

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION/INDIVIDUAL</b>	<b>SUPPORT/OPOSE</b>
CARTY S CHANG	DLNR	SUPPORT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	SUPPORT
FORD FUCHIGAMI	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	SUPPORT
RACHAEL WONG	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES	SUPPORT
RONNETTE CORREA	DAGS-COMPTROLLER	SUPPORT
WESLEY K MACHIDA	DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & FINANCE	SUPPORT
OHA	OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS	SUPPORT
JOANN YUKIMURA	COUNCILMEMBER - KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL	SUPPORT
ALLEN TOM	NOAA	SUPPORT
LEIMANA DAMATE	AHA MOKU ADVISORY COMMITTEE	SUPPORT
BRANDON LEE	ULUPONO INITIATIVE	SUPPORT
CHIPPER WICHMAN	NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN	SUPPORT
DALE SANDLIN	HAWAII CATTLEMENS COUNCIL	SUPPORT
DE MONT R D CONNER	HOOMANA PONO LLC	SUPPORT
DENISE ANTOLINI	MALAMA PUPUKEA WAIMEA	SUPPORT
EDWARD CLEMENT	HAWAIIAN ISLAND LAND TRUST	SUPPORT
FRAZER MCGILVRAY	MALAMA MAUNALUA	SUPPORT
GLADYS QUINTO MARRONE	BIA HAWAII	SUPPORT
HAWAII AGRICULTURAL PARTNERSHIPS	HAWAII AGRICULTURAL PARTNERSHIPS	SUPPORT
HTF	HAWAII THOUSAND FRIENDS	SUPPORT
JAVIER MENDEZ-ALVAREZ	UH BIOLOGY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION	SUPPORT
KELVIN TAKETA	HAWAII COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	SUPPORT
LANCE D COLLINS	WEST MAUI PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION	SUPPORT
LEA HONG	THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND	SUPPORT
LEIALOHA KALUHIWA	KOOLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB	SUPPORT
MAHEALANI CYPHER	KOOLAU FOUNDATION	SUPPORT
MAKAALA KAAUMOANA	HANAIEI WATERSHED HUI	SUPPORT
MALIA CHOW	HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY	SUPPORT
MARJORIE ZIEGLER	CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAII	SUPPORT
MARK FOX	THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	SUPPORT
MARTHA TOWNSEND	THE OUTDOOR CIRCLE	SUPPORT
MEL MALINOWSKI	SOUTH KOHALA REEF ALLIANCE	SUPPORT
MICHAEL GOLOJUCH JR & JOANN M ADAMS	GLBT CAUCUS - DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII	SUPPORT
PAU ZWENG	OHULEHULE FOREST CONSERVANCY LLC	SUPPORT
RENE SIRACUSA	MALAMA O PUNA	SUPPORT
RICK GAFFNEY	HAWAII FISHING & BOATING ASSOCIATION	SUPPORT
RONALD WEIDENBACH	HAWAII FISH COMPANY	SUPPORT

SHERRY MENOR-MCNAMEARA	CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAWAII	SUPPORT
SOPHIA CABRAL-MAIKUI	HAWAII FOREST INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION	SUPPORT
STUART COLEMAN	SURFRIDER FOUNDATION	SUPPORT
SUSAN KELLAM	FRIENDS OF PEBBLE BEACH	SUPPORT
WAYNE SHIMOKAWA	HAWAII PORK INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION	SUPPORT
CATHY GOEGGEL	ANIMAL RIGHTS HAWAII	OPPOSE
NANI POGLINE	PUNA COMMISSIONER-GMAC	OPPOSE
PHILIP FERNANDEZ	HAWAII FISHERMENS ALLIANCE FOR CONSERVATION AND TRADITION INC	OPPOSE
STEFANIE SAKAMOTO	FISHING TALES WITH MIKE SAKAMOTO	OPPOSE
TOM LODGE	HAWAII HUNTING ASSOCIATION	OPPOSE
WILLIE-JOE CAMARA	NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION	OPPOSE
RYAN KOHATSU	HAWAII SPORTSMENS ALLIANCE	COMMENTS

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**Cc:** [amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov](mailto:amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:33:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM750\\_LNR\\_04-17-15\\_WTL.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carty S. Chang	DLNR	Support	Yes

Comments:

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of the  
CARTY S. CHANG,  
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2015  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 750 -  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SUZANNE CASE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE  
DECEMBER 31, 2018.**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message No. 750 on the appointment of Ms. Suzanne Case to serve as the Chairperson of the Department for a term to expire December 31, 2018.**

The mission of the Department is to "Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawai'i's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawai'i nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors." Ms. Case has shown her commitment to this mission throughout her career.

Born in Hilo, Case attended Punahou School, where she was the first female student body president. She graduated with honors from Stanford University, and received her law degree from Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco, where she was a member of the Hastings Law Journal. She has national and international experience, having worked for the Conservancy in California, Western United States, and Asia and the Pacific.

Ms. Case joined The Nature Conservancy in 1987 as legal counsel for the Conservancy's Hawai'i Program, the Western United States and internationally in the Asia Pacific Region. She became Executive Director for the Hawai'i Program in 2001. Under her leadership, The Nature Conservancy purchased the 117,000 acre Kahuku Ranch and oversaw the subsequent transfer to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. This remains the largest conservation land transaction in state history. Ms. Case also oversaw the acquisition of six Hawai'i Nature Conservancy preserves and

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**KEKOA KALUHIWA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

the purchase of Palmyra Atoll. She leads a team of 79 staff and oversees an \$11 million budget. Prior to her work at The Nature Conservancy, she practiced real estate transaction law in San Francisco.

Ms. Case has received multiple honors for her contributions to forest and marine conservation throughout Hawai'i, including The Garden Club of Honolulu Hui Māla Award, YWCA Leader Honoree and a Ho'okele Award for Non-Profit Leadership from the Hawai'i Community Foundation and the W.A. Gerbode Foundation.

Ms. Case co-created "Ke Ho'olono Nei", a Hawaiian song about loss and stewardship of native Hawaiian forest birds, and Maoli Nō, a free educational DVD of Hawaiian songs, chants and stories developed by The Nature Conservancy in 2003 for the Year of the Hawaiian Forest on the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Hawai'i forest reserve system.

Ms. Case's wide range of experience at the Nature Conservancy, which ranges from land acquisition, to watershed management, to the restoration of near-shore marine resources makes her well suited for the position of Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Her ability to create partnerships in order to accomplish her agency's mission and stretch their dollar will also serve the Department well. The Department respectfully requests this Committee's favorable consideration of Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

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**Cc:** [susan.m.hirai@hawaii.gov](mailto:susan.m.hirai@hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 3:43:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM750\\_WTL - Suzanne Case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

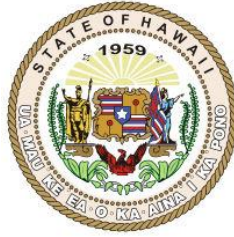
Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Office of the Governor	Office of the Governor	Support	Yes

Comments:

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EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

David Y. Ige  
Governor

Testimony on GM 750  
Confirmation of Suzanne Case  
Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources

Governor David Y. Ige

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

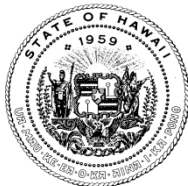
April 17, 2015  
2:45 p.m., Room 224

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of Suzanne Case as the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). She currently is the Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy where she has served since 2001. Case oversees all the Hawai'i program operations, including 16 preserves totaling 53,000 acres, working in native forest, coastal and marine conservation, directly and through partnerships on six main Hawaiian Islands. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Stanford University and her law degree from Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco. Suzanne Case shares my vision of wise stewardship of Hawai'i's public and conservation lands and waters, for excellence in government to make the most of our limited resources, and for collaboration and inclusion in carrying out the many responsibilities of the DLNR and the State of Hawai'i for the benefit of all.

This administration is committed to reshaping the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Suzanne Case will support our department employees in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.



Testimony of  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

April 17, 2015  
2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 224

**G.M. 750**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the  
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, SUZANNE  
CASE, for a term to expire 12-31-2018**

Senate Committee on Water and Land

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Ms. Case is a graduate of Stanford University and received her law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. She joined the Nature Conservancy in 1987 and has been its Executive Director since 2001 managing 16 nature reserves totaling 53,000 acres.

