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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1103

November 14, 1996

### MESSAGE FROM U.S. SENATOR DANIEL K. AKAKA

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest aloha on this annual symposium of the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association, "Koa, a Decade of Growth."

Let me also express my mahalo to members of the Association for the work that has gone into arranging this symposium. The various presentations during two days of meetings ensure meaningful discussions that will be thought-provoking and educational as participants examine the current status of our efforts to protect, conserve and renew our forestry resources for an economically and environmentally sustainable forest products industry. I expect that with such a broad representation of knowledge in our presenters and attendees, the discussions over these next two days will also help further define the issues, goals and interests in an industry that has promising potential for high value wood products and proudly, products with a Hawaii label.

I also hope that this symposium will provide a better understanding and appreciation of both the science and economics of a viable forestry industry with examples of new ideas and tried solutions that can be applied by those in the field -- the front line where individual and collective successes add up to meaningful growth of this industry.

Let me also take this opportunity to express my appreciation to many of you here for your support of my efforts over the past several years. The National Tropical Forestry Recovery Act is a reality much because of your work to help me craft this legislation into law. Today, your work continues as you help in its implementation.

I look forward to working with all of you in pursuing our common goals.

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA  
U.S. Senator