation best practices, Beach Enhancement Technology and many other mutual learnings to ensure a sustainable tourism development.

It is clear that Hawaii would have more experience in dealing with these challenges and would have the expertise and technology too. However, the Province of Aklan also has some simple basic solutions which Hon. Mizuno thought could also be adopted in Hawaii. We can simply conclude that the idea of the Sisterhood Agreement is anchored primarily on how we could learn and help each other face these common challenges in our tourism industry. The Province of Aklan is hopeful that the reviewing authorities for this Agreement will view this gesture of the State Legislature of Hawaii with liberal considerations for a developing country like ours. It is our belief that it is the true essence of a caring global community. It is not always what one could benefit from the other but how



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we could help each other sustainably develop our respective territories which hopefully will have a positive impact in the global community.

We could not think of anymore stronger justifications than what we cited here, so we leave it to the good judgement of the reviewing authorities in Hawaii.

With our highest esteem!

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabrielle V. Calizo-Quimpo".

GABRIELLE V. CALIZO-QUIMPO
Consultant to the Governor for Tourism and Trade
Former Vice Governor (July 2007- June 2016)
Province of Aklan

cc: Hon. Florencio T. Miraflores, Governor, Province of Aklan
Atty. Reynaldo M. Quimpo, Vice Governor, Province of Aklan
Dr. Gina Jamoralin, Consul General, Philippine Consulate General Honolulu
Mr. Dennis T. Ling, Administrator, DBEDT
Mr. Milton Kwock, DBEDT
Ms. May Mizuno, President, Congress of Visayan Organizations
Ms. Mary Jean Castillo, Aklan Society of Hawaii



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
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Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY,
& INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

Monday, March 21, 2016
9:00am
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HCR 123/HR 77

**REQUESTS THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND
CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE/PROVINCE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.**

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka and Members of the House Committee on Veterans,
Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) would like to provide comments on HCR 123/HR 77, which requests the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to review and consider the establishment of a state/province relationship between the State of Hawaii of the United States of America and the Province of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines.

In 2006, the Legislature established the Hawaii Sister-State Committee. Its responsibility includes providing recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on proposed sister-state relationships. Accordingly, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has developed an application and process for entities seeking to establish a sister-state relationship with the State

of Hawaii. After a comprehensive review of an application, the Committee forwards its recommendation to the Legislature and the Governor for their review and decision.

We recommend that the entities pursuing a sister-state relationship between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan follow the process established by the Legislature.

The State of Hawaii already has five sister-state relationships with provinces in the Philippines, which is the most it has with any country. Exchanges, especially in trade, education, investment and other mutually beneficial economic development areas have been limited.

DBEDT recommends that efforts be placed on revitalizing existing sister relationships within the Philippines rather than enter into new ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.