Ms. Case brings to the DLNR new ideas and new ways of doing business. She has an in depth knowledge of the mission of the Department and how it impacts the state. Her background proves that she understands the rightful responsibilities that DLNR has with regard to *malama 'aina*. She has demonstrated her integrity, her knowledge, her commitment to the public trust, and her ability to bring people together to solve problems and formulate well designed public policies. Her dedication to the task, her comprehensive command of the issues involved, her insight and her judgment are simply unmatched.

The need to strike a balance is of course nothing new. We cannot afford to have development and growth at all costs without regard for sustainability and quality of life, but we also cannot afford to stop development completely given that growth is an important part of our State's economy. We will continue to do our part and we look forward to continue working with all stakeholders on striking a balance so that we have a sustainable future for Hawaii. The DOT has confidence that Ms. Case has the credentials, background, and temperament to become an outstanding Chairperson of the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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**Cc:** [mtaum-deenik@dhs.hawaii.gov](mailto:mtaum-deenik@dhs.hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
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**Attachments:** [GM750\\_4-17-15\\_WTLIRW-Case1.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

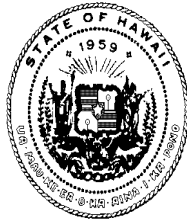
Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachael Wong, Director	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 15, 2015

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
The Honorable Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Water and Land

From: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

Subject: **GM 750** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, SUZANNE CASE, for a term to expire 12-31-2018.

Hearing: 2:45 PM, Friday, April 17, 2015  
Conference Room 224, State Capitol

I am writing **in strong support** of the confirmation of Ms. Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

The Department of Human Services (DHS) provides empowering programs, services, and benefits to those in our community who are vulnerable with the goals of expanding their capacity for self-sufficiency, self-determination, independence, healthy choices, quality of life, and personal dignity. The well-being of our children, families, and *kupuna* is directly connected to the social determinants of health: education, transportation, access to healthcare, housing, job opportunities, and environment. In other words, open space, clean air, healthy lands, and natural resources directly impact our own health. The Department of Land and Natural Resources' efforts are therefore connected to our work at DHS, and we are invested in its success. I hope to work with Suzanne as its chairperson and collaborate across departments.

Thank you for your serious consideration of Suzanne Case's confirmation as Chairperson of DLNR. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 12:38:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM750\\_Suzanne\\_Case\\_AGS\\_04.17.15\\_WTL.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

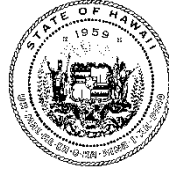
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronnette Correa	DAGS/Comptroller	Support	No

Comments:

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
WATER AND LAND  
ON  
April 17, 2015

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 750

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CHAIRPERSON  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SUZANNE CASE

Chair Thielen and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on G.M. 750. The Department of Accounting and General Services supports Ms. Suzanne Case's confirmation as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Ms. Case's extensive background and experience in forest and marine conservation coupled with her leadership, collaborative and solution-oriented approach to problem solving will provide the foundation and skillset necessary to effectively serve as Chairperson of DLNR. As Chairperson, Ms. Case will be an asset and benefit to DLNR and the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

AND BY RODERICK K. BECKER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
ON  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 750

April 17, 2015  
2:45 P.M.

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SUZANNE CASE

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

We support the confirmation of Suzanne Case to the position of Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Governor Ige's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our state in a direct and forthright manner. We will strive to do the right thing, the right way to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable economy to support our kupuna, ourselves, and our children.

Ms. Case is an integral part of a team that is committed to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner. Therefore, we support her confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [publicpolicy@oha.org](mailto:publicpolicy@oha.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:23:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM750 Suzanne Case BLNR Chair WTL 041715 FINAL.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**GM750**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
SUZANNE CASE, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-31-2018**

Senate Committee on Water and Land

April 17, 2015

2:45 p.m.

Room 224

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend to the Board of Trustees a position of **SUPPORT** for GM750, which seeks the appointment of Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR).

Ms. Case's demonstrated commitment to our environment and natural resources, management experience, and appreciation of community-based stewardship approaches make her a highly appropriate selection as Chair of the BLNR. For the past 28 years, she has dedicated her career to environmental protection, serving for 14 years as the Western Regional Counsel for The Nature Conservancy, and for the most recent 14 years as The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i's (TNC's) Executive Director. As the TNC Executive Director, Ms. Case oversaw the management of 53,000 acres of nature preserves, 76 staff members, and an annual operating budget of \$11 million. TNC purchased 3,548 acres of land to establish its Ka'ū Preserve, which is now part of the largest and most intact expanse of native forest in the state. During this time, OHA also partnered with TNC to create a "Pre-Contact Native Hawaiian Footprint," which estimates the extent of Native Hawaiian impact on native ecosystems prior to Western contact, and highlights the importance of Native Hawaiian traditional land management. Most recently, TNC has engaged with coastal communities in Ka'ūpūlehu, Mo'omomi, Kīpahulu, Maunalei, Kahana, and elsewhere, in support of their efforts to establish community-based management of their nearshore resources. Ms. Case's work is also recognized in numerous honors including the Young Women's Christian Association Leader Honoree, The Garden Club of Honolulu Hui Māla Award, and the Hawai'i Community Foundation & W.A. Gerbode Foundation Ho'okele Non-Profit Leadership Award.

While OHA notes some concerns have been voiced by hunting groups regarding TNC's work, OHA will work with Ms. Case to ensure that Native Hawaiian subsistence hunting is respected, so as to ensure appropriate balance and consideration for the needs of subsistence communities. OHA is confident that Ms. Case is cognizant of Native Hawaiian interests and will serve those interests well within the context of the overall mandates of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to enhance, protect, conserve and manage the natural, cultural, and historic resources across the pae 'āina for future generations.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM750. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Office of the County Clerk, Council Services Div.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: thank you for allowing Councilmemeber Yukimura the opportunity to submit testimony regarding gm750.

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [allen.tom@noaa.gov](mailto:allen.tom@noaa.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 9:40:04 AM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
allen tom	NOAA	Support	No

Comments: Senator Laura Thielen Chairperson Senate Water and Land Committee Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Room 224 Honolulu, HI 96813  
Dear Senator Thielen, On behalf of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), I am writing to voice our program's support for Ms. Suzanne Case as Director of the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources. For the past decade as the Executive Director of the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, Ms. Case has proven herself to be an effective leader and negotiator, looking out for the environment's best interests, yet realizing the need to partner with the various federal agencies that work in Hawai'i. She has worked tirelessly on behalf of our islands terrestrial and oceanic resources, willing to reach across the table to private landowners, user groups and federal programs like my own to develop joint projects that will ensure protections for our natural resources for generations to come. I look forward to working with Ms. Case and I also look forward to strengthening our federal partnerships with the State DLNR. Ms. Case has always been accessible and available to meet with any of my staff or visiting officials from Washington DC. I am sure this policy of being a forward thinker while keeping an "open door policy" will serve her well in her new position. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [allen.tom@noaa.gov](mailto:allen.tom@noaa.gov) or 808-879-2818. Sincerely, Allen Tom Regional Director Pacific Islands Region NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuary

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 10:24:58 AM  
**Attachments:** [AMAC Testimony GM 750.docx](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimana DaMate	Aha Moku Advisory Committee	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Aha Moku Advisory Committee  
State of Hawaii  
Post Office Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of  
Leimana DaMate, Executive Director  
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Friday, April 17, 2015  
2:45 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

**IN SUPPORT OF**

**Governor's Message No. 750**

**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, Suzanne Case for a Term to Expire December 31, 2018**

The Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) supports Governor's Message No. 750 on the appointment of Suzanne Case to serve as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

The purpose of the AMAC is to advise the Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) on issues related to land and natural resources management through the Aha Moku System, a system of best practices that is based upon the indigenous resource management practices of moku (regional) boundaries which acknowledges the natural contours of land, the specific resources located within those areas, and the methodology necessary to sustain resources and the community.

As the AMAC is attached to DLNR, we work extensively with the BLNR, the many divisions of DLNR and with the Water Commission in bringing specific natural and cultural resource issues sent to us by the many ahupua'a districts throughout the state. It is critically important that the Chairman be able to understand the nuances of these issues and the differences that are inherent to the autonomous cultural make-up of each island, moku and ahupua'a. We are confident that Ms. Case has the necessary demeanor and skill set to competently address the oftentimes complex and challenging issues that are brought to the Chair by the general public, including ahupua'a communities.

We believe that Ms. Case who was born and raised in Hilo, Hawaii learned natural resource sustainability skills as a child growing up in a rural area where the protection of resources is diligently pursued by all. That foundation of taking care of, and loving the resources of Hawaii is an indelible part of her. She is familiar with local and Native Hawaiian communities; and, as proven by her extensive professional experience in The Nature Conservancy will be able to use this experience and expertise in sound management and business practices to benefit the Department and the Aha Moku which is attached to it.

