

GM 811

Testimony –

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MATT MCDERMOTT, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

Report Title: Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: HEA

Introducer(s):

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS**

**Thursday, April 16, 2015
2:00PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 811
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII'
HISTORIC PLACES REVIEW BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MATT
MCDERMOTT, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 811, nominating Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board to expire June 30, 2018.

The Hawaii Historic Places Review Board (Board) is established under Section 6E-5.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Board duties include ordering and entering historic properties onto the Hawaii Register of Historic Places, making recommendations regarding nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, and reviewing the state survey and the content of the State Historic Preservation Plan.

Mr. McDermott attended the University of Hawai'i where he earned his MA in Anthropology with emphasis in Archaeology. He has over 25 years of experience working in the field and is currently a project manager at Cultural Surveys Hawai'i Inc. He has extensive experience facilitating historic preservation consultation between various groups and working with properties listed on the Hawaii and National Registers. His understanding and implementation of state and national preservation

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

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

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ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
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BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

law is respected throughout the Hawai'i's preservation community. Mr. McDermott's strong understanding of Hawai'i's archaeological resources and positive attitude will make great contributions to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. McDermott's valuable knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board until June 30, 2018.

From: [Scanlon, Elizabeth](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811-Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board)
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:38:31 PM

Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Dear Distinguished Members,

I write to offer my support of Mr. Matt McDermott for a position on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I have worked with Mr. McDermott for the past several years on the rail transit project throughout the Archaeological Survey Inventory process. I find Mr. McDermott to be highly professional, fair, and honest in his approach to work. I admire his ability to remain objective as well as calm when considering sensitive issues. Mr. McDermott has a very strong work ethic, and is willing to absolutely go the distance to get the job done. He has a high degree of integrity. Further, Mr. McDermott is a leader in his field. I know that he will be a valuable addition to the Review Board, where he will offer his expertise and professionalism. I urge you to support his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration,

Very Respectfully,

Elizabeth Scanlon
Director of Planning & Right of Way
Honolulu Authority for Transportation

From: [Grabauskas, Dan](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811 - Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 9:54:57 AM

15 April 2015

Aloha mai kakou,

I respectfully submit this letter of support for the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott, MA to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. McDermott for three years in my tenure as Executive Director and CEO of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART).

I became acquainted with Mr. McDermott during his work for HART on our project-wide Archaeological Inventory Survey (AIS), which was completed with quality for HART under a compressed timeline and expedited schedule. He has completed other major tasks for HART, including helping HART establish respectful treatment protocols for *iwi kupuna* discovered along HART's 20-mile planned rail corridor. He has also presented detailed reports regarding this work to the Oahu Island Burial Council and to the Hawai'i State Historic Preservation Division staff, among others.

Matt has always exhibited the highest level of professionalism coupled with an utmost respect for Hawai'i's historic fabric and native culture and traditions. HART's own recognized cultural descendants, who enforce the highest standards of practice and rigorous cultural protocols, align themselves with his decisions and commitments. I have witnessed first-hand the tremendous respect they have for his work and for his professional opinion on highly sensitive matters. He has demonstrated a consistent ethical and respectful stance in the treatment of *iwi* and historic artifacts partnered with his extensive knowledge of relevant federal and state laws.

I offer my unequivocal support of Matt McDermott to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Grabauskas
Executive Director and CEO
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART)

From: [Farm, Kawika](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Support for GM 811- Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 1:06:56 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

The Hawaii Historic Places Review Board has the important role of “*deciding whether a property should be entered and ordered into the Hawai'i Register*” based on whether that “*property meets or possesses significance in Hawaiian history, architecture, archaeology, and culture. Some of the other criteria considered by the board include association with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of our history; association with the lives of persons significant in our past; possession of high artistic value; designs and techniques typical of a time period; or potential to yield information important in prehistory or history.*”

Matthew McDermott has over two decades of experience in archaeology. I have known and worked with Mr. McDermott for over three years, first as Oahu's burial sites specialist for the State Historic Preservation Division and currently as the cultural planner for Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation. During that time, I had many meetings, read many documents (burial treatment plans, archaeological inventory surveys, archaeological monitoring plans and others) and conducted many site visits with Mr. McDermott where I was able to learn a great deal. In all instances, Mr. McDermott exhibits utmost professionalism; by being punctual, timely, following through on commitments and being honest about limitations. Mr. McDermott has a keen understanding of federal and state codes, statutes and rules that pertains to preservation. That understanding coupled with his experience in archaeology will ensure Mr. McDermott provides sound balanced decisions.

