# TESTIMONY GM 242

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAPI



KAULANA H. R. PARK CHAIRMAN HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

ANITA S. WONG DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

> ROBERT J, HALL EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

## STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P.O. BOX 1879 HONOLULU, HAWAIT 96805

February 23, 2010

### Via Hand Delivery

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Land,
Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs
The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Hee:

Re: G.M. No. 242-Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Mahalo for the opportunity to respond to your letter of February 11, 2010.

Since July, 2009, I have been serving as the Chairman and Director of DHHL. Prior to that, I served as the Executive Assistant and Deputy Director for seven years with our former leaders, Director Kane and Deputy Henderson. I believe that our shared vision and implementation of the strategic plan is the genesis of what we started and will continue to complete in the days remaining in our administration term. I am humbled with the chance to lead our team and look forward to serving our beneficiaries each and every day giving my very best.

On behalf of our team at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and our beneficiaries, I would like to thank this legislature for their past and continued support of our mission.

Please find below the answers to questions outlined in your letter dated February 11, 2010.

(1) Why do you wish to be Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands?

I made a commitment to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands because in our mission to help native Hawaiians is the opportunity to improve the lives of everyone in our state. I truly believe if we make life better for native Hawaiians, we will make life better for everyone in Hawaii.

Through my work as an Executive Assistant to the Chairman, Deputy Director to the Chairman, and now as Acting Director of the Department, I have been honored to play a part in establishing our record. I would like the opportunity to lead this department because it will fulfill my commitment to make life better for our beneficiaries and the people in our state.

Since joining in 2003, there has been a renewed sense of pride and hope for beneficiaries knowing that their dream of home ownership is attainable. The acceleration of lease awards, development of new programs and outreach by the Department has repositioned the Hawaiian Homes trust to be one of the largest residential developers in the State of Hawaii.

Today, Hawaiian Homes leads the way in developing new strategies to address affordable housing needs in and around Hawaiian communities and, through its Community Regional Development Plan initiatives, has taken a leadership role throughout the state to bring focus on where infrastructure development must be focused in order to better the quality of life for our beneficiaries and Hawaii's citizens.

Our team has been recognized by various trades, public, and private organizations for the progress we have made:

- Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs 2007 Ho'oulu Leadership Award -Government
- Building Industry Association 2005 Housing Advocate of the Year
- Environmental Council Award 2003 & 2006
- Aloha United Way 2003 Public Sector Department of the Year

The team at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands recognizes that the perception of the Hawaiian Homes trust is a direct reflection on the perception of native Hawaiians. We take this seriously and will continue to give our very best.

A critical component is our Commissioners and their leadership. Their experience and wisdom is truly remarkable and I am thankful to serve with such dedicated and passionate people who hold their responsibility in the highest regard.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of the Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home lands?

In 2003, I was blessed to be a part of a new leadership team. We formulated a fourgoal strategic plan that now includes five goals and have made great strides in implementation over the past seven years.

As the lead strategist, it was important to put together a cohesive team that built and believed in our strategic plan and would implement the activities under each goal or objective. For the most part, that leadership team is intact today and will continue to stay focused on finishing strong in the remaining months ahead. I would like to point out some of the significant accomplishments we have made under each goal:

**GOAL 1** – Provide every native Hawaiian on the waiting list with an opportunity for homeownership or land stewardship on homestead lands. Over the next five years, deliver (5,000) homestead awards through the development of various award programs.

We created a paradigm shift from a small pocket builder to a master-plan community developer. This was a more cost-efficient approach to developing residential opportunities and increased the number of available units substantially. As a result, the Department has provided more than 2,400 new lease awards since 2003.

We introduced the undivided lease award, Ho`ohiki, that provided homeownership opportunities to those families who historically could not accept a lease award due to financial difficulties or time constraints to relocate. The benefit to this lease was to prepare our beneficiaries to financially qualify and give them an adequate amount of time to move from their current residence.

**GOAL 2** – Provide beneficiaries with the necessary tools for long term homeownership sustainability by supporting capacity building programs to assist n strengthening homestead communities.

We developed the Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) to help prepare beneficiaries to become homeowners. The program includes three programs that help to remove the barriers towards homeownership: financial literacy program, an employment program, and a substance abuse program. HOAP has serviced more than 3,000 individuals and is partly funded by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This new program has already placed nearly 300 families into homes, which previously could not financially qualify for a home, and is preparing approximately 1,200 for homeownership. This program is really the core of what the Department needs to do, which is to build homeowners as well as homes.

The Department also developed Kūlia I Ka Nu`u, a capacity building program for our 47 homestead associations. This program has five stages ranging from the formation of the association to self-sufficiency using the regional planning process. DHHL provides them the tools, training, and resources needed to develop their homestead associations and their region.

**GOAL 3** – Strive to improve overall operational efficiency and delivery of services to beneficiaries of the Trust.

In May 2008, DHHL moved its entire Oahu office from Honolulu to Kapolei. The purpose was to better serve our beneficiaries and the largest population that we serve (approximately 70%)—which is on the Leeward side.

We established written policies and procedures to guide our internal operations. As a result, over the past seven years, the Department reduced its delinquency rate on its direct loan mortgage portfolio from 44% to 18%.

Over the past 6 years, DHHL has reduced its 30-day delinquency rate on vendor payments (companies that do business with the Department) from 13.3% to 3.5%. In years past, state agencies were criticized due to payment delays that lasted months. Today, from the time a payment request is approved, DHHL pays its vendors in 30 days. In exchange, we expect excellent service.

With the help of the Legislature, DHHL has developed various new private mortgage financing opportunities for its beneficiaries. New loan programs have been established with Hawaii banks, which allows for local servicing and direct beneficiary contact with local service providers.

**GOAL 4** - Pursue financial self-sufficiency by 2013 in an amount sufficient to replace the Act 14 financial settlement of \$30M per year. To generate significant non-governmental revenue in order to provide greater financial support towards fulfilling our mission.

Since 2003, DHHL has more than doubled its income generation portfolio from \$7M to more than \$14 million annually in FY 2009. As of 2009, we are no longer reliant on general funds and continue to explore other alternative revenue streams.

In 2009, the Commission adopted Ho`omalūo, Energy Policy, in response to the Lingle-Aiona Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative. Lands that have no infrastructure and are located in remote places are now attractive towards renewable energy companies. The Department hopes to generate additional lease revenues from selected parcels that sat vacant for years.

**GOAL 5** – Continue to effectively manage and protect the Trust to ensure perpetuity for future generations of Native Hawaiians and fulfill our responsibility as long term stewards. Support federal and state funding for recognized initiatives leading to the implementation for Native Hawaiian self-determination by popular vote of the Hawaiian people.

DHHL created Community Regional Development Plans to serve as communication tools and partnership vehicles for the Department and its homestead communities and the broader community.

We continue to build upon our beneficiary consultation meetings. For example, we conduct quarterly meetings with leadership of our beneficiaries within each community.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities as the Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home lands, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Prior to 2003, my past career experience primarily comprises of financing, investments, management and engineering. I also served on many volunteer boards, and served as the President of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce. As stated earlier, when I joined the DHHL team, I shared the top level leadership with Micah and Ben who are now leaders of other Alii Trusts.

I believe there is no better qualification to do any job than to have hands-on experience. Over the past eight months, I have been the acting Chairman and Director of DHHL and combined with my previous experience, I have the necessary leadership skills to be the Chairman and Director.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I have served the past seven years with the Department in a leadership role and will continue to finish what we started in the remaining months ahead for our administration.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands?

Faith, Action and Pono. These are the qualities that I believe Prince Kūhio would want for someone to carry on his legacy as a leader of the trust.

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands?

In July 2006, the Lingle-Aiona Administration appointed me to lead the efforts towards the homeless crisis on the Leeward Coast of Oahu and across the State. Over an 18-month period, the HEART team--comprised of elite individuals of other state

departments--made great strides to provide safe places to live and access to programs to transition families through the construction of emergency shelters and transitional housing projects. I believe this prepared me for the position I hold today as I had to orchestrate the many different sectors all towards a common cause and hit our goals in an accelerated manner. These agencies include private, public, military, non-profit, federal and the faith-based community coming together to be a part of the solution. Although this effort consumed the majority of my time, I was able to maintain oversight of the critical projects pertaining to the DHHL's strategic plan. I know that leading this 'mission' prepared me for the directorship at DHHL.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I have no conflicts and do not foresee any potential conflicts. I have resigned from several boards since August 2009 to focus our team's effort in finishing strong.