We respectfully request this Committee's favorable consideration for Suzanne Case as the next Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [blee@ulupono.com](mailto:blee@ulupono.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, April 13, 2015 1:42:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM 750 Senate Water and Land Hearing Testimony 4-17-15.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandon Lee	Ulupono Initiative	Support	Yes

Comments:

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND  
Friday, April 17, 2015 — 2:45 p.m. — Room 414

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources**

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment company that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase clean, renewable energy, and waste reduction. We believe that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity, and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports Suzanne Case** as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, because her appointment would help Hawai'i to better utilize its resources such as land and water.

Suzanne Case is a superb leader whose management skills inspire organizations to achieve results beyond their expectations. Suzanne has built the Nature Conservancy into a major force in the preservation and stewardship of over 200,000 acres of land across the islands. Suzanne's ability to work with multiple stakeholders was instrumental in creating the watershed partnerships that are in force in every island. These abilities are precisely what DLNR needs for leadership.

As a leader of the Nature Conservancy, one of Hawai'i's most respected environmental organizations, Suzanne has the experience to understand the challenges of land management. We have confidence in her leadership and ability to shape policies to allow Hawai'i to take care of its land and water resources. We look forward to working with her in the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

General Partner

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [wichman@ntbg.org](mailto:wichman@ntbg.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 11:23:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [Chipper.Wichman testimony for Suzanne Case-16April2015.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chipper Wichman	National Tropical Botanical Garden	Support	No

Comments: I am in STRONG support of Suzanne Case to head the DLNR. See attached testimony. Aloha Chipper

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16 April 2015

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

Bill Number: GM 750  
Hearing Date and Time, April 17, 2015 2:45 p.m. in Room 224

**Subject: Testimony on GM750 - In support of the confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, SUZANNE CASE, for a term to expire 12-31-2018.**

Aloha Chair Thielen,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing today as the President and CEO of the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) to support the confirmation of Ms. Suzanne Case as the Chairperson of the Department Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Suzanne for most of my life and have worked closely with her over the past decade in her capacity as the Director of The Nature Conservancy here in Hawaii. During this time she has demonstrated her commitment to collaboration and community involvement as well as her commitment to working closely with government. She also brings deep connections to conservation partners across the US and Pacific due to the decades she worked as a lead attorney for TNC's land protection program.

On a personal note, I am very appreciative of her passion for land protection and had the privilege in the early 1990s to work directly with Suzanne to protect Limahuli valley on the north shore of Kauai with legal covenants and reverters that will ensure it is developed and managed in perpetuity as a model conservation project in the State.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that Suzanne's legal background and experience in leading TNC for the past decade combined with her love of Hawaiian culture and the values and deep appreciation and commitment to protecting our 'āina and kai that she developed while growing up in Hawaii will make her an ideal candidate to serve as the next Chair of the DLNR. As such, I humbly ask for your support in confirming her.

‘O wau iho no me ke aloha,

Chipper Wichman, President, CEO and Director

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dale.hicattlemens@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dale.hicattlemens@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Saturday, April 11, 2015 4:11:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM 750 - Suzanne Case - 2015 Water & Land.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/11/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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# Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

P. O. Box 437199

Kamuela, HI 96743

Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607

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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND  
SENATOR LAURA H. THIELEN, CHAIR  
SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA, VICE CHAIR**

DATE: Friday, April 17, 2015  
TIME: 2:45 PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 224

**GM 750 – CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRPERSON,  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, SUZANNE CASE, for a term to expire 12-31-2018.

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dale Sandlin, and I am Managing Director of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 130+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **Strongly Supports** GM 750.

Suzanne Case has shown a proven balance to the use of water and land for conservation, as well as other agricultural pursuits including the Hawaii Cattle Industry. For the past 28 years, Suzanne has provided oversight and counsel of both land and water interests in her roles at The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii. As Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, she has overseen 16 preserves totaling 53,000 acres of land and has overseen various conservation efforts on six main Hawaiian Islands.

Land and water have been, and remain, crucial to the operations and survival of the Hawaii Cattle Industry. Sound management practices and proactive solutions are required to maintain our current capacities and to take steps for our sustainability. Suzanne possesses the background and experience needed to make responsible decisions regarding land and water issues for all Hawaiians. Her experience is invaluable to the task at hand and has shown her passion for Hawaii and our natural resources.

We urge you to **support** Ms. Case's nomination and appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

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**Cc:** [blawaiianlvr@icloud.com](mailto:blawaiianlvr@icloud.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 4:23:11 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We are in STRONG SUPPORT of Suzanne Case. With her environmental back ground & her commitment to preservation, this makes her a perfect fit. Together with Kekoa Kaluhiwa, we now have an AWESOME team & leadership for DLNR.

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**Cc:** [antolinid@gmail.com](mailto:antolinid@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 8:32:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [MPW Testimony GM750 Suzanne Case 4.16.15.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Denise Antolini	Malama Pupukea Waimea	Support	No

Comments:

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**Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea**  
Post Office Box 188  
Hale'iwa, HI 96712

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April 16, 2015

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hearing on GM750 – DLNR Chair Suzanne Case  
Friday April 17, 2015  
2:45 pm, Room 224

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** Governor Ige's nomination of Suzanne Case for the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

The mission of Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea (MPW) is to *"to replenish and sustain the natural and cultural resources of the Pūpūkea and Waimea Ahupua'a for present and future generations through active community stewardship, education, and partnerships."* We are particularly focused on the protection of the Pūpūkea Marine Life Conservation District.

Over the past ten years, we have worked with many wonderful community and NGO partners throughout the state, including The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i (TNCH), on marine conservation projects. We know first-hand that TNCH leadership and staff make invaluable contributions to statewide protection of our natural resources.

Ms. Case's years of experience working to protect Hawai'i's natural resources with TNCH is just the kind of background needed for this very important cabinet position and DLNR's mission. Her exceptional success as a manager and leader at the helm of TNCH will bring a terrific skill set to an agency that deserves and needs calm, intelligent, and passionate leadership to grapple with our increasingly complex environmental and user challenges.

We join many other organizations and individuals throughout Hawai'i in **enthusiastic support** of Suzanne Case for the next Chair of DLNR!

Mahalo nui loa,

*Denise Antolini, President, MPW*

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 1:52:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [Hawaiian Islands Land Trust Testimony in Support of Suzanne Case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Edward Clement	Hawaiian Islands Land Trust	Support	No

Comments:

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April 14, 2015

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Re: Testimony in Support of Suzanne Case, Gubernatorial Nominee for Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha Honorable Chair Senator Thielen and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

On behalf of the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, I enthusiastically submit this testimony in support of Suzanne Case, Gubernatorial Nominee for Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. We are so excited for Ms. Case, our communities and the incredible lands and natural resources which make Hawai'i so special and keep it a desirable place to live, work and visit – crucial underpinnings of our economy here.

The Hawaiian Islands Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 2011 out of the merger of four local land trusts, and it is the first and only nationally accredited local land trust in Hawai'i. Our mission is to protect the lands that will sustain us for current and future generations. Hawaiian Islands Land Trust has conserved over 17,500 acres to date, via perpetual Conservation Easements and Fee Simple Ownership, on a number of properties with various conservation values important to residents and visitors alike. We conserve lands that secure Hawai'i's long-term well-being, lands with scenic views, agricultural resources, wildlife habitats, water resource areas, cultural and historical sites, and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Suzanne Case will be an outstanding Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources because of her expertise in conservation and stewarding our lands and natural resources, her executive experience, her legal background, her deep ties to Hawai'i, and her wonderful demeanor. Ms. Case and I have a mutual friend, Janet Coit, who has very similar characteristics to Ms. Case. When Janet Coit left The Nature Conservancy's Rhode Island Program a number of years ago to head up the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management she proceeded to do a wonderful job for Rhode Island and continues to do so to this day having served two Governors to date.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony in support of Suzanne Case for Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,



Edward Sortwell Clement, Jr.  
Executive Director

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 4:33:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony - Support for Suzanne Case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Frazer McGilvray	Malama Maunalua	Support	No

Comments:

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April 14, 2015

Senator Laura H Thielen, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol

By e-mail

*Board of Directors*

*Mitch D'Olier  
Frazer McGilvray  
Amy Monk  
Michael B Pietsch  
Steve Schatz  
Jennifer Taylor  
Leighton Taylor  
Laura Thompson  
Jean Tsukamoto  
Carol Wilcox*

Dear Senator Thielen

I am writing to express the **support** of Malama Maunalua for Governor's Message No 750, the nomination of Suzanne Case as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Having worked in the conservation sector for almost 30 years, Suzanne clearly has the experience to lead the Department responsible for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of Hawaii's natural resources. With her experience in acquiring conservation lands, she also understands fully the need to balance development with conservation.