I support the gubernatorial appointment of Matthew McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Sincerely,

Kawika Farm

Kawika Farm
Cultural Planner
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 1700
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: 808-768-8351
Fax: 808-768-6178

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

FROM: Sara L. Collins, Ph.D.
President, Society for Hawaiian Archaeology
Email: sara.l.collins.sha@gmail.com

HEARING: Thursday, April 16, 2015, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 224

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of GM 811, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MATT MCDERMOTT, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

I am Dr. Sara Collins, President of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 150 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. I am testifying in support of GM 811 which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, Mr. Matt McDermott.

Mr. McDermott is a member in good standing of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology and an established and respected member of our professional community. Mr. McDermott has worked in archaeology in Hawai'i since 1988 and has been a principal investigator for cultural resource management projects since 2001. During the course of his career in cultural resource management, Mr. McDermott has assisted a wide range of public and private sector clients with historic preservation compliance at both the State and Federal levels. We believe that he will be a good addition to the Review Board and hope he will be able to work with his fellow Board members in nominating more archaeological sites and traditional cultural properties to the Hawai'i and National Registers of Historic Preservation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email address.

From: [David Shideler](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811 Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board testimony in support of the appointment of Matt McDermott
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 3:37:59 PM

Aloha Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA)

I am pleased to submit testimony in support of the (GM 811) nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Matt McDermott for twenty years and am very familiar with his very substantial knowledge about Hawaiian archaeology, historic properties in Hawai'i , and the federal and state historic review process.

Matt McDermott is a team player and I am completely confident that he would be an excellent choice for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I can attest to his good character, sound judgement and acumen.

Matt McDermott will bring a cooperative, can-do spirit to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board and a wealth of knowledge and experience with Hawaii's precious heritage of historic places that few can equal.

Mahalo for your consideration of this whole-hearted endorsement in support for Matt McDermott's nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Aloha.

David Shideler
Cultural Surveys Hawai'i
PO Box 1114
Kailua, HI 96734
PH: (808) 262-9972
Fax: (808) 262-4950
dshideler@culturalsurveys.com

From: [Chris Monahan](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Governor's Message Number (GM 811)--Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Saturday, April 11, 2015 3:22:59 PM

To: Hawaii State Senate's Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA)

Re: Support for the nomination of Matt McDermott, M.A., to Hawaii Historic Places Review Board

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my unconditional support for the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott, M.A., to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. As a professional archaeologist with 14 years of supervisory experience in Hawaii, I have worked with Matt in many capacities since 2006, including as his colleague and co-manager at Cultural Surveys Hawaii, Inc., and as a regulator (in my past role as Oahu Lead Archaeologist for the State Historic Preservation Division) of his work. Based on more than 20 years of professional, supervisory experience in Hawaii, Matt's knowledge, skills and abilities in archaeology and the historic preservation review process, including a thorough command of the laws and administrative rules, qualifies him for this important position. Matt has a reputation for a high level of professionalism and is widely recognized by members of the various stakeholder communities in Hawaii as an expert in his field. Please support the governor's nomination of Matt McDermott, M.A., to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

With aloha,

Christopher M. Monahan, Ph.D.
President, Archaeologist
TCP Hawaii, LLC

From: [Michael Pietrusewsky](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 10:16:12 AM

I write in strong support of the Governor David Ige's nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I have known Matt since he was a graduate student at the University of Hawaii Manoa. He wrote an excellent thesis in archaeology on "The Historical Ecology of Coastal Kihei, District of Kula, Maui" and received his M.A. from UHM in 2001. Since then, I have kept in touch with him and his work in Cultural Resource Management in the State. In addition to his wealth of knowledge in Hawaiian archaeology, Mr. McDermott has demonstrated great sensitivity to the cultural values of Hawaii's people, both indigenous and non-indigenous. I cannot think of a more qualified nomination for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Thank you.

