Okinawan 80th Anniversary Celebration Commission
1979 - 1982

The Okinawan Celebration Commission was established by Act 226, 1979 Session Laws (approved June 26, 1979) for the purpose of celebrating the eightieth anniversary of the arrival of the Okinawan people in Hawaii. The governor was authorized to appoint a commission whose role was outlined in the minutes of their first meeting (October 11, 1979) as follows:

"...shall be responsible for working in conjunction with the grassroots, the UOA" (United Okinawan Association) "and other interested parties, associations, groups or otherwise. To prepare in conjunction with the UOA program plans, goals and objectives, plan of action based upon the philosophical goals, timetable of events, and quarterly and annual financial and program reports on the progress of the activities. In addition, the Commission shall be responsible for the generation of needed program funds..."

The Commission was administratively under the office of the governor and spearheaded and assisted in the major Okinawan celebrations during 1980. These activities included a visit by Governor Nishime of Okinawa from January 18-25, 1980 (and further visits in August and December), an essay contest for intermediate and high school students, the Nisei-Sansei Study Tour to Okinawa in October 1980 and many cultural and sports events held on each island.

The Commission held its final meeting on June 18, 1982 and terminated itself on June 30, 1982. It published a Final Report, June 1982, which reviews the activities of the commission.

The records included:

Correspondence. October 19, 1979 - August 26, 1982.
Drafts and Correspondence. United Okinawan Association.
Documents. (SFCA, audit, brochures)