



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
KŌMIKINA MĀLAMA KAHO'OLAWE

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Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NĀHO'OPTI
Executive Director

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Friday, April 11, 2025
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSENGER 762
CONFIRMATION TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JENSEN CHOCK

Governor's Message No. 762 submits for consideration and confirmation, Jensen Kalama Chock to serve on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in the seat reserved for the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana. On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express my **strong support** and **recommend** his confirmation.

Mr. Chock has a deep connection to Kaho'olawe as a long-time PKO member. He has led numerous community groups to Kaho'olawe for both cultural and work-related projects. He has also planned and coordinated several PKO trips to Kaho'olawe ensuring the safe and meaningful use of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve.

Mr. Chock has been a steady volunteer for Kaho'olawe for 26 years, first as a high school then university student, PKO access leader, a teacher bringing students and colleagues, working on the island's Ala Loa (circumnavigational pathway) and Makahiki Mo'o Lono (cultural practitioner). His commitment brought the authoring of children's book, "Restoring the Dry Forest of Kaho'olawe/E Ola ka Nahele Waiāea o Kaho'olawe," with Kamehameha Schools Publishing, about the work of the many hands that are healing and transforming this sacred place into what it should be—a rich, thriving ecosystem. Phase 2 of the project is to develop the detailed drawings and plans necessary to build this project. This includes final construction drawings and specifications, planning and development of exhibits and archive storage, final planning, design for office layout, and final design of the building infrastructure (HVAC, network).

The KIRC will be truly fortunate to have the support and advice of Mr. Chock on the commission and strongly supports his confirmation.



Ka Moku'aina 'O Hawai'i Aha Moku O Pae'Aina

State of Hawai'i Aha Moku

P. O. Box 621

Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Testimony of the Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the Senate Committee on

Water and Land

Friday, April 11, 2025

1:00 PM, Conference Room 229

IN SUPPORT of GM 762

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC),
Gubernatorial Nominee, JENSEN KALAMA LA'I KI'IKI'E O KALANI CHOCK, for a term to expire 06-30-
2029. **The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) supports this Gubernatorial Nominee.**

Mr. Chock has extensive professional experience in education and development, plans and implementation of the Hawaiian language into education through the Kamehameha Schools. He has the additional expertise of a generational native Hawaiian practitioner who embraces the kuleana of perpetuating and protecting specific traditional practices particularly on Kaho'olawe – the island sacred to the native Hawaiian culture. Further, he brings a deep appreciation for the specific dialects of the traditional families originally connected to Kanaloa from the Moku of Honuaua on Mokuuni O Pi'ilani (Island of Maui).

He is well-respected for his compassion and determination in restoring cultural practices of Kanaloa such as the names and importance of the different ocean currents that connect to the other islands such as Pi'ilani (Maui), Nana'i Kaula (Lana'i), Moloka'i Pule O'o (Moloka'i) and as far away as Kakuhihewa (O'ahu) and Moku O Keawe (Hawai'i). His expertise in the native Hawaiian language allows him to better understand the unique identification of Kanaloa (Kaho'olawe).

Aha Moku brings forth the voices of the generational and traditional native Hawaiians of the eight islands of the Pae'Aina, the natural and cultural resources of Hawaii Nei. The health of Kanaloa is intertwined with the health of the indigenous and host culture – the Native Hawaiian. We believe that Mr. Chock will safely ensure the sustainability of Kaho'olawe traditions through careful processes that are fair and perpetual.