(8) What is the status of Act 141-09? Please explain.

In October 2009, the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) adopted the Affordable Housing Credit Policy which authorizes the Department to enter into project developer agreements to develop available lands for homestead projects. The Department will utilize affordable housing credits to attract more affordable homestead development opportunities.

By December 2009, we met with all four County Mayors and briefed them on the policy with the intent to stimulate more affordable housing construction projects on all islands.

Currently, we are in negotiations with private developers and anticipate agreements coming to the Commission soon.

(9) What is your financial plan should you become Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home lands once Act 14-95 sunsets? Please explain.

Goal 4 of our strategic plan is to pursue financial self-sufficiency by 2013 replacing the Act 14 financial settlement of \$30 million per year and generating significant non-governmental revenue to support DHHL's housing program.

Our first objective is to strategically identify properties in our inventory to maximize income generation. We completed a diagnostic report that reviewed our major income generating properties and implemented some of the suggestions provided. We also reviewed ways to streamline the general lease process.

Our second objective was to explore alternative commercial, marketing, and investment methods to maximize Departmental revenues generated to fund capital projects. We developed a comprehensive capital plan that identifies and explores other sources of financing to meet housing development projects.

As DHHL revenues from non-homestead lands increase due to new land dispositions, reopening of existing leases, and step increases in rents, DHHL will leverage funds for additional revenue bond financing to address its capital program requirements. Federal funds will need to be looked upon to support a larger portion of DHHL's administrative costs.

Partnerships with other governmental agencies, the business community, and our native Hawaiian beneficiaries are critical in achieving DHHL's capital improvement goals. DHHL has focused on increased leveraging of its resources through partnerships. DHHL will need to expand its capacity to generate revenues and identifying external sources of monies to fund programs.

DHHL will continue to practice efficiencies in its operations while providing quality customer service to its beneficiaries. In the future, this may come in the way of reengineering or automating processes that are time-consuming and expensive; however, for the immediate, we are tracking and comparing our monthly expenses.

Finally, DHHL is exploring the need to charge fees for services that are currently free and not sustainable in the long term. These may involve loan processing fees, loan and lease transfer fees, and other fees where cost of goods and services may be significant.

Mahalo nui for opportunity to respond and look forward to serving our people each and every day. Feel free to contact me for any questions.

Mahalo piha,

Kaulana H.R. Park

Lenla A. R. Pol



Gary K. Heu Administrative Assistant

John Isobe Executive Assistant

### COUNTY OF KAUA'I

### TESTIMONY OF THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

## TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

March 31, 2010 3:15 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON **GM 242**, RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE KAULANA PARK AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS COMMISSION

#### TO THE HONORABLE CHAIR HEE AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr., Mayor of the County of Kaua'i, providing testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Commission.

Mr. Park, currently is an outstanding Director of the Hawaiian Home Lands.

I have had the privledge of personally working with Mr. Park in the past on housing projects of importance to the people of my island. He is dedicated and knowledgeable in focusing on improving the quality of life for Hawai'i's residents and the native Hawaiian community. Through his coordination and efforts much progress in the development of housing solutions have been made within the department since 2003 when he began serving as the deputy director.

His experience and knowledge as the Chair of this Commission for the term ending on December 31, 2010 is a real asset to the citizens of our State as he exemplified the qualities of an outstanding leader.

Mahalo for allowing me the opportunity to submit my testimony in support of Mr. Park.



DUANE K. OKAMOTO
Deputy to the Chairperson

SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO

Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

# State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

## TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2010 3:15 P.M. ROOM 229

### GOVERNOR'S MESSSAGE NO. 242 RELATING TO KAULANA PARK

Chairperson Hee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Mr. Kaulana Park's appointment as the Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Mr. Park has been with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for seven years, serving as the Executive Assistant to the Chairman, Deputy Director, and Acting Director. During that time, the Department of Agriculture (DOA) was part of a consortium of state agencies, the private sector, non-profit organizations, homeless advocates, and faith based organizations which Mr. Park led as part of the Administration's efforts to find solutions to homelessness. The Department was impressed with Mr. Park's ability to bring together such a diverse group and to develop innovative approaches to addressing the homeless crisis. While Deputy, Mr. Park worked with the DOA to try and collaboratively address homesteader concerns on Molokai over the use and payment for irrigation water. It is our understanding that as Director, Mr. Park intends to support and encourage homesteaders to engage in agriculture and make the homesteader communities more food self-sufficient. We also are aware of his interest in using homestead lands to develop alternative energy crops

which will contribute to both the homestead communities and state economy and we encourage and will support him in any way we can as he implements this initiative.

I have no doubt that Kaulana Park has the professional experience and personal integrity that is a requisite to serve as the Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Mr. Park has extensive financial management experience having worked with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund program, the Bank of America, Wells Fargo Bank, and First Hawaiian Bank. A graduate of Kamehameha Schools and Stanford University, Mr. Park serves on the Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board and is a member of New Hope Hawaii Kai Christian Fellowship. He is a past president of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, a former board member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission of Hawaii, former board member of Lokahi Pacific Rural Development, and former 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chairman of the Hotel Travel Federal Credit Union. While at Stanford University, Mr. Park was on the football team and after graduation played in the National Football League for the New York Giants.

While achieving excellence in a number of fields, Mr. Park continues to be a humble and warm person. He is a leader that inspires trust in those that meet and work with him. As someone who played a key role in planning, building, and delivery of homes to homesteaders in numbers far exceeding any delivered in the past, he brings energy, an innovative mind, and a big heart to a position that is so important to meeting the needs of the homesteader community.

I strongly urge you to confirm Kaulana Park as the next Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.



BRENNON T. MORIOKA

Deputy Directors MICHAEL FORMBY FRANCIS PAUL KEENO BRIAN H. SEKIGUCHI JIRO SUMADA

# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 31, 2010

## TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 242, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS AS CHAIRMAN, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KAULANA PARK, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-31-10

The Department of Transportation strongly supports the confirmation of Kaulana Park to serve as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

Previously, Mr. Park served as manager of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund. He has also worked for several financial institutions, such as Bank of America as a manager, First Hawaiian Bank as an assistant branch manager and Wells Fargo Bank as a business banking officer.

For the past seven years, Mr. Park has held various positions with DHHL. He has served as acting chairman and director since Micah Kane's departure last July. It proved to be a smooth transition for the DHHL team and the State, since Mr. Park gained significant experience and knowledge in his past roles as executive assistant and deputy director. He is well aware of what's important and valuable to Hawaii's citizens, by developing new strategies to address affordable housing needs and bringing attention to areas where infrastructure development is needed to improve the quality of life for residents. Mr. Park has made the people of Hawaii feel much more than just a name on a waiting list, but as valuable members of this state, envisioning master-plan communities instead of being a pocket developer.

Mr. Park is a proven leader and will continue to be a tremendous asset to DHHL. We ask for your favorable consideration of his confirmation.



DARWIN L.D. CHING DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 www.hawaii.gov/labor Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099 Emali: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

### March 29, 2010

To:

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair

and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture

and Hawaiian Affairs

Date:

March 31, 2010

Time:

3:15 p.m.

Place:

Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From:

Darwin L.D. Ching, Director

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

### GM 242 – KAULANA PARK Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

I strongly support the nomination of Mr. KAULANA PARK as the Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

Upon Governor Linda Lingle's appointment, since Mr. Micah Kane's (former Chariman and Director of the DHHL) departure in July, 2009, Mr. Park has been acting as the Chairman and Director of the DHHL. Due to his experience as the Executive Assistant and Deputy Director of DHHL, the transition was seamless and effective.

In my dealings with Mr. Park, he has consistently demonstrated that he is an intelligent, thoughtful and honest person who is dedicated to not only individuals of Hawaiian ancestry, but to all the people of Hawaii. This dedication has led to his enthusiastic commitment in accomplishing the goals of the DHHL.

In addition to his exceptional education, background, and community service, Mr. Park is conscientious, dedicated and fair, which are important traits for serving as the Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.



## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
THEODORE E. LIU
DIRECTOR
PEARL IMADA IBOSHI

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Web site: www.hawaii.goy/dbedt

Telephone: Fax: (808) 586-2355 (808) 586-2377

March 29, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs:

Re: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

I am pleased to offer my support for Kaulana Park's confirmation as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Having joined the department in 2003 as Executive Assistant to the Chairman, Kaulana has became familiar with the issues and sensitivities surrounding DHHL – and has played a critical role in the success of many programs. As Acting Chairman and Director of DHHL since July, 2009, he has continued to build on the impressive achievements of the past seven years.

Through its Community Regional Development Plan initiatives, DHHL has taken a leadership role throughout the State to bring focus on where infrastructure development must be focused in order to better the quality of life for Hawaii's citizens.

From an economic development perspective, I am also impressed with a new program called HOAP, which is an acronym for Home Ownership Assistance Program. The ultimate goal of HOAP is to empower beneficiaries to qualify and purchase or construct homes on Hawaiian home lands. This new program has already placed numerous families into homes who previously could not financially qualify for a home. This program is really the core of what the department needs to do, which is to build homeowners as well as homes.

I should also note that he led the DHHL HEART team--comprised of elite individuals of other State departments--to provide safe places to live and access to programs to families in transition through the construction of emergency shelters and transitional housing projects. His ability to orchestrate the many different sectors all towards a common cause and achieve goals is a critical quality in a leader of this important agency.

The Honorable Clayton Hee March 29, 2010 Page 2

For these reasons I ask your Committee and the full Senate to confirm Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Sincerely,

Theodore E. Liu

c: Kaulana Park



March 31, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairperson Senate Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs Committee Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Hee:

Subject:

Confirmation of Kaulana H. R. Park--Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission & Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

I was delighted to learn that Kaulana Park was being considered to be Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission & Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. I would encourage you and your committee members to confirm him to serve as chairman of this commission and to lead this important state department.

Over the last several years I have come to know Kaulana on a personal level through our involvement in youth baseball and at our church. His ability to motivate and provide leadership to people of all ages continue to be an inspiration to many members of our Hawaii Kai community and serves as a outstanding role model to the young people of our community and church.

While my interaction with Kaulana had initially been limited to our personal relations, I recently had the privilege of attending a presentation by Kaulana at the 2010 Hawaiian Business Conference and Economic Expo. This presentation clearly demonstrated his vision and passion for the betterment of the Native Hawaiians. Kaulana has also shared with me the five goals some of the accomplishments outlined in the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Strategic Plan—an excellent and well planned roadmap that will well serve the Hawaiian people and the State of Hawaii.

The Honorable Clayton Hee Page 2 March 31, 2010

Hawaii will be a better place for all of us because of people like Kaulana Park. I strongly encourage you to confirm and support him as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Mahalo and aloha,

Érnest K\Nishizaki

President \

malamapono@aol.com

Sent:

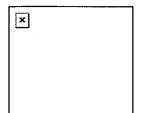
Thursday, March 25, 2010 3:42 PM

To:

WTLTestimony

Subject:

\*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* Testimony re Kaulana Park nomination



## KO'OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC C

March 25, 2010

Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair & Members Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Senate State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

### Re: GM242 - Supporting the Confirmation of Kaulana H. Park - DHHL Chair

Aloha Chairman Hee and Members:

The Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club recommends your committee's approval and the Senate's confirmation of the nomination of Kaulana H. Park as director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Mr. Park has an impressive background in land use management and planning, and would prove an excellent choice to continue the department's impetus toward placing native Hawaiians on Homestead lands.

We believe he has integrity, character, good judgment and compassion for others – qualities that are always necessary in our government leaders. His educational background is also exemplary and will prove invaluable to him in his leadership of this important native Hawaiian trust.

Mahalo for this opportunity to offer our mana'o on this nominee.

	Me kealoha pumehana,
<b>x</b>	
	MAHEALANI CYPHER

President



P.O. Box 353, Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795-0353

# TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF MR. KAULANA PARK, AS DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

### COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

March 31, 2010

Chairman Clayton Hee and Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda, Members of the Committee, Aloha!

Mahalo for allowing us the opportunity to submit this testimony to fully support and endorse the confirmation of Mr. Kaulana Park as Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

On behalf of the Waimanalo Hawaiian Homes Association, I am submitting this written testimony as its elected President and our association has actively taken part and has continually supported the efforts of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and more importantly its chairman, Kaulana Park and fellow commissioners who have provided quality services and recommendations for Hawaiian homestead beneficiaries.

Kaulana has served within the DHHL since 2003 and have addressed issues relating to the Waimanalo area including working with the residents of Kulanakauhale Maluhia o Na Kupuna and the assignment from Governor Linda Lingle with regard to the homeless on the Leeward coastline.

His appointment as Deputy Chair in 2008 allowed Kaulana to further his management skills and talents by developing pathways for all Hawaiian homestead leadership and residents to work with, partner and collaborate on project based initiatives, training opportunities and open discussion. Kaulana supports and continues to provide the management of the department those goals, objectives and qualities necessary to focus on the development of capacity building in our Hawaiian homestead communities.

We show our appreciation and fully support the *Kulia I Ka Nu'u Program* initiated by former chairman Micah A. Kane and continued by Kaulana Park by committing all of our Executive and Board of Directors members with other Waimanalo community resident leaders in capacity building courses offered by the Department. We along with many other Hawaiian Homestead communities, their leaders and members have embraced the *Kulia I Ka Nuu Program* its



P.O. Box 353, Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795-0353

### Page 2 of 2

guidelines, practices and in developing a standard of expectations, accountability and overall responsibility fulfilling self-governance and empowering Native Hawaiians.

Kaulana has progressed in the ranks of management from Bank of America Hawaii to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs brining with him experiences, skills and techniques necessary in a changing and diverse local society. His formal post-secondary education at Stanford University and as a participant of the Pacific Century Fellows afforded Mr. Park the opportunity to develop his diverse understanding and appreciation of economics, business and cultural sensitivity.

During the short period of time since the departure of former Chairman Micah A. Kane, the overall department management has continued to progress forward with a positive and continuing momentum further developing partnerships with national organizations such as, NeighborWorks America. His encouragement and support of the program allowed a significant number of Hawaiian homestead community associations' leaders to participate, develop relationships and network with other elected officers, community volunteers on a nationwide scale never achieved previously. By doing so, a grant was awarded to these participants by the NeighborWorks America organization funding a project which will benefit those Hawaiian homesteads that choose to participate in a worthwhile and very beneficial project.

The recent Kaupuni Project by the department envisions a residential area in Wai'anae and is indicative of the foresight creating and fostering attitudes of "hope" for Native Hawaiians and all the citizens of Hawai'i encouraging sustainability, food sovereignty, empowerment and cooperation through 'ohana practices.

We eagerly look forward to the continuing partnership development with Kamehameha Schools beyond the Pre-School Programs on Hawaiian homestead lands with the Ka Pua Makaha project. This will give and extend the opportunities to those Native Hawaiian students and 'ohana who choose to develop their educational knowledge to make intelligent decisions in a very difficult and chaotic society.

Granted, there any many more challenges, obstacles and even some barriers not yet detected or made present which will always reveal themselves unexpectedly or intentionally.

Because of these opportunities and the potential for developing and bringing to fruition the hopes of Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole these qualifications, furthers the reasoning for the confirmation as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Mr. Kaulana Park.



100 Kaheli - Avano MBILini, Hasiah 96784-2667 Peri, Ban Kakeni Abilani, Hasiah 96789-2687 Calan (808) 548-487 \* Fan (808) 548-5987 Lanah (808) 565-508) \* Fan (808) 567-5672

Harry 1. Shunders Harry Saunders

March 26, 2010

Via email: WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Room 228 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Hee:

Subject: GM242 Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Kaulana Park, for a term to expire December 31, 2010

Castle & Cooke Hawai'i supports the nomination and confirmation of Kaulana Park as Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

Mr. Park has been an inspirational leader in guiding the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in achieving their mission and purpose to serve targeted constituents. He is continuing the ambitious goals to provide every qualified native Hawaiian beneficiary an opportunity for home ownership or land stewardship on homestead lands. Also his exposure and compassion in the homeless program provides him a well rounded understanding of societal issues related to DHHL constituents. Furthermore, his education and financial background provides the needed baseline experience and expertise to continue DHHL's programs.

