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May 14, 2008

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

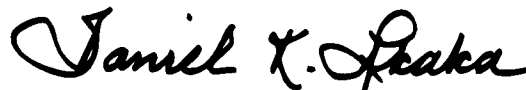
I am honored to have this opportunity to extend my warmest aloha and best wishes to all who have gathered at this 2008 Congressional Veterans and Armed Forces Appreciation Concert at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

I extend my warmest aloha to the 400-member chorale and orchestra of the VA-National Medical Musical Group, goodwill ambassadors for America in over 20 nations. This Appreciation Concert is an event that continues to perform "Music with a Message," a message of healing, hope, inspiration, patriotism, national unity, and international brotherhood.

In the spirit of this occasion, I extend a warm mahalo (thank you) and congratulations to your Medical Maestro, a Professor of Medicine and a Fellow at the American College of Physicians, who wrote the award-winning "Veterans Hymn," and to the coordinators, volunteers and sponsors who have worked so hard to ensure the success of this event. Building upon the successes of past performances, you have made this year's celebration a grand event.

My thoughts are with all of you at this 2008 Congressional Veterans and Armed Forces Appreciation Concert, "Healing for the Nations."

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA  
U.S. Senator