Thank you for the opportunity to sharing our mana'o with you. We support Mr.Chock's nomination to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

Respectfully,

Rocky Kaluhiwa, Chair

Hawaii State Aha Moku Advisory Committee

808-286-7955

Rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director

Hawaii State Aha Moku

808-640-1214

leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

*Pae'Aina: Moku O Keawe, Moku O Piilani, Moku O Kanaloa, Nana'i Kaula, Moloka'i Pule O'o, Moku O Kakuhihewa,
Manokalanipo, Ka'Aina O Kawelonakala*

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 12:59:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Pescaia	Testifying for Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

KAKO'O. I support the appointment of Jensen Kalama Chock to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Kalama has provided consistent, thoughtful and diligent service towards the stewardship of Kaho'olawe for several decades now. I have had the privilege to work alongside him in educating the public through community engagement activities and events, workshops and speaking panels. We have pulled weeds and planted native plants to mitigate erosion. We have collected marine debris and identified UXOs together. We have conducted numerous ceremonies to restore the mana to Kaho'olawe. As an active participant in the advocacy for the Protect Kahoolawe 'Ohana, I believe Kalama has the experience, the wisdom and the aloha to carry out these duties as the community and the government expects us to, as Kanaloa and kupuna rely on him to do.

He has my complete support. Mahalo

Chair Miki'ala Pescaia

Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission

January 17, 2025

Protect Kahoolawe 'Ohana
1733 Wili Pa Loop #1
Wailuku, HI 96793

State Boards & Commissions
Office of the Governor
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



I am writing on behalf of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('Ohana) with regard to the nomination of a replacement for 'Anela Evans on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) who completed her first 4-year term on the KIRC on June 30, 2024 and will not be renewing for a second term.

HRS Chapter 6K Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Section 5. The Commission provides that "Two members shall be appointed by the governor from a list provided by the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana."

The Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana would like to nominate Jensen Kalamala'iki'eki'eokalani Chock (Mr. Chock) to serve on the KIRC beginning July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2028 to complete this seat's (2) term limit. He has submitted an online application to the Boards and Commissions website.

Mr. Chock has been a steady volunteer for Kanaloa-Kaho'olawe for 26 years, first as a high school then university student, 'Ohana kua (leader), a teacher bringing students and colleagues, working on the island's Ala Loa (circumnavigational pathway) and Makahiki Mo'oLono (cultural practitioner), Ka Pa Hula o Ka Lei Lehua student and most importantly as makua (parent) bringing and training his (3) keiki to Aloha 'Aina. His commitment brought the authoring of children's book, "Restoring the Dry Forest of Kaho'olawe/E Ola ka Nahele Waiāea o Kaho'olawe," with Kamehameha Schools Publishing, about the work of the many hands that are healing and transforming this sacred place into what it should be—a rich, thriving ecosystem.

The 'Ohana nominates Mr. Chock in his goals as Commissioner to:

1. Maintain the 'Ohana's position as the principal steward of Kaho'olawe, empowering the 'Ohana in its ho'omana and hana kaulike endeavors in every way possible.
2. Ensure the KIRC is well funded and is equipped to properly steward Kaho'olawe.
3. Advocate for our partnership activities such as completion of the Ala Loa, ceremonies (Makahiki, Ipu a Kāne, etc.) and the completion of the Honokanai'a Mua, as stated in the Palapala 'Aelike Kahu'aina.

As we are asked to provide a list for Governor Green to consider, our organization also includes **Mr. Kaipulaumakaniolono Keala and Ms. Katie Kamelamela** for this nomination list. It is our hope that may be considered for any future openings and appointments.

Please let me know if I can provide additional information. I can be contacted at pko.huakai@gmail.com or 808-783-3281.

Aloha 'Āina,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kylee Pōmaika'i Mar'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kylee Pōmaika'i Mar
'Ohana Access Coordinator
'Ohana Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission Point-of-Contact

cc:
PKF President, Lopaka Aiwahi
Michael Naho'opi'i, Executive Director, KIRC

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 11:23:51 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Nakahashi	Testifying for Protect Kaho'olawe Maui 'Ohana	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We support Jensen Kalamala'iki'eki'eokalani Chock.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:39:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
issachar esguerra	Testifying for Tamba surf company	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

submitting testimony in support of consideration as Kahoolawe preserve commissioner. he's spent over a decade taking care of Kahoolawe, his kids were pretty much raised part time there all of their lives.

Working in conservation through Kupu for DOFAW KAUAI it's a known fact that the guys who work at kahoolawe are a key group for conservation in Hawaii, showing resilience through aloha aina after the bombing and desecration by the US military.