DHHL's continued success in providing homes for its clientele is an important component in addressing the overall shortage of new housing stock in today's market. There is a shortage of new homes for a wide spectrum of needs and market. DHHL's program plays an integral part in addressing needs for their targeted constituents.

We respectfully request your confirmation of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. We believe his continued leadership and commitment would be beneficial to DHHL and their constituents.

Sincerely

March 29, 2010

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs Hon. Clayton Hee, Chairman

Email: wtltestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Aloha e Sen. Hee and Committee members:

I am Shirley Swinney, President of Kapolei Community Development Corporation (KCDC). KCDC serves 2,000 homestead families that will locate to Kapolei. Having a Hawaiian homestead is a privilege that comes with kuleana to use the resources available to better ourselves individually and collectively as native Hawaiian people. For Kapolei, fulfilling this kuleana is based on the Community's initiative aligned with the clear direction of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. DHHL leadership and support has built the capacity of the Kapolei homestead community while instilling a sense of confidence that we can determine our future self-sufficiency and affect the betterment of our native Hawaiian community.

Having helped institute DHHL's Community Programs, Chairman Kaulana Park brings continuity to the process as a leader with clear understanding and purpose. Chairman Park champions the Kulia I ka Nu'u (Strive for Excellence) program that allows homesteads to determine their futures through their own work. Chairman Park and DHHL assists in promoting community capacity building by offering specialized training and technical assistance, as well as, affording continued Community self-sufficiency by creating processes to access grant funding and develop resources for revenue generation. Chairman Park's continued presence is critical to future homestead success.

I support the vision and leadership of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the confirmation of Kaulana Park as its Chairman.

Mahalo,

Shirley Swinney
Kapolei Community Development Corporation





Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 597 Honolulu, HI 96809

March 29, 2010

Senator Clayton Hee Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov Stephen Kaaa, Pres.
Dirk Soma, 1st V.P.
Leilani Kupahu-Marino, 2nd V.P.
Dana Hauanio, Sec.
David Soong, Treas.
John Aeto
Karl Baker
Kimo Guequierre
Claire Hughes
Kevin Kea
Bruss Keppeler
William Paik
Joannie Rossiter
Kevin Souza

Re: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR KAULANA PARK TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the WTL Committee:

The Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce (NHCC) stands in strong support of the nomination of Kaulana Park to serve as Chair of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). The mission of NHCC is "To strengthen Native Hawaiian businesses and professions by building on the foundations of relationships, resources and Hawaiian values: aloha, malama, hoʻokipa, laulima, 'imi 'ike, lokomaika'i, pono, hoʻomau, haʻaha'a and lokahi." Kaulana has been an active member of NHCC for over ten years; and has served in various capacities on our Board of Directors, most recently as President of NHCC in 2004-2005.

Over the years, our organization has had the pleasure of witnessing Kaulana grow into a skilled businessman and a well-respected community leader. Throughout his life, Kaulana has demonstrated a strong intellect and a unique understanding of the native people of Hawai'i. More importantly, he has always been honest, straightforward, and committed to advancing the cause of the Native Hawaiian community.

Kaulana is a consummate professional. He is unwavering in his commitment to public service, yet always finds time for his family and friends. He has served honorably and dutifully in many different capacities, both at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) and the DHHL. Under the skillful leadership of Micah Kane and Kaulana Park, DHHL has experienced unprecedented success in developing thriving and vibrant Hawaiian communities throughout the state. For the past seven months, Kaulana has continued to move DHHL forward while serving as Interim Chair.

As Chair, Kaulana will continue to build upon the success at DHHL by bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience, a passion to preserve and protect the mission of DHHL, and a humble and collaborative approach. He will also no doubt foster a strong working relationship between DHHL staff, homesteaders, and the community at large.

In sum, Kaulana clearly possesses the professional credentials, the life experience, and a strong record of service to the Hawaiian community that, in our humble opinion, will enable him to continue to excel as Chair of DHHL. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of Kaulana's nomination. For the reasons stated above, NHCC asks that Kaulana be confirmed as DHHL Chair without delay.

Laulima. Cooperation; to work together.



### Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs P. O. Box 1135 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96807

# TESTIMONY OF LEIMOMI KHAN, PRESIDENT IN SUPPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF MR. KAULANA PARK AS DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS, GM 242

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Chair: Senator Clayton Hee; Vice-Chair: Senator Jill Tokuda

Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 3:15 p.m., Conference Room 229

Aloha Senator Hee, chair; Senator Tokuda, vice-chair; and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of the confirmation of Mr. Kaulana Park as director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, GM 242.

Our Association is a growing national confederation of fifty-eight Hawaiian Civic Clubs that works to support actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities, and in particular, the culture and welfare of the Native Hawaiian community. We have had a long-standing working relationship with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and homestead communities, as Prince Kūhiō founded the Hawaiian Civic Club movement to support his advocacy in Congress for the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. Many of our members reside on Hawaiian Home Lands or are on the wait list.

Since his appointment in August 2009, Kaulana has maintained this strong relationship between our two organizations. He has also continued to build on the significant progress the DHHL team has made under the previous chairman's leadership over the past six-and-a-half years and has advanced projects like the Kaupuni development in Waianae Valley, the new Safeway/Target development in Hilo, Ka Pua Makaha and Kulia i ka Nu'u – Strive for Excellence, a capacity-building program for beneficiary organizations.

The AHCC Board of Directors recommends the confirmation of Mr. Park to the position of Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission for the remainder of his term. With the imminent election of a new governor and to avoid disruption in the leadership of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, we believe that this is the right thing to do, especially recognizing Mr. Park's service with the DHHL and the Hawaiian Homes Commission and his professional background.



#### THE RESORT GROUP

March 24, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Honorable Chairman Hee.

I am proud to support the confirmation of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL). I have had the pleasure of working with Kaulana during our recent gifting of the Makaha Lands for the *Ka Pua Initiative* to build 400 +/- affordable housing units. As you can imagine, this will bring significant benefits to Oahu's Leeward Coast and the Native Hawaiian community as well as the State of Hawaii. Kaulana was instrumental in this transaction which will continue to benefit families for generations to come.

Kaulana's past experience, coupled with his current position of acting Chairman and Director of DHHL makes him the perfect match for the position, as he has successfully been filling the position since his appointment by Governor Lingle. I've also had the opportunity to review the 5-year strategic plan identifying the goals set up to help move the department forward and was very impressed by the initiatives set forth.

Thank you for your consideration and I wish Kaulana and DHHL all the best in their future endeavors.

Sincerely,

President '

### LYLE S. HOSODA & ASSOCIATES, LLC

### ATTORNEYS AT LAW

345 Queen Street, Suite 804 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Telephone: 524-3700 ♦ Facsimile: 524-3838

Lyle S. Hosoda

Raina P.B. Mead Kevin T. Morikone

March 29, 2010

### Via E-Mail: WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawajian Home Lands

Dear Senator Hee:

I humbly and respectfully submit this letter in support of Kaulana Park to be appointed and serve as Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. I make this recommendation wholeheartedly and without reservation.

I have known of Kaulana and his family since the late 1970s when our paths crossed primarily on athletic fields in high school, and occasionally attending social events with mutual friends. I continued to follow both his athletic and academic careers when he proceeded to and through college.

Approximately two years ago, we connected and became closer through Church. We have been meeting once a week for the last two years in a professional men's worship group. In addition to meeting once a week, I have socialized with Kaulana on the golf course on two or three occasions, and our families have gathered together as many times as well.

Professionally, I have also had two rather contained and confined residential construction issues that I worked on with Kaulana both before and after he became acting director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

The Honorable Senator Clay ton Hee March 29, 2010 Page Two

Through all of these contacts, I have had the opportunity to observe, evaluate and form opinions about Kaulana:

He is a person of high integrity and credibility, and a person of, and true to, his word. Every time he said he would do something, he did it.

He is a believer and strong in spirit. He has passion for what he does. He is supported by a strong and caring wife and kids. He has wisdom beyond his years. In his decision-making, he gathers as much relevant information as possible and then considers all options and possible consequences before deciding. Once he makes decisions, he does so with conviction and certainty.

Kaulana knows his roots, culture and heritage, and is a born leader. He is a team player in all respects, and approachable to all. He has a good listening ear and heart. Our Hawaii will be greatly served by having Kaulana as leader of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

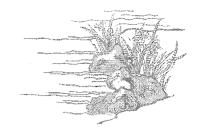
I am available and would be happy to discuss my recommendation and support for Kaulana further.