Michael Pietrusewsky, Professor of Anthropology, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

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Michael Pietrusewsky, Ph.D., DABFA, Fellow-AAFS
Professor of Anthropology
University of Hawaii at Manoa
2424 Maile Way, Saunders Hall 346
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 U.S.A.
Tel. 808-956-6653
Fax: 808-956-9541
<http://www.anthropology.hawaii.edu/People/Faculty/Pietrusewsky/index.html>



April 10, 2015

Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair, Senate Committee
Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA)
Hawaii State Capitol
Via email: HEAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: Number (GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board)

Dear Chairman Taniguchi:

It is with great pleasure that I write this testimony to support the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Mr. McDermott for eight years and we have collaborated in the historic and archaeological aspects of several projects including Ala Moana Center, Ward Centers, Whalers Village in Maui, and Ala Moana Rail station. During all this time Mr. McDermott has always shown the highest level of knowledge, professionalism, and ethics, providing a balance approach to development and heritage while always standing firm to do "the right thing".

Mr. McDermott recent historic and archaeological research at the Ala Moana Center Ewa Expansion, was crucial to the 2015 award the Center is now receiving from the Historic Hawaii's Foundation. This is clear evidence of the quality and depth of his work.

For this reasons, I strongly support Mr. McDermott nomination.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francisco Gutierrez', written over a horizontal line.

Francisco Gutierrez
General Growth Properties

From: [Mitsunaga Construction](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Matt McDermott \(Cultural Surveys Hawaii\)](#)
Subject: Governor's Message Number: GM811 - Nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 1:57:36 PM

To: Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

I have personally worked with Mr. Matt McDermott the past four years on various projects that involved discovery of ancient burials. Mr. McDermott displayed great knowledge in the process and coordination of resolving concerns of the various interested parties that ultimately resulted in conclusions that were acceptable to everyone. He did this in a very professional manner while maintaining a calm demeanor in advancing a solution. I believe his honest integrity along with his knowledge of Hawaiian archeology, including the historic preservation review process, made it easier for everyone to accept and work with Mr. McDermott.

I believe he is a great nominee who can contribute much to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I strongly urge his confirmation.

Glenn M. Okino
President
Mitsunaga Construction, Inc.
1035 Mikole Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-841-3446
Fax: 808-841-3447

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

Thursday, April 16, 2015, 2:00 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 224

**Re: GM 811 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaii
Historic Places Review Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MATT
MCDERMOTT, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.**

Chair Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of the nomination of Matt McDermott to serve as a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Matt for several years in his role as an archaeologist with Cultural Surveys Hawaii.

Through these experiences, I found Matt to be professional, knowledgeable, reasonable, and of the highest character in working with landowners, the community and regulators on archaeological sites and burials. It was very refreshing that Matt was always accessible, responsive, and collaborative in his work. He followed up on commitments and timely responded. Matt has great energy and a very strong work ethic. I have the highest regard for his abilities to work with regulators, the community and landowners.

I most respectfully urge you to confirm Matt McDermott as a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Please feel free to contact me at (808) 544-8300 if you have any questions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments.

J. Douglas Ing
Managing Partner
Watanabe Ing LLP

From: [Jeff Overton](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board (Support for Matt McDermott)
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 1:25:05 PM

Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA).

Aloha Committee Chair and Members:

This testimony is in support of the nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Matt is especially talented in the review of historic properties and professional archaeology. We have two decades of experience working together, and he has shown exceptional intelligence and passion in the field of historic resources preservation. Matt communicates challenging issues with respect in community settings, and is very capable participant in organizational meetings. We expect he will serve well in this committee role.