Their dedication to hard work serves as great example for the future generations to learn from.

appointing the correct and appropriate steward for kahoolawe will help with the preserving and restoration of an island filled with culture and moolelo for and from Hawaiians.

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senate Conference Room 229
April 11, 2025

RE: Strong Support for GM762

Aloha members of the Senate Water and Land Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Jensen “Kalama” Chock to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

I am a lineal descendant of Makena, the closest point on Maui to Kaho‘olawe. My ‘ohana has fished on and around Kaho‘olawe for generations and continues these practices today. We also continue our kuleana of aloha ‘āina as members of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO) by transporting volunteers from Maui to Kaho‘olawe for monthly PKO huaka‘i to restore the Island.

During my years as a member of the PKO, I have worked with Kalama in many capacities. I can attest that he is a dedicated member of the PKO and has Kaho‘olawe’s best interests in his na‘au at all times. His experience as an educator gives him a unique perspective of the importance of restoring Kaho‘olawe so future generations can learn about the wrongful deeds committed against the Island but also experience this scared Island as a place of learning of our Hawaiian traditions and practices.

Kalama is fair and when faced with difficult decisionmaking, I have witnessed him take a balanced view that accounts for different perspectives to support the best outcome. This trait is important for a KIRC commissioner.

For these reasons, I believe Mr. Chock will make a great commissioner and represent the PKO’s voice well in KIRC decisions.

Please support Kalama Chock’s confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my mana‘o.

Kaulu Lu‘uwai

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 3:32:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoelani Steward	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Kanoelani Steward, I am from Lahaina, Maui, and I am testifying in strong support of GM762, the nomination of Jensen Kalama Chock to serve on the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. I have known Kalama since my first trip with the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana to Hakioawa, Kaho‘olawe in 2015 where he served as an alaka‘i, a leader, who was and continues to be grounded in our ‘ike Hawai‘i, ‘olelo Hawai‘i, and values of aloha ‘āina. As a kumu and a makua, he is more than qualified to be in this position to be able to support the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission's goals of managing and restoring Kaho‘olawe.

Please vote YES on GM762.

Mahalo nui,

Kanoelani Steward

Aloha,

My name is Kalama'ehu Takahashi and I am a community member of the Kā'anapali and Lahaina moku. My 'ohana and I are also members of the PKO and beneficiaries of the legacy that many before us have sacrificed to maintain the integrity of our cultural connections and the physical state of Kaho'olawe for more than half a century. I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Mr. Jensen "Kalama" Chock to serve on the KIRC as a commissioner beginning July 1, 2024-June 30, 2028 to complete this seats two term limit.

We have had the honor and pleasure of being on different huaka'i to Kanaloa with Mr. Chock, namely the Huaka'i 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, Makahiki (Wehena and Panina), and Ala Loa accesses. During which he was a shining example of leadership, aloha 'āina, ha'aha'a, and na'auao. As a father, kumu, Kua, and Mo'olono, Mr. Chock has demonstrated over and over that he has the experience, knowledge, capacity, and passion to rise to the occasion of kuleana presented to him while reciprocating pilina of 'ohana, 'āina, and mauiola across the landscape of Kaho'olawe within the communities that he reaches throughout Hawai'i and beyond. With his extensive relationship with Kaho'olawe and its associated organizations and intimate knowledge of the island, stewarding organizations, and guiding documents such as the Palapala 'Aelike Kahu'āina I voice my strong support for Mr. Chock's nomination to the KIRC.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr. Kaipulaumakaniolono Baker and Ms. Katie Kamelamela as candidates for future appointments.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 8:30:56 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Kaakua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee on Water and Land,

This testimony is in SUPPORT for the confirmation of nominee JENSEN “KALAMA” CHOCK to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. With over 25 years of service with the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana, Mr. Chock has the knowledge, skills, and mindset needed to uplift the commission towards its vision of restoration, stewardship, and mālama of Kaho‘olawe. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Mr. Chock.