Aloha,

Lyle S. Hosoda

### Kalawahine Streamside Association

c/o Management Specialists 1330 South Beretania Street, Suite 200 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814



March 29, 2010

To: Senator

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Senator Jill Tokuda. Vice Chair & Members of the

Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Richard Soo

President

Kalawahine Streamside Association

Re:

Consideration and confirmation as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home

Lands, Gubernatorial Nominee, KAULANA PARK, for a term to expire 12-31-2010.

March 31, 2010 at 3:15 pm

Conference Room 229, State Capitol

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). We strongly support his confirmation based on his leadership decisions since Micah Kane's departure in July, 2009 which resulted in a seamless transition. Specifically, the completion of the Papakolea Regional Plans which will allow our community to embark on a process to bring community determined priority projects to fruition.

Mr. Park first joined the department in 2003 as Executive Assistant to the Chairman and in 2008 replaced Ben Henderson as Deputy to the Chairman. During his tenure at DHHL, his actions reveal that he can effectively manage and protect the Trust to ensure perpetuity for future generations of native Hawaiians.

Kalawahine Streamside Association (KSA) is an 11-year old community, 87-unit development on 26.5 acres of Hawaiian Home Lands on the eastern slope of Kalawahine Valley near Roosevelt High School. KSA abuts two other Hawaiian Home Lands communities, Kewalo and Papakolea

I urge you to please confirm Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Sincerely,

Richard Son

Richard Soo President Ahupua`a o Moloka`i P.O. Box 159 Ho`olehua, HI 96729 Phone 808-560-5460 Cell 808-658-0444

Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol Rm. 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96816 Re: G.M. No. 242

Aloha Mai Kaua,

I am writing to you on behalf of the board members of Ka 'Ahupua'a o Moloka'i, who collectively represent the seven Hawaiian Homestead Associations on the island of Moloka'i.

At this time, we would like to extend our support and overall approval to the confirmation of Kaulana Park as the Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. We are confident in his abilities to lead as well as his abilities to accomplish the goals set forth to benefit our Hawaiian people. We have studied his resume and are satisfied that he has the experience and knowledge to lead us and build upon the solid foundation set by his predecessor.

Nau no me ka Ha'aha'a, Hala Pa-Kala Corresponding Secretary

Cc: Kammy Purdy, President of Ahupua`a o Moloka`i & Ho`olehua Homestead Ag. Assn. Ochie Bush, President of Ho`olehua Homestead Association
Vivian Ainoa, President of One Ali`i/Kamiloloa Homstead Association
Donna Howard, President of Moloka`i Homestead Livestock Association
Viola Wichman, President of Moloka`i Homestead Farmers Alliance
Sybil Lopez, President of Kalamaula Mauka Homestead Association
Doreen Gaspar, President of Kapa`akea Homestead Association

### God's Country Waimanalo

### From the Mountains to the Sea, Keeping Our Country Country

God's Country Waimanalo Youth Program encourages our children to keep up with the new, but respect, learn, and remember where they came from.

Our program is rooted in cultural preservation, community partnerships, and connects the Hawaiian culture to other aspects of health and wellness.

Box 723 41-830 Kalanianaole Highway, Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795 808-499-5055 GodsCountryWaimanalo@gmail.com

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

OF THE CONFIRMATION OF

MR. KAULANA PARK,

AS DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

March 31, 2010

Chairman Clayton Hee and Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda, Members of the Committee,

Aloha! And Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony to fully support and endorse the confirmation of Mr. Kaulana Park as Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

I, Ilima Ho-Lastimosa, Director of Operations, am submitting this testimony on behalf of all of us at God's Country Waimanalo, especially for his continued support of our efforts. Mr. Park has demonstrated on numerous occasions, his abilities to serve the community in his capacity as chairman supporting the programs in Waimanalo which directly benefit our 'opio.

Mr. Park actively participated in a community service project coordinated by one of our youth participants, John Keanu, in his pursuit of his Eagle Scout badge with a campus beautification effort at Blanche Pope Elementary School. Mr. Park and many of his staff from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands contributed sweat equity to this worthy community endeavor and helped to make the event a huge success.

And we have been afforded the opportunity to fundraise as an organization by working in our homestead community in collaboration with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Also, Mr. Park has always been open to meet and take into consideration suggestions from our community.

For these reasons and many more, we ask for your support in the confirmation of Mr. Kaulana Park as Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

President, Bob K. Lastimosa, Vice-president, D. Billie Kahiapo, Secretary, Haunani Kahiapo, Treasurer, Kenneth Ho, Jr., Director of Operations, Ilima Ho-Lastimosa

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Tuesday, March 30, 2010 9:24 AM

To:

WTLTestimony

Cc:

duke@sandwichisles.net

Subject:

Testimony for GM242 on 3/31/2010 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for WTL 3/31/2010 3:15:00 PM GM242

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: M Kapuniai

Organization: Waimea Hawaiian Homesteaders' Association, Inc.

Address: P. O. Box 6753 Kamuela, HI 96743

Phone: (808)936-0157

E-mail: <u>duke@sandwichisles.net</u>

Submitted on: 3/30/2010

#### Comments:

We appreciate Mr. Park's collaborative strategies with the " beneficiaries of this rehabilitative program" to be honorable and productive; he gives ear to comments and suggestions made by the people who have to live by rules set by others.

We look forward to a positively productive next nine months.

We request the committee's favorable consideration to affirmatively confirm Mr. Kaulana Park as the Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for a term to expire 12-31-2010.

From: Sent:

Ben Henderson [bhender@QLCC.org] Tuesday, March 30, 2010 10:34 AM

To:

WTLTestimony

Cc:

Kay.Ahina@hawaii.gov

Subject:

GM 242 - Testimony In Support of the Appointment of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the

Hawaiian Homes Commission

Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee On Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission for a term to end on December 31, 2010.

I am a former employee and Deputy Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) who spent more than seventeen years at the department and served under four different Chairman. I understand the challenges and complexities involved in directing this agency and the qualities it takes to perform effectively as its Chairman. Kaulana had the benefit of serving under and being mentored by arguably one of the most effective leaders in the 90-year history of this Trust, Micah Kane. And he had the difficult and perhaps unenviable job of having to follow in Micah's footsteps.

In the face of a sluggish economy, declining revenues, and a lame duck Administration, Kaulana accepted the Governor's call to service and agreed to step up to lead this agency for the remainder of her term. Being thrust into this new role, Kaulana has had to face many challenges. Eighteen months is not enough time to establish strong relationships with the community, or to implement a new agenda. Many others in Kaulana's situation would have been content to simply carry on as "caretakers" until their term ended, and no one would have blamed them or expected more. But Kaulana, to his credit, has chosen not be a "lame duck" director riding out his term. To the contrary, he has chosen to follow through on many of the initiatives started by his predecessor, and he has proceeded to make the difficult and sometimes unpopular decisions required of a leader in his position.

Despite any faults or weaknesses he may have, Kaulana was the right choice to succeed Micah as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of DHHL. He is the only one who had the knowledge and understanding of the law, policies, and operations of the department to continue to move DHHL forward during the remainder of this Administration.

I urge the members of this Committee to recommend approval of Kaulana Park's confirmation as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Mahalo for your attention.

Ben Henderson

Ben Henderson President & Executive Director Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center 1300 Halona Street Honolulu HI 96817 Ph. 808-851-7702 Fax. 808-841-0502

# KEAUKAHA PANA'EWA FARMERS ASSOCIATION

P, O. BOX 6844 HILO, HI 96720-8935 TEL/FAX: 808-959-5026 EMAIL: KPFA@HAWAII.RR.COM

March 30, 2010

Sent by email: WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

OFFICERS 2009–2010

President Mele U. Spencer

Vice-President Ian Lee Loy

Secretary

Luahiwa Namahoe

Treasurer Florence Pua

Directors
Randy Ahuna
Ed Bumatay
Louis Hao
Angela Lee
Kenneth Lee
Milnor Lum
Maile Lu'uwai
Patrick Kahawaiolaa
Jerryl Mauhili
Eric Reff

Robert Yamada II

Senator Clayton Hee and Senator Jill N. Tokuda

Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

415 S. Beretania St. Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators Hee and Tokuda:

SUBJECT: GM 242 – March 31, 2010, 3:15 p.m. – Confirmation of KAULANA PARK, as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Aloha Senators. This letter is submitted in support of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for a term to expire December 31, 2010.

