

STATE OF HAWAI'I KA MOKU 'ĀINA O HAWAI'I

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GOVERNOR *KE KIA'ĀINA*

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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ATTORNEY GENERAL LOPEZ AND A COALITION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT ON SUPREME COURT BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP ORAL ARGUMENTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2025

HONOLULU — The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments today regarding the preliminary injunctions issued in three separate cases, against the enforcement of the federal administration's January 20 executive order purporting to terminate birthright citizenship. The state of Hawai'i is plaintiff in the case of *New Jersey, et al. v. Trump, et al.*

Attorney General Lopez joins the attorneys general of Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington and the District of Columbia in issuing the following statement:

"We were proud to stand together to defend birthright citizenship and the rule of law at the U.S. Supreme Court today. For 127 years, since the Supreme Court settled the issue, the law has been clear: if you are born in this country, you are a citizen of the United States and of our states. Administrations of both parties have consistently respected that rule ever since. As every court to have ever considered the policy Department of the Attorney General News Release 2025-63 Page 2

agrees, this attempt to end birthright citizenship is patently unconstitutional. The administration's argument before the Supreme Court today – that they should be permitted to strip American citizenship from people based solely on the state in which they happen to be born, would upend settled law and settled practice, and would produce widespread chaos and disruption.

"This administration cannot rewrite the Constitution and contradict the Supreme Court's own holdings with the stroke of a pen."

It is unknown when the Supreme Court will issue a final decision.

The state of Hawai'i is represented by Solicitor General Kaliko'onālani Fernandes and Special Assistant to the Attorney General Dave Day in the case of *New Jersey, et al. v. Trump*.

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