Joshua Kaakua

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 10:05:29 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Faith Kahale Saito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I fully support the nomination of Jensen Kalama Chock as the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana representative for the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. He has 20+ years of serving Kanaloa-Kaho‘olawe, and is committed to ensuring that the island is protected for future generations.

Mahalo nui,

Faith Kahale Saito

To the Honorable Hawaii State Governor Josh Green

March 25, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the full support of Jensen Kalama Chock for the position of commissioner of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I have been an active member of the PKO for over 30 years.

Jensen and his whole family have been long time active members of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. He has been a Mo'olono leading Makahiki ceremonies for many years. He was selected from the PKO by a voting process and has the full support of the 'ohana with him. His skillful and tactful ability to communicate with a wide range of people is one of his great strengths. He has raised his children on island and has been an inspiring role model for what a vibrant, healthy and balanced family can be. He has demonstrated great leadership capabilities in challenging scenarios and has as a foundation the wisdom imparted to us by those that came before and opened the way. I believe he will be a great asset as a commissioner and bring many gifts to the table.

I am grateful to have watched him grow up on island and continually recommit himself to the kuleana of a vibrant practice of aloha 'āina. Helping always to facilitate the healing of a place and a people.

Our family completely supports Jensen's confirmation as a commissioner and trust you will see the wisdom in doing so.

Mahalo nui
Kelvin Ho
Lawai, Kaua'i

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/3/2025 12:09:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arianne Chock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I am submitting written testimony in support of Jensen Chock’s consideration for service as a Commissioner of the Kaho’olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). Jensen Chock, who is known by family and friends as Kalama Chock, has had many experiecnes that has helped to prepare him for this role. He has been an active volunteer and member in the Protect Kahoolawe Ohana (PKO) for over 20 years. He has lead many safe and meaningful accesses to Kaho’olawe with both the PKO and KIRC, including groups focused on conducting Makahki Ceremonies, 'Ōelo Hawai'i, Kamehameha Schools teacher inservice professional development, and high school students.

As a professional educator, Kalama has served as a kumu in Hawaiian immersion school settings, Kamehamehas Schools community programs serving students from ages K-12, and currently as a Hawaiian language kumu at Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Middle School Campus. He has also served as a cultural consultant at Kamehameha Schools focused on streghthening Hawaiian culture-based education and practies with the organization and the broader Hawaiian community.

Many that know Kalama would describe him as a kind and fair person who is always willing to offer kōkua and do what is pono. His commitment to Hawaii and Aloha 'Āina permiates throughout his work, service to our community, and his personal relationships.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/3/2025 8:12:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Margaret Pulver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I strongly support the confirmation of Kalama Chock as the next Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commissioner. He has dedicated his life to aloha aina and the education of the next generation of aina and cultural stewards. I can think of no one better to fulfill this kuleana.

Sincerely,

Margaret Pulver

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/3/2025 8:22:09 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support the confirmation of Jensen Kalama Chock to the Kaho‘olae Island Reserve Commission. His commitment and intelligence will bring much to the position.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/4/2025 1:02:16 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anela Evans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and esteemed members of the Senate Committee of Water and Land,

I am writing to extend my full support of GM 762 regarding the nomination of Jensen Kalama Chock to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Kalama has been a part of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana for the past two-and-a-half decades. He is a dedicated kua (leader) and advocate for Kaho‘olawe. Kalama is an exemplar role model for the youth of Hawai‘i. He is passionate about aloha ‘āina and his work to educate the next generation their role in caring for Kaho‘olawe and all of Hawai‘i.

Kalama’s commitment to Kaho‘olawe is evident in his ‘ohana, as all of his children are carrying on his passion for Kaho‘olawe.

I am confident in Kalama’s ability to serve as a prudent steward of Kaho‘olawe in the role of commissioner on the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. I urge you to support this measure.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a, humbly,

‘Ānela Evans

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/5/2025 6:54:25 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uluwehi Cashman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Uluwehi Cashman and I am in full support of the nomination for Jensen Chock as a Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commissioner. I am also in full support of Mr. Kaipulaumakaniolono Keala as part of the list being submitted for consideration. Mahalo for you time.