The Keaukaha Pana'ewa Farmers Association (KPFA) represents DHHL agricultural lessees on farm lots located in Pana'ewa, Hilo, Hawaii. There are 285 farm lots encompassing 1,615 acres with the average lot size of 5.66 acres.

KPFA's mission is to support, motivate and educate Keaukaha Pana'ewa agricultural lessees to establish a viable, sustainable farm community; preserve Hawaiian culture; achieve self sufficiency; and strengthen pono management and respect for the 'aina.

For too long, the department paid very little attention to the agricultural and pastoral lessees. During this last administration we saw glimmers of hope when Micah Kane announced staffing for agriculture and ranching. We are hopeful that Kaulana Park will continue this momentum in helping KPFA build a viable, sustainable farm community.

Mr. Park and his staff increased communications with our association through telephone, emails, and meetings; they respond to our inquiries; and provided us with considerable opportunities and training. All of these are positive steps in developing better relations with homesteaders, and hopefully, will lead to programs to boost sustainable agriculture on

"To support, motivate and educate Keaukaha Pana'ewa agricultural lessees to establish a viable, sustainable farm community; preserve Hawaiian culture; achieve self sufficiency; and strengthen pono management and respect for the 'aina."

Senator Clayton Hee and Senator Jill N. Tokuda March 30, 2010 Page 2

Hawaiian Home lands and encourage expansion of additional agriculture lands for the more than 6,000 plus applicants on the waiting list. A change in leadership at this time will seriously hamper our progress.

For all of the above reasons, we hope that you will vote favorably in confirming Mr. Park's position as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Sincerely,

MELE U. SPENCER

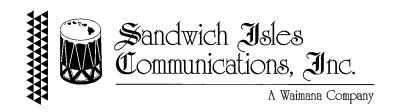
President

cc: Senator Dwight Takamine

Mile U. Spencer

Senator Russell Kokubun

Kaulana Park, Chairman, DHHL



February 24, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for the Appointment of Mr. Kaulana Park to Director,

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and Chairman of the Hawaiian

**Homes Commission** 

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Aloha and thank you for this opportunity to submit a letter in support of the appointment of Mr. Kaulana Park to lead the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and serve as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. My name is Gil Tam, Vice President of Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. (SIC), and I strongly urge your confirmation approval of Mr. Park's appointment.

SIC is a rural telephone company authorized and regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and state Public Utilities Commission (PUC), and it is licensed to serve Hawaiian Home Lands (HHL) communities. Since 1996, SIC has worked with the DHHL leadership to construct a state-of-the art all-fiber optic cable infrastructure to connect all HHL communities within the state and to serve the previously unserved and new developments on HHL with affordable telephone and broadband services. The construction of the new all-underground/undersea infrastructure has been provided by SIC at no cost to DHHL or its lessees to assure that DHHL lessees have affordable access to telecommunications services regardless of how rural or remote their communities may be located.

In the past seven years, SIC has worked well with Mr. Park and his predecessor, Mr. Micah Kane, to ensure that modern telecommunications services, including telephone and high speed internet, are available whenever and wherever new homestead communities are developed. Mr. Park's business and banking background and initial and subsequent assignments as Executive Assistant to the Director and Deputy Director of DHHL have

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs February 24, 2010 Page 2

prepared him well to effectively succeed Mr. Kane and manage and lead DHHL to fulfill its mission and purpose.

I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Park, personally, for over 20 years, and I know him to be a dedicated and tireless advocate for making things better for native Hawaiians in the areas of affordable housing, education, economic development and cultural preservation. He is a man of integrity and he leads by example and with genuine and sincere humility. I believe he is the ideal candidate, at this time, to head DHHL and the Commission, and I highly recommend him to you and urge your favorable confirmation approval of his appointment at your very earliest convenience. Mahalo.

Respectfully

Gil Tam

Vice President



Maku'u Farmers Association 15-2131 Keaau Pahoa Hwy Pahoa, Hawaii 96778 (808) 896-5537 makuufarmersassociation@yahoo.com

"THE SECRET OF SUCCESS IS THE CONSTANCY OF PURPOSE"

Mission: To promote and perpetuate Native Hawaiian values and traditions, to provide educational and employment opportunities while also developing small businesses. To become self-sufficient as established by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920.

March 3, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: G.M., No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Aloha,

The Maku'u Farmers Association supports the confirmation of Kaulana Park as Chairman to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

We respectfully acknowledge his willingness to accept this kuleana and continue to uphold the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 and its native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Mahalo,

Paula K., Kekahuna

Laula K. Kekahuna

President

### Vision Statement:

# Kawaiaha'o Church



Honor God, love one another and make disciples. E Ho`omaika`i i Ke Akua, E Aloha Kekahi i Kekahi ame E Ho`ohaumana.

March 19, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chairman, Senate Committee on
Water, Land, Agriculture and
Hawaiian Affairs
State Capitol, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Hee:

is:

My name is Kahu Curt P. Kekuna presently Senior Pastor of Kawaiaha`o Church, Honolulu. I am writing on behalf of Mr. Kaulana Park who is seeking confirmation as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

I met Kaulana as a student of Kamehameha Schools over 30 years ago when I worked with the Christian Education Department. Through the years, he has developed into a multi-talented, responsible young man with outstanding leadership qualities as demonstrated at OHA and his current position.

Fifteen years ago we found ourselves living in the same neighborhood with the same interest of seeking and knowing Ke Akua in a deeper way. Consequently, we started a study group of seven who met weekly to explore, challenge, and love each other using the Baibala Hemolele. A few years later, we also met with 2 others at 5:30 am in a weekly men's gathering to be accountable in living Godly lives with our families, friends, and the greater community.

Because of our deeply powerful times, I have observed and learned Kaulana

- 1. Intensely committed to Ke Akua.
- 2. A committed family man to Diane and his boys.
- 3. Committed to being a man of integrity and a man of his word.
- 4. Committed to being diligent and responsible.
- 5. Trustworthy in relationships and business dealings.

- 6. Committed to being respectful to all people.
- 7. Committed to being open to new ideas while being grounded in his own convictions.
- 8. Committed to being a friend.

Because of these qualities and many more, I highly recommend Kaulana Park for confirmation as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

If you would like to ask questions for clarification, please call me at 469-3060 or email <a href="mailto:ckekuna@kawaiahao.org">ckekuna@kawaiahao.org</a>.

Mahalo for the opportunity to write on behalf of Kaulana.

Blessings,

Kahu Curt P. Kekuna Senior Pastor

## MICAH A. KANE

45-135 Moamahi Way Kaneohe, HI 96744

March 18, 2010

The Honorable Chairman Clayton Hee Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs (WTL) Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

Chair Hee and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs, my name is Micah Kane and I am writing in strong support of Governor's Message 242, relating to the appointment of Mr. Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

In 2003 Mr. Park was appointed to the position of Executive Assistant to the Chairman and was an integral part in helping DHHL establish a 5 year strategic plan that laid out our vision in moving the Department forward. In 2007, upon the resignation of then Deputy Ben Henderson, who subsequently accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Queen Liliuokalani Trust (QLT), Mr. Park accepted the appointment of Deputy to the Chairman.

Over the past 7 years Mr. Park has been an important member of our leadership team. He participated and was responsible for many of the successes that the Department has achieved. Most notably was his assistance in helping the Department establish clear policies and procedures related to DHHL's direct loan portfolio. As a result of his expertise and background in banking, along with the strong support from staff, DHHL's direct loan delinquency rate dropped from 44.7 percent in 2003, to a low of 15.1 percent in 2009. This was a major milestone for our Department and was a goal that we set in our 5-year strategic plan.

In addition, Mr. Park played an instrumental role in helping DHHL strive toward economic self sufficiency. He facilitated the negotiations of many general leases, including, but not limited to the recent Target and Safeway lease in Pana'ewa, Hawaii. This project alone will generate substantial revenue for the Department over the life of the lease and will provide the necessary financial support to continue to provide homesteading opportunities for DHHL beneficiaries.

As this administration closes its final term, and with more than 7 years of direct leadership at the DHHL, Mr. Park is poised to finish strongly and ensure a seamless transition to the next administration. His experience at DHHL will be critical for the next leadership team as they continue our State's effort to fulfill our commitment to native Hawaiians.