Suzanne has a balanced knowledge of the challenges facing our lands, our fresh waters and our oceans, having directed conservation projects across the State. She is respected by communities on all islands, and has received many awards from the public and private sectors for her leadership, her vision and her passion for the environment.

I have been fortunate to work with Suzanne over the past five years on a number of projects, and have found her to be an excellent colleague, and am delighted to provide this testimony today. DLNR is in desperate need of leadership that will recognize and implement modern natural resource management practices. Approaches are required that balance the needs of all sectors of society and not just those who take from the land or the ocean without giving any care for the longevity of the resource. I believe Suzanne will provide that balanced leadership and will take DLNR to a place it hasn't been in a long time – in harmony with Hawaii's environment.

Yours sincerely

Frazer McGilvray  
Executive Director

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**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 8:51:38 AM  
**Attachments:** [150417\\_WTL\\_GM\\_750\\_BIA\\_Confirmation\\_of\\_Suzanne\\_Case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gladys Quinto Marrone	BIA Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land**  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2015**  
**2:45 p.m.**  
**State Capitol - Conference Room 224**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 750 SUBMITTING FOR**  
**CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL**  
**NOMINEE, SUZANNE CASE**

Chair Thielen, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Chief Executive Officer for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the Voice of the Construction Industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

Ms. Case met with our Government Relations Committee to discuss her background and challenges or opportunities she faces if confirmed as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). Based on our meeting, BIA-Hawaii **strongly supports** the confirmation of Ms. Suzanne Case as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Ms. Case's extensive career at the Nature Conservancy gave her experience in all aspects of natural resource management and real estate transactions. She not only participated in identifying areas that needed protection but was also involved in active natural resource management initiatives in the Pacific Region and on the west coast of the United States.

The DLNR Mission Statement is to:

"Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii Nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors."

The DLNR is comprised of nine (9) Divisions, one (1) Office and two (2) independent Commissions.

- Aquatic Resources Division (DAR)
- Bureau of Conveyances (BOC)
- Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR)
- Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE)
- Engineering Division (ENG)
- Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW)
- Land Division (LAND)
- State Parks (SP)
- State Historic Preservation (SHPD)

Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water & Land  
April 17, 2015  
G.M. 750  
Testimony of BIA-Hawaii

- Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL)
- Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM)
- Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC)

The DLNR is responsible for management of all state owned lands, which is approximately 1.4 million of the 4 million total acres in the state, not including all of the submerged lands within the State waters also under the department's purview. DLNR is also responsible for management of the Conservation District which is comprised of approximately 1.9 million acres or roughly half of the land in the entire state.

These two areas of responsibility illustrate the need to have responsible, balanced, and transparent leadership in this department. As an owner of state lands, the DLNR is tasked with ensuring the "highest and best" use of its lands in commercial operations. The DLNR must also weigh what uses could or should be allowed in the Conservation District through the Conservation District Use Application process. The focus here is not on the highest and best use but on protecting and conserving our natural resources.

Ms. Case is adept at listening to all sides of a situation or problem and then working with all parties on a solution. This trait is essential in dealing with the broad range of issues and perspectives that involve the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

We believe she has the right temperament and intelligence to bring together contrasting views in seeking out the best decisions for the Department. We strongly encourage the Senate to confirm Ms. Suzanne Case as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [HawaiisAgriculturalPartnerships@msn.com](mailto:HawaiisAgriculturalPartnerships@msn.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, April 11, 2015 6:17:47 AM

---

**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/11/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hawaii's Agricultural Partnerships	4 Ag Hawaii ~ non profit 501 [c] [3]	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [htf@lava.net](mailto:htf@lava.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 4:22:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM 750 HTF Suzanne Case 4.17.15.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hawaii's Thousand Friends	Hawaii's Thousand Friends	Support	No

Comments:

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25 Maluniu Ave., Suite 102., PMB 282 • Kailua, HI 96734 • Phone/Fax: (808) 262-0682 E-mail: [htf@lava.net](mailto:htf@lava.net)

April 17, 2015

GM 750 consideration and confirmation of  
Suzanne Case to the  
Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Committee Chair and members;

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to comprehensive planning and reasonable, responsible and appropriate land and water use, *supports* the Governor's nominee.

Ms. Case's, through her professional work and personal values, knows the importance of preserving the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

Her leadership at the Nature Conservancy in creating partnerships and working with local communities demonstrates that she understands the importance of community and collaboration.

Ms. Case's core values and strong sense of civic duty will serve the State and public's interests well in protecting our islands fragile and finite natural and cultural resources well.

Hawaii's Thousand Friends urges the Committee to confirm Ms. Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mendezj@hawaii.edu](mailto:mendezj@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:15:49 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	UH Biology Alumni Association	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kyim@hcf-hawaii.org](mailto:kyim@hcf-hawaii.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 3:34:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony - Suzanne Case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelvin Taketa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## HAWAII COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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### Neighbor Islands:

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65-1279 Kawaihae Road  
Parker Square, Room 203  
Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743  
Phone: 808-885-2174  
Fax: 808-885-1857

Kaua'i:  
4139 Hardy Street  
Suite C  
Lihue, Hawai'i 96766  
Phone: 808-245-4585  
Fax: 808-245-5189

Maui County:  
33 Lono Avenue  
The Kahului Building, Suite 390  
Kahului, Hawai'i 96732  
Phone: 808-242-6184

April 10, 2015

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 224  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**SUBJECT: Testimony Supporting the Confirmation of Suzanne Case  
as the Director of the Department of Land and Natural  
Resources**

Dear Senator Thielen and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Community Foundation in support of the nomination of Suzanne Case as the Director of the Department of Land & Natural Resources. We have had the privilege of working with Suzanne for many years during her tenure as the Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy. She is a phenomenal leader with a keen intellect and truly committed to stewarding and protecting our `aina.

Suzanne's 28 years of experience in protecting Hawaii's lands and waters, include the establishment of a statewide system of Conservancy preserves, creating new wildlife refuges and expanding our national parks. Her extensive experience and credentials make her a uniquely qualified nominee. Personally, I have known and worked with Suzanne since she was first hired by The Nature Conservancy in 1987 including her tenure as the General Counsel for the Asia/Pacific Region when I had the privilege to lead that group. She was a tremendous colleague and trusted advisor. One could always count on Suzanne to handle the most difficult situations with poise and she earned a widespread reputation as a creative problem solver.

Our State is truly fortunate to have someone of her caliber leading one of the most important agencies in Hawaii and we wholeheartedly support her nomination and respectfully request your favorable consideration of Suzanne's nomination by your committee and the Senate.

Sincerely,

Kelvin H. Taketa  
President & CEO

**From:** [Lance D. Collins, Ph.D](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony Submission for WTL (GM 750)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 8:01:52 AM  
**Attachments:** [wmpa testimony GM750 to WTL.pdf](#)

---

Committee: WTL Committee  
Measure: Governor's Message No. 750  
Hearing: Friday, April 17, 2015 at 2:45 PM

If there are any problems with this transmission please contact our office immediately at 808-243-9292. Mahalo.

--

Law Office of Lance D Collins  
A Law Corporation  
Post Office Box 179336  
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P. O. Box 11150  
Lahaina, HI 96761

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senate of the State of Hawai'i

Friday, April 17, 2015 at 2:45 PM  
Support for GM750, Nomination of Suzanne Case to the BLNR

The West Maui Preservation Association supports the nomination of Suzanne Case as Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawai'i.

A 28-year veteran of The Nature Conservancy, Suzanne Case has served as Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i since 2001. She oversees a Hawai'i program of 76 staff, 16 preserves totaling 53,000 acres, and an annual operating budget of \$11 million, working in native forest, coastal and marine conservation, directly and through partnerships, on six main Hawaiian Islands. She also oversees Palmyra Atoll nature preserve and research station in the Pacific, a globally acclaimed conservation and research collaboration of The Nature Conservancy, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Palmyra Atoll Research Consortium.