Aloha,

Uluwehi Cashman

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/6/2025 9:41:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am testifying in support of GM762.

Jensen Chock has a wealth of knowledge and experience working on Kaho‘olawe and in communities around Hawaii. He will be a valuable member of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Keoni Shizuma

Kimberly Patterson and Wendell Figueroa

Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana
P.O. Box 858, Pāhoa, HI 96778
April 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

Aloha,

We are writing to offer my strongest recommendation and heartfelt support for the appointment of **Jensen Kalamala‘iki‘eki‘eokalani Chock** to the **Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC)**, on behalf of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (‘Ohana). We have had the privilege of knowing and working alongside Jensen for nearly **nine years**, and during that time, we have come to deeply respect his unwavering commitment to Kaho‘olawe, our lāhui, and to the kuleana of Aloha ‘Āina.

Jensen is not only a dedicated cultural practitioner and teacher, but a leader whose humility, work ethic, and genuine care set a powerful example. He has consistently been present—not just in body, but in spirit—for the island of Kanaloa-Kaho‘olawe, its restoration, and its continued cultural and environmental healing. Whether through hands-on work clearing invasive species, leading protocol and ceremony, or educating and mentoring others, Jensen approaches every effort with aloha and intention.

One of the most powerful testaments to his commitment is the way he has included his **three children** in this journey. He is actively raising the next generation of Aloha ‘Āina by bringing them to the island, teaching them to mālama, and instilling in them the values and practices of our culture. He doesn't just speak of legacy—he lives it.

As a **kumu at Kamehameha Schools** and a respected contributor to other Hawaiian organizations, Jensen has also opened the doors for many students to experience Kaho‘olawe. He believes deeply in education through connection to ‘āina, and has created opportunities for youth to engage in meaningful ways—learning protocol, history, and kuleana firsthand.

His role in the authorship of “*Restoring the Dry Forest of Kaho‘olawe*” is another example of his commitment to storytelling, education, and the collective healing of the island. He understands the importance of both cultural and ecological restoration, and how those elements are deeply intertwined.

As a potential Commissioner, Jensen would bring decades of experience, rooted kuleana, and a forward-thinking mindset. His goals align directly with the mission and vision of both the ‘Ohana and the KIRC, including:

1. **Upholding the ‘Ohana’s role** as principal steward of Kaho‘olawe and ensuring our practices, ceremonies, and kuleana are supported and protected.
2. **Advocating for proper funding and resources** for the KIRC to carry out its work with integrity and capacity.

3. **Championing cultural and environmental projects** such as the Ala Loa trail, Makahiki, Ipu a Kāne, and the completion of Honokanai‘a Mua, all vital components of the *Palapala ‘Aelike Kahu‘āina*.

In every sense, Jensen exemplifies the values and vision necessary to serve on the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. His voice, his ‘ike, and his aloha will serve not only the ‘Ohana and the Commission, but the broader community and future generations.

Mahalo for your time and consideration of this exceptional nominee.

With aloha and ha‘aha‘a,

A rectangular box containing two handwritten signatures. The signature on the left is in cursive and reads "Kimberly Patterson". The signature on the right is also in cursive and reads "Wendell Figueroa".

Kimberly Patterson and Wendell Figueroa

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 9:29:21 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Haylin chock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support Jensen's nomination of consideration to the Kaho'olawe reserve commission. He is dedicated to preserving and protecting Kaho'olawe for future generations and would make an incredible addition to the commission.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 12:17:50 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Gallagher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to voice my full and enthusiastic support of Jensen Kalama Chock as a gubernatorial nominee for the KIRC. I've worked with Kalama on Kaho'olawe for many years now and he has been an invaluable mentor, leader, friend and dedicated aloha 'āina. His steadfast work to restore Kaho'olawe continues to inspire me, and I admire him as a hard-working man of good humor, with deep love for the land, language and people of Hawai'i. Kāko'o!