Aloha and Mahalo,

Micah A. Kane

Mark B. Young, MPH 91-221G Hanapouli Circle Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

March 29, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawalian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Dear Honorable Clayton Hee.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recommend Mr. Kaulana Park for your consideration for as the Director of Hawaiian Home Lands. As a former Naval Criminal Investigative Service Special Agent and having worked in both civilian and military Executive positions, I would like to provide my unqualified assessment of Mr. Park's abilities and capabilities to function in this position.

I have known Mr. Park on a personal level where we both attend the same Men's Bible Study Group for the past 2+ years. It was during this time that I have observed Mr. Park to be a competent leader with a natural ability for providing insight and sound decision making skills. More importantly, I have observed Mr. Park to be a man of "strong moral character and integrity."

Mr. Park possesses excellent public speaking abilities and is easily able to connect with his community on a "Grass Roots Level" qualifies him as a solid candidate for this highly visible and significant position.

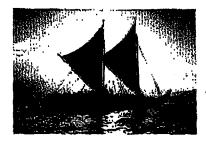
It is with no apprehensions that I would strongly recommend Mr. Park as an excellent candidate to lead the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for the reasons mentioned above in addition to; his honesty, genuine care and concern for the Native Hawaiian people.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 351-0160 or email: markbyoung@aol.com or mark.b.voung1@us.amv.mil.

Very Respectfully

Mark B. Young

# Waianae Kai Hawaiian Homestead Association



80-303 Hokupa'a St. Walanse, H1 96792 Ph. (808) 696-0138

President: Herbert Hew Len

Vice-President: Kimo Kalcopa'a

Secretary: Lauren Irvine

Treasurer: Esther Smith

Director: Julia Chov

Director: Kehau Hew Lon

To:

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair Senator Carol Fukunage, Vice Chair Committee, Water, Land, Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs

From:

Kalena Hew Len, Kahu Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly President Waianae Kai Hawaiian Homestead Association

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

I am here to support Kaulana Park to serve as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,

Aloha Mr. Chairman, Madam Vice Chair, and members of the Committee,

I am Kalena Hew Len, Kahu of the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly and President of the Waianae Kai Hawaiian Homestead Association. I am here in support of Kaulana Park and ask for your kokua in bringing Mr. Park to assume the Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. As a Hawaiian Homesteader and native Hawaiian as defined. I am positive that in the short tenure of Mr. Parks leadership as Chair, he would be able to accomplish vital parts of Prince Kuhio's vision in bettering our conditions. It is with hopes that Mr. Park will adhere to Act 302 which provides, according to State Law, opportunities for we beneficiaries to move toward self governance and self determination. I do think that Mr. Park will move in that direction and that his leadership will prove, in this short time, his ability to accomplish a good part of the Prince's legacy.

Mahalo Nui Loa for your consideration on behalf of our beneficiaries.

# Testimony before the **Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs**

Wednesday, March 31, 2010 3:15 p.m.

### Statement on Governor's Message No. 242

by Robert A. Alm Executive Vice President Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

# TO THE HONORABLE CLAYTON HEE, CHAIR, JILL N. TOKUDA, VICE CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

It is my privilege to submit testimony in support of the confirmation of Kaulana Park to the Chair of the Hawaiian Home Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

I first met Kaulana when we worked together at First Hawaiian Bank in the 1990s. He was part of the Branch Banking system which is ultimately all about serving people well. Kaulana was very comfortable in that role and seemed destined for a career in banking, but obviously he felt other callings.

Watching Kaulana work with the issues surrounding being homeless in our society and, more recently, at the tough and important decisions surrounding the Hawaiian Home Lands, I believe he made the right decision in choosing public service.

The issues he faces will never be easy ones and the choices he must make will always require great balancing of interests. I believe Kaulana Park is up to the task. He has shown that he can help build and work with a great team; he has shown that he is not afraid of controversy and challenge; and he is executing a very forward-looking plan.

I would strongly urge your confirmation of his nomination. Thank you.



### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

March 22, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: G.M. No. 242-Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Aloha e Chairman Hee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit my support of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Even before Governor Lingle appointed Kaulana to this position in July 2009, I had both the opportunity and pleasure to work with him on various community projects, which involved funding a community center in his transitional housing project for the homeless and now, his vision and Micah Kane's before him, to build a strong homestead community tied to Kamehameha Schools' learning complex on the Leeward Coast. He is hard-working, dedicated, and goal-driven; qualities which helped to create a seamless transition from one leader to the next.

As the Department of Hawaiian Homelands moves forward, it needs to continue the momentum which has been historical over the past few years. Having leadership that maintains an excitement for building healthy communities in innovative, inclusive and responsible ways is critical. Kaulana brings this to the State and I wholeheartedly support his continued leadership.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express my support for not only Kaulana's leadership but the vital work he is called to do.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Dee Jay Mailer

### Malu'ōhai Residents Association P.O. Box 700911 Kapolei, HI 96707

March 29, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee

Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

I am writing to support the confirmation of Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Kaulana has the demonstrated confidence of Governor Lingle in his appointments as the leader of the state's Homeless Efforts Achieving Results Together in July 2006, Deputy Director of DHHL on February 15, 2008 and recently as acting Director of DHHL on August 5, 2009.

He has been with the department since 2003 and in his capacity as Executive Assistant to the Chair of DHHL has provided direct oversight on special projects ranging from program development to critical projects and issues relating to fulfilling the departments mission.

Kaulana understands the need to stay focused on the department's Strategic Plan as it's guide to assist DHHL through our State's current economical downturn, various transitions and more importantly to meet the needs of it's beneficiaries of the trust.

With support from the governor, this legislature, department staff and beneficiaries statewide, Kaulana will face the challenges ahead and continue the journey to move us forward as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Respectfully,

Homelani Schaedel, President

a 501C-3 non-profit corporation 74-5599 Luhia Street Kailua Kona, 96740 

 Phone
 808-327-1221

 Fax
 808-327-1223

 email
 bokahui@yahoo.com

### March 30, 2010

**Hearing Date** 

Committee on Water, Land & Agriculture

DATE:

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

TIME:

3:15 p.m.

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

PLACE:

Conference Room 229

### **Testimony**

Support for GM 242 consideration and confirmation Gubernatorial Nominee, KAULANA PARK as Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands,

Honorable Chairman Senator Hee and Vice Chair Tokuda,

On behalf of La'i'opua 2020 and the Kaniohale Homesteader Community Association (KCA), I would respectfully request your support for the confirmation of Kaulana Park as Chairman of Hawaiian Homes Commission for a term to expire 12-31-2010.

Over the last seven years, I had the distinct pleasure of working with Mr. Park & his predecessor Mr. Kane on our homestead project in Kailua Kona, where through both their leadership, the Kaniohale Homestead Community has embarked on a multi-purpose community center development plan on 26 acres of DHHL property to provide our homestead community and surrounding neighborhoods the necessary social infrastructure to ensure the future of our community's health, safety, and sustainability.

We are especially grateful for Mr. Park's commitment to our community development plan and more recently, our commercial center development initiative. These are tough times as homesteaders seek the educational, recreational, cultural, medical, and retail services and programs for a comprehensive live work, play, and learn, environment to which will serve as a the "model" for the future of homestead life in urban sectors.

On behalf of La'i'opua 2020 and Kaniohale Community Association, we seek your support for Mr. Park's confirmation as Chairman of Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Mahalo Nui Craig "Bo" Kahui Executive Director, L2020 Director, KCA

Cc:

L2020 Board

KCA Board

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 WTLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Nomination for Kaulana Park, Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands

Dear Chair Hee:

I have known Kaulana for all of his life and part of mine. He is the youngest of my seven siblings and I have literally watched him grow in every way from being a gifted athlete, to becoming a successful leader and businessman in the financial industry and here today, as he awaits the decision to steward one of the most treasured resources for our people – the Hawaiian Homelands.

My belief is that if you want to see the soul of a man, you need only look when no one else is looking. When the cameras, microphones and reporters are gone, how does that individual tend to his own backyard – his family life, his personal relationships. How do his peers, colleagues and contemporaries view his character. The answers to these questions truly measure the strength, worth and sincerity of an individual.