Ms. Case was born in Hilo and grew up in Hilo and Honolulu. She attended Waiakea-Kai Elementary School, Keaukaha Elementary School and Punahou School (1974, where she was the first female student body president). She attended Williams College and Stanford University, where she graduated with honors (B.A., History, 1979). She received her law degree from Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco, where she was a member of the Hastings Law Journal (1983). She practiced real estate transactions law at the law firm of Pettit & Martin in San Francisco from 1983 to 1987.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

//

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lea.hong@tpl.org](mailto:lea.hong@tpl.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 3:52:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [TPL Testimony GM 750 Suzanne Case.pdf](#)

---

**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/8/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lea Hong	The Trust for Public Land	Support	Yes

Comments:

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# THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

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## LAND FOR PEOPLE

### **THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND'S TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 750 RELATING TO NOMINATION OF SUZANNE CASE AS CHAIR OF DLNR**

**Senate Committee on Water & Land**

**Friday, April 17, 2015, 2:45 p.m., Room 224**

The Trust for Public Land strongly supports GM 750, nominating Suzanne Case to be the Chair of Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). Ms. Case is extremely qualified to lead DLNR. She has worked for one of the leading conservation organizations in the world, The Nature Conservancy, for 27 years. She has served as The Nature Conservancy's Executive Director in Hawai'i since 2001, and led a team of 76 who are spread across the Hawaiian Islands and Palmyra Atoll. She is intimately familiar with the conservation challenges faced by the State of Hawai'i on all the different islands.

Ms. Case has worked successfully with diverse partners -- federal, state, and county agencies, and other non-profit organizations, private businesses, and private landowners, in achieving a wide array of conservation goals. She has an outstanding legal background, and is well versed in the many laws and regulations that affect DLNR or that DLNR enforces and implements. The Trust for Public Land has worked collaboratively with The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i under Ms. Case's outstanding leadership. We know her good work, and we give her our unqualified support and request that the Senate and this Committee confirm her nomination.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify -



Lea Hong  
Hawaiian Islands State Director

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [malamapono744@aol.com](mailto:malamapono744@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 8:14:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [kphcc-gm750-support-case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leialoha Kaluhiwa	Koolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	Yes

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# KO`OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

April 16, 2015

To: Senator Laura Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
And Members  
Committee on Water and Land

From: Leialoha “Rocky” Kaluhiwa  
Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

Re: G.M. 750, Support for Confirmation of Suzanne Case – DLNR

Aloha mai kakou:

My name is Leialoha “Rocky” Kaluhiwa. On behalf of the Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, I am speaking in strong support for Suzanne Case, who has been appointed by the Governor to head the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

We have known Suzanne for several years and feel that she is very qualified to chair our Board of Land and Natural Resources.

We were fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Suzanne and the Nature Conservancy on our lo`i restoration project in He`eia. She was always supportive – not only in our restoration of lo`i, but she was always totally respectful and involved in the cultural aspects of our `aina.

We humbly ask this committee to approve Governor Ige’s recommendation to have Suzanne Case serve as the next DLNR Chair.

Mahalo nui loa.

*The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians. One of the largest of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are “Hawaiian at heart”.*

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**Cc:** [malamapono744@aol.com](mailto:malamapono744@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 8:10:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony in Support of GM750-kf.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mahealani Cypher	Koolau Foundation	Support	Yes

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*Ko`olau Foundation*

P. O. Box 4749  
Kane`ohe, HI 96744

Testimony in Support of G.M. 750 – Suzanne Case/DLNR

To: Sen. Laura Thielen, Chair  
Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Water & Land

From: Mahealani Cypher  
Ko`olau Foundation

Aloha, Chair Thielen and Members of this Committee:

The Ko`olau Foundation offers its strong support for Suzanne Case's confirmation as the director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. We think she is a prudent choice in light of the serious responsibilities assigned as kuleana for this department.

Suzanne has worked for the Nature Conservancy for many years, and is well known for her efforts to support preservation of natural resources and open space throughout the islands. As head of DLNR, she would have a much broader responsibility to malama these resources and to be respectful of and honor our Hawaiian cultural resources as well.

As a Native Hawaiian organization dedicated to the preservation of our wahi pana and wahi kapu, we will call upon Suzanne to ensure that protection, restoration and recognition of our Hawaiian sites is a high priority – something that, unfortunately, has not been the case in a long time, with few exceptions.

So we offer as our guidance for you, in evaluating her qualifications, the same things we asked of you with the previous candidate:

- 1) First and foremost: aloha `aina – a deep-seated love for ka pae`aina Hawai`i. A commitment to protecting and preserving Hawai`i's lands that are held in trust by the State of Hawai`i, and a promise that these lands will not be sold, traded or exploited – again, the director of DLNR serves as trustee of Hawai`i's lands and natural resources.
- 2) A fundamental understanding of the kuleana – responsibility – of the DLNR director and BLNR board chair to safeguard natural and cultural resources – she must be accountable for and committed to protecting the resources under the jurisdiction of the State DLNR.

3) People skills: the director must have demonstrated people skills, the ability to work with diverse levels of people, including DLNR staff and BLNR members, other agencies, the Legislature and the general public. People skills include the ability to listen well and respond appropriately and respectfully; and the ability to have aloha for others even when there is disagreement.

4) Leader more than Manager: the director must be a good leader of the DLNR 'ohana, not just a good manager; a good leader is a role model, one who has followers, one who demonstrates a positive character and pono behavior.

5) Advocacy for DLNR: the director must have exceptional ability to advocate for DLNR to obtain more resources from the Administration, from the Legislature, and from other public and private resources such as the Federal government and philanthropy.

Our expectation is that Suzanne Case can and will demonstrate all of these qualities and carry out the functions needed of her to lead the DLNR.

We applaud this nomination and urge your approval of her confirmation.

Mahalo for this opportunity to offer our mana`o.

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [makaala@hawaiian.net](mailto:makaala@hawaiian.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, April 13, 2015 9:10:09 AM  
**Attachments:** [HWH testimony Case 4-13-15 mk.docx](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Makaala Kaaumoana	Hanalei Watershed Hui	Support	No

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# Hanalei Watershed Hui

April 13, 2015

**Testimony is Support: GM 750**

## COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing: Friday, April 17, 2015

2:45 pm

Conference Room 224

Nomination of Suzanne Case for Chair of BLNR and Director of DLNR

Aloha Chair Thielen and Vice Chair Galuteria,

The Hanalei Watershed Hui **strongly supports** the nomination of Suzanne Case for Chair of BLNR and Director of DLNR.

Her deep knowledge of the issues pertinent to the kuleana of DLNR and broad experience in the areas of conservation and resource management provide her with a solid foundation from which to lead DLNR and the State of Hawaii as we ALL work to restore, conserve and maintain the unique cultural, ecological and economic resources of our island home.

We know we can work together to make a difference in a positive and pono way.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony,

Makaala Kaumoana  
Executive Director

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [malia.chow@noaa.gov](mailto:malia.chow@noaa.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 11:56:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [HIHW Letter of support Suzanne Case April2015.pdf](#)

---

**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia Chow	government agency ONMS HIHWNMS	Support	Yes

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# HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



Hawaii State Legislature  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 16, 2015

To the Members of the Senate Water and Land Committee:

On behalf of NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, it is with great encouragement and enthusiasm that we welcome the nomination of Suzanne Case as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Ms. Case has a proven track record of building collaborative stewardship models based on effective private/public partnerships that directly protect the natural resources and benefit the people of Hawaii, both for now and for future generations. During her 28 year tenure at The Nature Conservancy, Ms. Case has demonstrated strong leadership and effective leadership with an understanding of the need to promote collaboration among communities and federal and state agencies.

The Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is co-managed by NOAA and the State of Hawaii through the Department of Land and Natural Resources. We look forward to working with Ms. Case and DLNR as the sanctuary co-manager in a collaborative approach to address shared resource management goals.

The nomination of Suzanne Case brings a promise of a bright future for Hawaii. We look forward to the leadership role Ms. Case will bring to DLNR as a state agency, to the co-management partnership with NOAA, and to the public trust responsibilities of DLNR and the sanctuary on behalf of the people of Hawaii.