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:14:16 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Valhuerdi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe Jensen Chock deserved this roll as he has been a steward of Kaho'olawe for over a decade and has poured his career and life into taking care and preserving the island.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 9:09:33 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Philip Kitamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the nomination as Jensen Chock as the Kahoolawe reserve commissioner. He's spent over a decade taking care of Kahoolawe with his family.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:56:23 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Burt Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 762 for Jensen (Kalama) Chock's nomination to serve as a Commissioner of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

I've known Mr. Chock for many years through his dedicated work to support Kaho'olawe through the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana.

It has been my experience that Mr. Chock is an excellent and informed resource and will make an excellent choice as a Commissioner at KIRC. He has Kaho'olawe's best interest at heart.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge his confirmation as Commissioner of the KIRC.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 4:24:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kamalani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Jensen Chock for consideration to the Kahoolawe island reserve commission.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:16:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
pookela hanson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 10:33:28 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Blake J LaBenz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 10:37:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
M. Leilani DeMello	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I KĀKO‘O PIHA this nomination and request that Jensen Chock be confirmed to serve on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Mahalo,

M. Leilani DeMello

‘Ōla‘a, Puna, Hawai‘i

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 1:16:03 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davianna McGregor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and members o the Senate Committee on Water and Land. I support the appointment of Kalama Chock to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. Kalama has been an active member of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana for 26 years and has fulfilled the kuleana of KUA and Mo‘olono. He is eminently qualified to serve on the Commission, as someone who knows the island and its history and has actively engaged in its restoration and in ceremonies to heal the land. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of the appointment of Kalama Chock to the KIRC>

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 7:35:01 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melanie Leila Dudley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kāua,

My name is Melanie Leilā Dudley and I am from Makahanaloa in Hilo Palikū on the island of Hawai‘i where I live with my ‘ohana of 5. We are a part of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana and urge you to support the nomination of Jensen Kalama Chock to serve as a KIRC Commissioner.

I’ve had the honor of knowing and working alongside Mr. Chock for several years, and I can say without hesitation that he embodies the spirit of Aloha ‘Āina. His deep, lifelong commitment to Kanaloa-Kaho‘olawe is not just admirable—it’s inspiring. For over 26 years, he has served as a steadfast volunteer, cultural practitioner, educator, and leader, dedicating himself fully to the restoration and revitalization of this sacred island. What’s remarkable is that he’s done this work not for recognition or compensation, but purely out of love—for the ‘āina, for his community, and for future generations.

From his early days as a student volunteer to becoming an ‘ohana kua, a teacher guiding others, and now a makua instilling these values in his three keiki, Mr. Chock’s path has always been aligned with Kaho‘olawe. He has contributed to significant cultural and ecological efforts such as the Ala Loa and Makahiki Mo‘olono, and even co-authored a children’s book—*Restoring the Dry Forest of Kaho‘olawe*—so that the next generation can understand and feel connected to the ongoing healing of this place.

He carries generational kuleana with humility and strength, and his knowledge of KIRC, PKO, and the history and future of Kaho‘olawe is unmatched. His presence on the commission would not only honor decades of grassroots work but would also ensure decisions are made with cultural grounding, long-term vision, and true aloha.

I wholeheartedly support his appointment and believe the Commission—and Kaho‘olawe itself—will be better for it.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,

Melanie Leilā Dudley, Nick Frazier, Makahanaloa Frazier, Pi‘imauna Frazier & Leialoha Frazier
PKO member & Pilina ‘Āina Education Program Coordinator

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 8:02:38 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
samuel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Jensen Chock is the right person for the position.

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 8:50:33 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ISAAC NAHUEWAI	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I am writing in strong support of Jensen Kalamala‘ikiki‘eki‘eokalani Chock and his nomination for the position of commissioner. Jensen exemplifies the highest values of leadership rooted in ‘ike kupuna, ‘ike ‘āina, and a steadfast commitment to the future of our lāhui.