Kaulana is disciplined, focused and committed in everything that he does. His integrity, compassion for those less fortunate and his desire to serve at the most fundamental level is a result of his love for God, family and community. These are values and morals Kaulana holds in high esteem today.

Of all things that I am most proud of is that Kaulana is a man of prayer, self-reflection and humility. Regardless of the outcome of this hearing, he is and always will be pleasing to God. This is the ultimate confirmation.

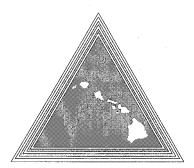
In closing, my parents would be so proud of Kaulana. He honors their memory by living the values and ethics they dedicated their lives to instilling in all of us.

Mahalo for your consideration in Kaulana's nomination as Chair of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands.

Sincerely,

Puamana Kim Park

# Sovereign Councils of the



Hawaiiam Homelands Assembly

1050 Queen St. Suite 200 Honolulu, HI 96814 Ph: (808) 529.1627 Fax: (808) 356.3556

Kamaki Kanahele Chair Oʻahu

Leah. Pereira Vice-Chair Kaua'i

Kammy Purdy Secretary Moloka'i

M. Kanani Kapuniai Treasurer Hawai'i

Jared Aiwohi Executive Officer Maui

Richard Soo Executive Director

### Senator Clayton Hee, Chair Senator Carol Fukunage, Vice Chair Committee, Water, Land, Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs

From
Kamaki Kanahele, Chairman
Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly
President
Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

I am here in support of the confirmation of Kaulana Park to serve as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and to Head the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Aloha Mr. Chairman, Madam Vice Chair, and members of the Committee. I am Kamaki Kanahele, Chairman of the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly (SCHHA) and President of the Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association (NHHCA).

As Chairman of Hawaii's oldest beneficiary advocacy organization, the SCHHA was founded to protect the tenets of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, unifying 29 homestead associations located on every island (Lanai to join us in June) in the state and serving over 30,000 residents living on the aina hoopulapula and as President of the largest homestead community in Hawaii, Nanakuli, with 1200 homes and a population 6,000, I believe I have as close to as thorough an understanding of the needs, wants and desires, now and in the future, of the beneficiaries of this trust.

What it means to be in support of Kaulana Park here today translates into a partnership that has never existed in the past seven Department Chairs that I have worked with. A partnership which Kaulana has agreed to that will include a beneficiary advisory group, meeting on a monthly basis; a closer working relationship with his senior staff; providing a lease agreement for an area of land which shall be developed to serve as the SCHHA headquarters and be a home for all beneficiaries, state-wide, managed and operated in a partnership with the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement. It will include closer working ties with Department staffs as we all move to implement State-wide Regional Plans; it will also mean that we will be at the table to contribute our mana'o when it comes to the "Debartolo Type" negotiations that DHHL history has shown has never been transparent. I believe Kaulana, with the help of his staff and ourselves can accomplish these things Mr. Chairman within the short term of his stay and will set these efforts as a model for future Chairs of the DHHL and therefore accomplish the true intent of Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole.

Mahalo Nui Loa for your consideration on behalf of our beneficiaries.

Kamaki Kanahele, Chairman Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly

# Kahanamoku-Events International

"We do all events" **Phone:** 808 – 854-9627; 550-6706 fax or pteruya@hawaii.tel.net

March 29, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: G.M. No. 242 – Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Aloha Kakou!

Mahalo for this opportunity to send testimony in strong support for Mr. Kaulana's Park confirmation as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As the past chairman of the Wai'anae Neighborhood Board No. 24, I had the experience and challenged to have work closely with Mr. Park on the homeless housing needs in the Wai'anae Coast. Through his leadership role Kaulana was very passionate in working with neighborhood board members, community leaders, kupunas, service providers and residents to focus the needs in developing several homeless shelters that would fit the quality of life style for the Wai'anae Coast.

I recognized the tireless hours he spend in Wai'anae attending community meetings, monthly neighborhood board meetings to develop a master plan for the proposed transitional shelters that would accommodate our community. I appreciated his open communication to our community and always replied with a fresh and humble attitude. My working relationship with Mr. Park was always on a comfortable level of recognizing the problem and taking very sensitive steps to keep people informed and allows open participation.

As a beneficiary on the Nanakuli Hawaiian Homes and a elected board of director, current Nanakuli-Maili Neighborhood Board No. 36, Chairman, I will support Mr. Kaulana'Park's confirmation and I am very confident that any issues discussed with the leaders of Hawaiian Homes Board, SCHHA Chair may have come to an agreement and issues were met to a satisfactorily in supporting Mr. Park.

Mahalo for your time, I urge you Honorable Senator Clayton Hee and the Senate Committee to confirmed Mr. Kaulana Park as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Aloha Pumehana,

Patty Kahanamoku Teruya
Patty Kahanamoku Teruya
And
Ms. JoAnne Kaumela Kahanamoku (mother)

Lunalilo Home

501 Kekauluohi Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

March 30, 2010

The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Dear Senator Hee,

The trustees of the King William Charles Lunalilo Trust support Mr. Kaulana Park's confirmation as Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Mr. Park has been a friend and supporter of the Lunalilo Trust and our sacred mission to care for the poor and infirm kupuna that we all hold in high esteem. In these challenging times which we all face, he has been forthcoming with possible solutions and realistic outcomes for the needs of our kūpuna. His management style, vision and professionalism are greatly admired by the trustees at Lunalilo Trust, and we look forward to his continued leadership and the strengthening of bonds between our Trust and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Aloha,

Trustee & Chair

Vice Chair

Trustee & Secretary

From: Sent: Jimmy Pai [kimokeoki@hawaii.rr.com] Tuesday, March 30, 2010 2:33 PM

To:

WTLTestimony

Subject:

Re: G.M. No. 242 - Chairman, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

TO: The Honorable Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 228 Honolulu, Hawai"i 96813

Warmest Aloha Senator Clayton Hee,

Once again I find myself writing to you. You may recall just a short time ago you graciously submitted a Senate Resolution in honor of my son James "Kimo" Pai. It was a gesture on your part for which I shall be eternally grateful.

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity in providing a voice in testimonial of Nominee, Mr. Kaulana Park. I have known him since he was a youngster growing up in Kailua during the 60's and '70's. He is from a typical Hawaiian Ohana, Korean Father and Hawaiian Mother with a sizable family of 8. Kaulana, from childhood growing up alongside of my two sons and his older brother Radford was slightly younger than them. He would always want to tag along to wherever they went, with whatever they did. They were a typical our gang, Hawaiian style. I watched him grow to manhood excelling in athletics, his inherent culture and academics and it reminded me of the "ugly duckling" saying. Strange as it may seem the saying "the best comes last" holds true at times. However, the "best" most always benefit from their predecessors in gaining their wisdom and truth.

I need not echo his accomplishments in the private business sector and government positions with OHA and DHHL as they are a matter of public record. However, I would like to share with this committee the personal side which is the foundation of his character.

Kaulana, was a natural born athlete and excelled in every sport he chose to play. Playing sports came easy to Kaulana and his shyness made him naturally humble then and even to this day. His upbringing by his parents and the rest of the Park Ohana help mold the framework that instilled in him humility and tolerance. Culture and academics were equally important in the Park household and he learn the disciplines that is needed to succeed not only in sports but everyday life itself. With a mother from the "Naipo" Ohana and a well know Kumu Hula, Kaulana developed a musical talent in both song and dance. His parents kept him in a parochial school until he entered high school hoping to maintain his learning disciplines.

He was raised to know and understand that a person's integrity is sacred and should never be compromised. He has the perseverance to know that to do the right thing rather than doing what may be the popular or one of personal choice is not always easy. He learned that only through determination and hard work both at home and on the field of athletics that natural ability was never enough for a person or athlete to succeed in attaining his maximum potential. Hard work and persistence with a never say "cannot" attitude is a philosophy he learned very early in life. I have no doubt that Mr. Kaulana Park has all of the qualities needed and managerial skills to be an effective leader and successful manager.

His Mom and Dad have passed on, along with his very close friend and brethren and if there where all here today they would echo these same sentiments.

To Chairman Senator Clayton Hee, Senator Jill Tokuda (of my district) and the Rest of the Committee Members, I Thank All of You for allowing me to speak on behalf of Mr. Kaulana Park, a Son of Hawaii and the Pai Ohana.

Aloha Nui and God Bless this Honorable Committee

# TESTIMONY GM 242 (END)