Best regards,

Malia Chow, PhD  
Sanctuary Superintendent

**Visitor Center & Maui Office**

726 South Kihei Road  
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Toll Free: 1-800-831-4888  
(808) 879-2818

**O'ahu Office**

6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy.  
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Honolulu, HI 96825  
Toll Free: 1-888-55-WHALE  
(808) 397-2651

**Kaua'i Office**

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Lihue, HI 96766  
(808) 246-2860

**Hawai'i Office**

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Kaahumanu Hwy.  
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Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
(808) 327-3697

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mz@conservehi.org](mailto:mz@conservehi.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:39:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [CCH testimony GM 750 Case DLNR.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marjorie Ziegler	Conservation Council for Hawai'i	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**Conservation Council  
for Hawai'i**

*Hawai'i's voice for wildlife*

*Kō Hawai'i / leo no nā holoholona lōhiu*



Testimony Submitted to the  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hearing: Friday, April 17, 2015 2:45 PM Room 224

In Support of GM 750 Suzanne Case

Aloha, Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports GM 750 and the nomination of Suzanne Case as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Ms. Case is highly qualified to lead this important department. She comes fully loaded with the experience, skills, and dedication to serve us well. She is very knowledgeable about land and resource management issues in the islands having worked on them for decades.

We especially appreciate all that Ms. Case and The Nature Conservancy has done to protect unique Hawaiian plants and animals in some of the most intact remaining native ecosystems in Hawai'i.

Ms. Case is also respectful of the host culture and sensitive to protecting our quality of life and those things that make Hawai'i special.

Please support GM 750 and Ms. Case, and provide sufficient funding for the DLNR to meet its mandate.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

*Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.*

*Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.*

*Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.*

*Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.*

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P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 | Honolulu, HI 96814

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**Cc:** [mfox@tnc.org](mailto:mfox@tnc.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 6:43:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [GM 750 Suzanne Case TNC Testimony 04 17 15.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Fox	The Nature Conservancy	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting GM 750 Gubernatorial Nominee Suzanne Case for  
Confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, April 17, 2015, 2:45PM, Room 224

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*For more than 35 years, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i has been working closely with government agencies, local businesses, private landowners, non-profit partners, and interested communities across the state to preserve the lands and waters upon which all life in these islands depends. The Conservancy is a private non-profit conservation organization that has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also support 19 coastal communities seeking to co-manage marine resources in partnership with the State of Hawai'i.*

---

The Nature Conservancy strongly supports Suzanne Case's confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Suzanne has dedicated her life and 28 years of her career to the care and perpetuation of Hawai'i's natural resources. She has the demonstrated ability to bring diverse people and organizations together with government agencies to find positive, collaborative, and often innovative solutions to the most pressing environmental issues. She epitomizes the vision of The Nature Conservancy to conserve nature not just for its own sake, but also for its ability to fulfill our needs and to enrich and sustain our lives, including benefits such as fresh water, clean air, food, recreation, and economic prosperity.

Suzanne understands and can lead large-scale management efforts that ensure wise stewardship across vast landscapes with multiple public and private partners. And, she is able and willing to delve into the greatest of details related to complicated projects in order to fully understand the issues and find positive solutions. She has guided major strategic planning and management efforts, completed small and very large land transactions with private landowners and state and federal government agencies, and successfully overseen all operational and financial aspects of the Conservancy's Hawai'i program. The Conservancy's Hawai'i program includes more than 50,000 acres of forest preserves and marine conservation work, participation in watershed partnerships covering hundreds of thousands of acres, 76 personnel across the state, multiple facilities, and critical relationships with partners and local communities on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Hawai'i, and even Palmyra atoll.

Suzanne has the ability to lead and inspire her staff with vision and purpose, as well as roll up her sleeves and be a team member and collaborator seeking broad input, consensus and measurable accomplishments. She recognizes and demonstrates in her work and how she conducts herself that integrity, trust, and good governance are the hallmarks of leadership, successful organizations, and productive relationships.

While The Nature Conservancy will surely miss having Suzanne's expertise and guiding hand at the helm of our Hawai'i program, we are grateful to her for the solid foundation, resources and clear path forward she leaves with us. And, we are especially pleased and excited that she is willing to step forward and give of herself and her capabilities to an even broader mission with the DLNR on behalf of every resident and visitor who values the natural and cultural treasures of these islands that are at the very core of the past, present and future of our lives in Hawai'i.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Suzanne's confirmation as DLNR Chairperson.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 11:14:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM750 Case TOC Support.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Martha Townsend	The Outdoor Circle	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**TESTIMONY MARTHA TOWNSEND  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OUTDOOR CIRCLE**

**IN SUPPORT TO GM750  
Nomination of Suzanne Case as Director  
of the Department of Land and Natural Resources**

**before the  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Friday April 17, 2015 2:45 PM room 224**

Dear Chairwoman Thielen and members of the Senate Water and Land Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity submit testimony in strong support of Suzanne Case (GM750) for Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

On behalf of our members statewide, The Outdoor Circle strongly endorses Ms. Case as she has the experience, expertise, and holistic approach necessary to lead this crucial department.

As you know, DLNR is the crucial agency established to: “Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii’s unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei...”.

The department’s jurisdiction encompasses nearly 1.3 million acres of State lands, beaches, and coastal waters. It is responsible for all conservation districts, state parks, all historic resources, forests, all wildlife and their sanctuaries, hunting and game management, fishing, boating and other ocean programs, and natural area reserves. The Director of DLNR chairs the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Commission on Water Resources Management, and is the chief historic preservation officer.

As Director of The Nature Conservancy in Hawaii, Ms. Case manages 53,000 acres of preservation land with a budget of \$11 million and a staff of 76. She oversaw the largest conservation land transaction in state history for 117,00 acres at Kahuku Ranch on Hawaii Island. She has extensive experience in natural resources management and advocacy, as well as partnering with public and private landowners towards shared resource management goals.

In 2014, Ms. Case received the prestigious Ho’okele Award for her leadership, strategic thinking, and ability to bring different groups of people together towards common goals.

Ms. Case is clearly qualified to serve as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. She will be an excellent addition to the Governor’s cabinet.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony and we are available to answer any questions.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, April 13, 2015 2:11:20 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mel Malinowski	South Kohala Reef Alliance	Support	No

Comments: Suzanne Case is well-qualified to lead the DLNR, both by her education and her many years of experience. She is the kind of leader we need looking after the welfare of our 'aina. We hope you will give her a fair hearing, and recommend her approval.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 8:03:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony in Support.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Golojuch, Jr., and Jo-Ann M Adams	GLBT Caucus, Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

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**GAY LESBIAN  
BISEXUAL AND  
TRANSGENDER  
CAUCUS**



**DEMOCRATIC  
PARTY OF HAWAII**

To the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Senators Les Ihara Jr., Gil Riviere, Russell Ruderman, Maile Shimabukuro, Sam Slom, Members

DATE: Friday, April 17, 2015

TIME: 2:45 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 224, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM750  
SUZANNE CASE AS CHAIRPERSON  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The mission of the Department of Land and Natural Resources is to “[e]nhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii’s unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.” Who could better “enhance, protect, conserve and manage” our resources held in public trust than a person who has dedicated much of her career to the “Nature Conservancy” and made environmental stewardship her form of community service?

As the Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, Suzanne Case has been a vocal advocate, headed collaborative efforts among private landowners, government agencies and interest groups to control invasive species, protected places, such as watershed forests and reefs, created parks, preserves and refuges. As the head of The Nature Conservancy, Suzanne Case is accustomed to the process of using science to analyze a native ecosystem and identify the threats to that ecosystem, such as, land conversion, fire, unsustainable fishing, sediment running from the mountains onto the reefs.

Unlike the Governor’s prior nomination, Suzanne Case is well aware that the Number One threat to the environment is land conversion. It is clear that Governor Ige took to heart the public outcry. He has replaced the ridiculous with the sublime!

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii wholeheartedly supports the appointment of Suzanne Case as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this nomination.