Jensen’s dedication to upholding the integrity of **Kūkulu Ke Ea a Kanaloa** is evident in every facet of his work. He approaches each responsibility with a deep sense of kuleana, grounded in protocol, intellect, and justified labor. His unwavering devotion to ceremony speaks to a spiritual and cultural depth that inspires those around him (I being one of them), and he leads with humility, clarity, and purpose.

More than just a practitioner, Jensen is a living embodiment of **aloha ‘āina, aloha lāhui, and aloha kanaka**. He cares deeply for our lands, our people, and our collective identity. His ‘ohana has played a vital role in the restorative efforts at Kaho‘olawe, and through his example, I have learned immensely—not only about the place, but about my own kuleana to our ‘āina and our mo‘omeheu.

Jensen is not only prepared to serve as commissioner—he is uniquely qualified. His actions consistently reflect the values and principles we hope to see in our leadership: service before self, cultural integrity, and a visionary yet grounded approach to stewardship.

It is with the utmost respect and aloha that I offer this testimony of support.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a a me ka ‘oia‘i‘o,

Isaac "Ika‘aka" Nāhuewai

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF JENSEN CHOCK

Nominee for the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission

Submitted to the Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Water and Land

April 9, 2025

Aloha Chair Lorraine Inouye, Vice Chair Brandon Elefante, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Mark Carpenter and I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Jensen Chock to serve on the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

Jensen Chock is a deeply rooted and committed advocate for the cultural, ecological, and spiritual restoration of Kaho‘olawe. He has dedicated years of his life to the island’s revitalization—working alongside cultural practitioners, scientists, and community members to help heal this sacred place. I have had the privilege of traveling to Kaho‘olawe with Jensen and witnessing his work firsthand. His knowledge of the land, his respect for protocol, and the way he leads with humility and purpose left a lasting impression on me.

His dedication to mālama ‘āina and wisdom from our kupuna is not only evident in his past work and community involvement, but also in the integrity, humility, and vision he consistently brings to every space he enters.

Throughout the years, Jensen has demonstrated an extraordinary balance of cultural grounding and strategic thinking—qualities that are essential to guiding the future of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve. He understands the complexities of stewardship in a modern world while remaining steadfast in traditional values and practices. His experience working alongside practitioners, educators, and conservationists uniquely positions him to contribute meaningfully to KIRC’s mission.

More importantly, Jensen does not approach this kuleana for personal gain. He approaches it with deep aloha for the ‘āina, the people, and future generations who will inherit the legacy of decisions made today. His voice represents both wisdom and action, and his leadership style is inclusive, collaborative, and grounded in service.

For all these reasons, I respectfully urge this committee to confirm the appointment of Jensen Chock to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission. His presence on the

Commission will be an invaluable asset as we continue the essential work of healing and restoring this sacred island.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Regards,

Mark Carpenter

Markcarpenter0@gmail.com

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 11:45:51 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Kaliko Baker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e nā mea hanohano e noho maila:

My name is Dr Kaliko Baker and I am writing in support of JENSEN KALAMA CHOCK's appointment to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). As a former commissioner of the KIRC and knowing Kalama since 2000, I speak with confidence that Mr. Chock will serve well on the KIRC. After graduating from Kamehameha Schools Kapālama, Mr Chock did a BA in Hawaiian with us at UH Mānoa where he was a student of mine. He came to Kaho‘olawe with us that year and has been coming regularly to Kaho‘olawe for 25 years. Mr. Chock is committed to seeing to it that meaningful and safe access continues to Kaho‘olawe. Please feel free to contact me for comment or conversation concerning Mr. Chock and his nomination.

Mahalo nui!

LATE

GM-762

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 10:16:35 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leona Seto-Mook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying to support the appointment of Jensen Kalama Chock to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I have watched him grow from a young child and student to become a responsible and respected adult and teacher. Over the years, he has been passionate in his dedication to caring for the 'aina, 'olelo, and Hawaiian cultural practices. Caring for Kaho'olawe has long been one of his focal points. He has always exercised good judgement, fairness, and genuine care -- attributes that will serve KIRC well.