Very truly yours,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (Caucus Chair) and Jo-Ann M. Adams (Legislative Liaison)

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To: [WTLTestimony](#)  
Cc: [pzweng@gmail.com](mailto:pzweng@gmail.com)  
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2015 10:53:37 AM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Zweng	'Ohulehule Forest Conservancy, LLC	Support	No

Comments: Dear Senator Laura H. Thielen and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land, Please support Governor Ige's nomination of Ms. Suzanne Case for the position of DLNR chair. As managing member of 'Ohulehule Forest Conservancy, I have enjoyed the privilege of interacting with Ms. Case since 2012 regarding a project in Waikane and would like to share my experiences working with her. Several years ago, Ms. Case took my cold call requesting a meeting so that I could explain the vision and mission of 'Ohulehule Forest Conservancy for Waikane Valley (windward Ko'olau Mtns) and seek guidance based on her many years of experience in forest conservation. When I arrived at our meeting, Ms. Case had assembled a team of six TNC members to participate in the meeting. We talked for several hours and I left the meeting with many thoughts and suggestions as well as contacts of other people I should engage. A few weeks later, Ms. Case and several TNC members sojourned to Waikane to see firsthand the work being conducted, leading to more helpful suggestions. Mr. Sam Gon III, the senior scientist and cultural adviser for TNC, wrote a forest entrance oli for Waikane that we chant each time we enter Waikane's forest. Over the past several years Ms. Case has invited me to several TNC functions where I have met other practitioners in forest conservation. As a result of Ms. Case's and TNC's help and guidance, we were able to shorten the path to success regarding restoration of native Hawaiian forest at Waikane (with still much more work to do). During our interactions, I was heartened by the openness and friendliness that Ms. Case displayed. I was impressed by her knowledge of the technical aspects of forest restoration as well as her political and cultural awareness related to conservation issues. Based on my interactions with her over the past few years, I strongly believe that she will be an outstanding leader and steward serving well the Ige administration, the Hawai'i state legislature, the people of Hawai'i, and our precious and spectacular natural resources. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony. Yours sincerely, Paul L. Zweng Managing Member, 'Ohulehule Forest Conservancy, LLC Full disclosure: neither the 'Ohulehule Forest Conservancy nor Mr. Zweng have received any monetary benefit from Ms. Case or TNC.

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**Cc:** [malamaopuna@yahoo.com](mailto:malamaopuna@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 9:20:22 AM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Siracusa	Malama O Puna	Support	No

Comments: As an environmental nonprofit based on the Big Island, we have been aware of the work done by Suzanne Case over the years on behalf of the aina, her commitment to Hawaii and her administrative skills. We wholly support her nomination as Director of DLNR.

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**Cc:** [rgaffney@pacificboatsales.com](mailto:rgaffney@pacificboatsales.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 4:41:40 PM  
**Attachments:** [Case confirmation.doc](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rick Gaffney	Hawaii Fishing & Boating Association	Support	No

Comments:

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P.O. Box 1554  
Kailua Kona, HI 96745  
[www.hawaiifishingandboating.com](http://www.hawaiifishingandboating.com)

Senator Thielen and Members of the  
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Re: GM750

**Supporting** the confirmation of Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of  
Land & Natural Resources

We would like to offer our strong support for the confirmation of Suzanne Case as the  
new Chairperson of the Department of Land & Natural Resources.

Conscious of the complexity of this critical administrative position, and the breadth and  
importance of this job to the Hawaii of today and tomorrow, our Board of Directors, on  
behalf of our 1200+ members, can think of no one better prepared to take on the  
management of Hawaii's most important assets, her land and ocean resources.

Suzanne Case has proven her capability over years of managing and conserving some  
200,000 acres in Hawaii, as well as the pristine marine environment of Palmyra Atoll.  
She is smart, has solid legal training and management experience, and she was born and  
raised in this unique place called Hawaii, so it is part of her. Hawaii is in her heart.  
There may be no one in Hawaii today, better prepared and suited to taking on the  
immense responsibility of managing the state's Department of Land & Natural  
Resources.

Please vote to confirm Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land &  
Natural Resources, and urge your colleagues on the Senate floor to do the same.

Mahalo,

Rick Gaffney,  
President



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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Sunday, April 12, 2015 12:23:33 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/12/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronald Weidenbach	Hawaii Fish Company	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii Fish Company strong support the nomination of Ms. Suzanne Case for Chair of DLNR. She has demonstrated her knowledge of natural resources and her management abilities for the past 14 years as Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy in Hawaii . During this time she has worked effectively with the conservation and agriculture communities, finding common ground between conservation and agriculture which share many of the same values of caring for our natural resources. The Nature Conservancy has had a long record of rational, science-based analysis of conservation-related issues in Hawaii and Nationally. This expertise is urgently needed within DLNR to continue the excellent work of former Chair William Aila. Hawaii Fish Company strongly supports this nomination.

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**Subject:** FW: Submitted testimony for GM570 on Apr 17, 2015 08:30AM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:24:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [04-17-2015 Sen WTL GM 750 - Suzanne Case.docx](#)

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Another that should have been submitted to 750.

Best,  
Brooke  
Office of Sen. Baker

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:22 PM  
**To:** CPN Testimony  
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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM570 on Apr 17, 2015 08:30AM

**GM570**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for CPN on Apr 17, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherry Menor-McNamara	Chamber of Commerce Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, April 15, 2015 at 2:45 P.M.  
Conference Room 224, State Capitol**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 750 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SUZANNE CASE**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **strongly supports** the confirmation of Ms. Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Ms. Case's extensive career at the Nature Conservancy gave her experience in all aspects of natural resource management and real estate transactions. She not only participated in identifying areas that needed protection but also was involved in active natural resource management initiatives in the Pacific Region and on the west coast of the United States.

The DLNR Mission Statement is to:

"Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors."

The DLNR is comprised of nine (9) Divisions, one (1) Office and two (2) independent Commissions.

- Aquatic Resources Division (DAR)
- Bureau of Conveyances (BOC)
- Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR)
- Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE)
- Engineering Division (ENG)
- Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW)
- Land Division (LAND)
- State Parks (SP)



# Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

*The Voice of Business*

- State Historic Preservation (SHPD)
- Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL)
- Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM)
- Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC)

The DLNR is responsible for management of all state owned lands which is approximately 1.4 million of the total 4 million acres in the state and does not include all of the submerged lands within the State waters. DLNR is also responsible for management of the Conservation District which is comprised of approximately 1.9 million acres or roughly half of the land in the entire state.

These two areas of responsibility illustrate the need to have a responsible, balanced and transparent leadership in this department. As an owner of state lands, the DLNR is tasked with receiving the “highest and best” use of its lands in commercial operations. The DLNR must also weigh what uses could or should be allowed in the Conservation District through the Conservation District Use Application process. The focus here is not on the highest and best use but on protecting and conserving our natural resources.

Ms. Case is also adept at listening to all sides of a situation or problem and then working with all parties on a solution. This trait is essential in dealing with the broad range of issues and perspectives that involve the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

We believe she has the right temperament and intelligence to bring together contrasting views in seeking out the best decision for the Department. We strongly encourage the Senate to confirm Ms. Suzanne Case as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 7:38:41 AM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sophia cabral-maikui	Hawaii Forest Industry Association	Support	No

Comments: We are Hawaii Forest Industry Association supports Suzanne Case for the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. She has been a great job for the environment and has supported Ag for many years.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 11:45:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [SF-DLNR-SuzanneCase-Nomination-4-15-15.doc](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stuart Coleman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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April 15, 2015

To: Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the House Committee on Water & Land (WTL)  
Re: Strong Opposition to GM 750 (Suzanne Case's nomination to head up DLNR)  
Hrg: Wed., April 15, 2015 at 2:45pm Room 224

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of GM 750. The Surfrider Foundation rarely gets involved with the Governor's administrative appointments, but we support the current candidate to head up the Dept. of Lands and Natural Resources.

As a veteran of The Nature Conservancy, Suzanne Case has served as its Executive Director in Hawai'i since 2001. She oversees a Hawai'i program of 76 staff, 16 preserves totaling 53,000 acres, and an annual operating budget of \$11 million, working in native forest, coastal and marine conservation, directly and through partnerships, on six main Hawaiian Islands. So she is imminently qualified to oversee DLNR's staff and resources.

After the unsuccessful nomination of Carleton Ching, we are glad to see that the Governor has chosen such a strong leader to head up one of the state's largest and most important agencies in protecting our natural resources. The Surfrider Foundation's Hawaii Chapters have worked with the Dept. on several issues, including the current bills to create smoke-free beaches and parks in Hawaii and past bills to support funding for NARS Fund and other issues. And we look forward to working with Ms. Case and DLNR in helping to protect and improve Hawaii's beautiful environment.

As a keiki o ka 'aina with extensive experience in preserving Hawaii's natural resources, Suzanne Case is an excellent choice to head up DLNR. And we look forward to working with her. Mahalo for your consideration and leadership on this issue and let me know if you have any questions.

Aloha,  
Stuart Coleman  
Stuart H. Coleman  
Hawaii Coordinator

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**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 8:06:29 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Kellam	Friends of Pebble Beach	Support	No

Comments: Aloha! On behalf of The Friends of Pebble Beach and all of us who care deeply about our Hawai'i lands and reefs, I would like to show my sincere support for Ms. Case. I hope that she will be confirmed and use her expertise to deal with the many issues facing our state's natural resources. Mahalo, John & Susan Kellam

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, April 12, 2015 11:22:06 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/12/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wayne Shimokawa	Hawaii Pork Industry Assn.	Support	No

Comments:

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2015 4:58:02 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/15/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, April 13, 2015 1:13:06 PM

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
nani pogline	Puna Commisioner-GMAC	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the nomination of Suzanne Case as Chairperson for the DLNR because she is a person of special interest. It is very doubtful she would fairly represent the local people and their legal right to access, hunting, and gathering on public lands. She opposes the existence of game animals. This is not appropriate for a DLNR Chair.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 2:19:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [HFACT Case GM750.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Philip Fernandez	Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water & Land

From: Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc. (HFACT)  
Date: April 16, 2015  
Subject: Governor's Message 750  
Nomination of Suzanne Case, Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources

Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc. (HFACT) is a Hawaii 501(c)(5) organization that advocates for fishermen throughout the State of Hawaii. HFACT advocates for managed, where appropriate, fisheries that are based on science. Our goal is to have marine resources that are sustainable for generations to come.

HFACT opposes the appointment of Ms. Suzanne Case as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

HFACT opposes the appointment of Ms. Suzanne Case on the same basis that the Committee on Water and Land opposed Mr. Carleton Ching. While HFACT strongly believes in environmental protection and the conservation of natural resources for all residents of Hawaii, now and for the future generations, HFACT believes that Ms. Case is extreme on the side of preservation.

HFACT supports wise development and utilization of Hawaii's natural resources in a manner consistent with their conservation and in furtherance of the self-sustainability of the State.

Ms. Case mistakenly quotes that near shore fisheries have declined 75% over the last 100 years. There is no peer-reviewed scientific basis for this quote and this information is based on anecdotal information and landings data of reef fish. It is well known that landings of and consumption of reef fish have declined largely due to changes in consumer preferences toward pelagic fishes such as tuna, ono and mahimahi, and, the increase of ciguatera toxin introduced to previously pristine coral reefs. Total biomass of near shore marine resources have not declined 75% as Ms. Case alarmingly claims. This is a clear example of bias against wise utilization and bias toward protection.

HFACT, therefore, asks that the Committee delve into questions such as:

Is there a threat to transparency and the potential for bias as presented by the environmental community?

What examples of leadership and managerial skills does Ms. Case bring from the Nature Conservancy, with a singular objective and goal over nearly 30 years, that will enable her to fulfill the mission of an organization with a multiplicity of goals and objectives such as DLNR?

What is Ms. Case's vision for the DLNR to balance between protection and development and utilization of our natural resources?

How does Ms. Case differentiate between "conservation" and "preservation"?

What are Ms. Case's views on the growing federalism the State faces with the numerous protected resources and Sanctuary initiatives currently at hand, including the recent Pacific

***Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.***  
***P.O. Box 240813 Honolulu, HI 96824-0813***

Remote Islands National Marine Monument, Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Monument, and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whales National Marine Sanctuary?

How does she plan to implement "science-based" protocols into resource monitoring and management of the natural resources entrusted to the DLNR given the lack of fiscal resources facing the State?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fernandez", written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Phil Fernandez

President, Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 5:37:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM750 - Suzanne Case.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stefanie Sakamoto	Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
April 17, 2015

Testimony in opposition to GM 750: Nomination of Suzanne Case

To: The Honorable Laura Thielen, Chair  
The Honorable Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Committee

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am testifying on behalf of Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto, a company that was founded by my father in 1985. In addition to producing a fishing show in Hawaii for 15 years, Mike Sakamoto was a tireless fishing advocate. He helped pioneer the “catch-and-release” concept in Hawaii, and was the first person to showcase the practice on television. He long fought for conservation in fishing, and spent much of his life teaching responsible fishing practices, with the goal of preserving recreational fishing for future generations.

We are in opposition to the nomination of Ms. Suzanne Case to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The DLNR has many duties, which includes the management of Hawaii’s coastlines, public fishing areas, state parks, game management areas, and other outdoor recreational facilities. Ms. Case’s long tenure with the Nature Conservancy comes into direct conflict with some of the duties of the DLNR. An individual with the right balance of land, ocean, and outdoor recreation management experience and knowledge is what the people of Hawaii need in a DLNR Chairperson. Ms. Case is not that person, and her record reflects that.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Stefanie Y. Sakamoto

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Sunday, April 12, 2015 11:48:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [Suzanne Case 3.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/12/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Lodge	hawaii hunting association	Oppose	No

Comments:

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## ***To Preserve, Promote, and Protect Public Hunting in Hawaii***

April 12, 2015

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Chair Laura Thielen  
Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria

In Reference to Governors Message 750, Nomination of Suzanne Case to  
Chairperson of DLNR  
Friday, April 17, 2015; 2:45 PM. Conference Room 224

To the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

While it is recognized the skills that Suzanne Case might bring to a DLNR that needs a responsible management team, we must **OPPOSE** such a nominee for not only philosophical reason, but more importantly for one that brings an impression of impropriety and conflict.

That one would nominate Ms. Case in light of the debacle surrounding Carlton Ching, nominated to run DLNR like a business, you now have the same circumstances but from a different though equally passionate perspective.

The Nature Conservancy is dedicated to a fence, snare, and eradicate stratagem as a management practice in Hawaii. This contradicts in every sense the term, resource management. Her organization has consistently rejected outright, proposed strategies and solutions to game management. This is the person who is going to have to hire a qualified wildlife biologist dedicated to a game management program.

Is she independent enough to force DLNR to follow the rules instead of a convenient waiver from the Land Board every time DLNR wants to circumnavigate public input from Environmental Assessments and Impact Statements?

Does she have the objective viewpoint to administer a Department to which the Nature Conservancy and a host of other partners have and continue to share favor from DLNR but has yet to commit to giving a qualified voice to the very people to whom her decisions will affect the most?

DLNR needs dedicated and qualified leadership. DLNR needs an impartial leader who will vigorously right a rudderless ship and start bringing a professional attitude of service to the **public**. It is unfortunate that an obviously qualified land manager and Executive Officer has to be such an egregious choice to run DLNR and as such force us to vigorously oppose this nomination sans a bonafide public commitment to resource users that they have an equal voice in management decisions affecting our introduced and sustainable resources.

With much Aloha to the committee,

Tom Lodge  
Hawaii Hunting Association  
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Keaau, HI 96749  
(808) 982-4747  
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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/13/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Willie-Joe Camara	National Wild Turkey Federation	Oppose	No

Comments: The Volcano Island chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation strongly opposes the nomination of Susanne Case for Chairperson of the DLNR. We feel that there is a huge conflict of interest in her being part of the Nature Conservancy. Our state is in great need of a game management program and that is complete opposite of the values that TNC strive for. Mahalo for your time.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM750 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 3:24:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM 750.pdf](#)

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**GM750**

Submitted on: 4/16/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Kohatsu	Hawaii Sportsmen's Alliance	Comments Only	No

Comments: See attached testimony .pdf. file.

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CONSERVATION | TRADITION | SUSTAINABILITY

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Senate Committee on  
WATER & LAND

Friday, April 17, 2015  
Room 224  
2:45PM  
GM 750

The Hawaii Sportsmen's Alliance **COMMENTS ON GM 750** to appoint Suzanne Case to the Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The Alliance requests that the committee closely examine and ask the nominee to address and resolve any potential or perceived conflicts of interest before taking the position. The Nature Conservancy, her current employer, has various corporate support and interests represented. It would be ethical and professionally prudent she resigns from all responsibilities within the organization, receives no further compensation or donations from the organization while serving, and be subject to financial disclosure rules of government board and commission members.

The Nature Conservancy is a leading organization for the PRESERVATION of natural spaces. However, public interests often conflict with preservation non-use interests for a more conservation or wise-use of resource interest. The Alliance urges the committee to request the nominee commit to a balanced approach between conservation and preservation and commit to methods of conflict resolution between the interests.

It is the Alliance stance that conservation principles over preservation usually serve more public interests and has been neglected over the years from the DLNR. We strongly urge the committee to examine the nominee's commitment to conserving public natural resources over "preserving" natural resources.

We all live on an island state of limited natural resources. To simply cut off natural resource use for a preservation model is indicative of a failure to conserve. It is more involvement and work to promote traditional conservation principles. However, we must, if we are to maintain as many personal connections as we can to our natural world.

---

Mahalo,

Ryan Kohatsu

Board Member

Hawaii Sportsmen's Alliance

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hawaiisportsmensalliance/>