Mahalo, Jeff Overton

Jeffrey H. Overton, AICP, LEED-AP

Principal, Group 70 International, Inc.

Architecture | Civil Engineering | Planning & Environment | Interior Design | Technology

808-351-4200 Group70int.com

From: [Joseph Lapilio](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811 Nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 4:47:00 PM

April 16, 2015

TO: Senator Brian Taniguchi
Chairman, Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

FROM: Joseph W. Lapilio III
President, Na Ki`i Ku LLC
87-151 Liliana Street
Waianae, HI 96792

SUBJECT: GM 811, Nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board

Testimony in Support

Aloha Chairman Taniguchi and members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts. I am pleased to submit testimony in support of the nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

As a part of my work, I provide meeting facilitation services to the Honolulu Area Rapid Transit project and for the past three years these facilitation services have included consultation meetings with Native Hawaiians and Recognized Cultural Descendants interested in issues relating to the protection of `iwi kupuna, traditional cultural properties and other historic and archaeological concerns.

I met Matt McDermott in the course of these meetings in his role as a resource person to the Native Hawaiian community. Matt's role was to work with Native Hawaiian participants through the process of developing a burial treatment plan for `iwi discovered along the rail route, reviewing the project's Archaeological Inventory Survey and developing a cultural

monitoring plan for cultural practitioners who work in the field to ensure proper treatment of kupuna discovered during construction.

There are three characteristics of this nominee that I believe make him an excellent choice for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

First is his absolute conviction and command of the science. Matt's attention to detail and his conviction on the facts as they present themselves provides a forum for discussion clear of conjecture and subjective interpretation. In an environment that can sometimes be contentious and emotional, having information presented free of interpretation and unencumbered by the agendas of others removed any ability to dispute the facts. Providing information objectively and with respect for the participants at these meeting developed the trust needed in both the message and the messenger.

Second, is Matt's ability to listen to what others have to say and to help transform their ideas and suggestions into proposals that he would bring back to the group for their review and approval. Using his expertise in the subject matter, these proposals helped create new approaches to how we will treat our history, not only for rail but for many projects to come.

And lastly, Matt McDermott has both the sensitivity and insight to treat our history and our historical sites with respect and care.

I encourage the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts to confirm Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo

Joseph W. Lapilio III

Cell Phone: (808) 265-3975

From: [Kaleo Patterson](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: the Governor's Message Number (GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board)
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 12:01:27 PM

Matt McDermott would make an excellent Board member, of the HHP Review Board. He is an outstanding Historian and Archeologist of Hawaii, and has the ability to see the critical junctures upon which decisions must be based and made. His work in both the community, private sector, and government, makes him well adept to traverse the responsibilities he will have as a public servant with due diligence and utmost capacity. I have working with him and alongside of him in projects for many years, and have always seen him willing to be the first to roll up his sleeves, and the last to close down the work for the day. I highly recommend him to be an excellent nomination and asset to the Board

Rev. Dr. Kaleo Patterson
President,
Pacific Justice and Reconciliation Center
Priest,
The Episcopal Church of Hawaii

Sent from my iPhone
Rev. Dr. Kaleo Patterson
808 330-3769
kaleop@me.com

April 14, 2015

Re: GM 811 – Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board

The Hawaii Historic Places Review Board is an important piece of the whole preservation and protection process. Their kuleana is not only for the preservation and protection of historic buildings but also for Hawaiian sense of place. Too often this piece is overlooked as the need for housing and other development tips the balance. The Board serves to view the process using three disciplines, Hawaiian culture, architecture and archaeology. Individuals sitting on this Board must have a collective ability to make decisions protecting all three areas.

I have personally worked with Mr. McDermott over the years on projects. While employed at State Historic Preservation Division, I monitored his work through the cultural component. In the private sector, I have worked with him on projects such as HART, Hawea, and burial findings on numerous projects, just to name a few.

His knowledge and understanding of archaeology in sync with cultural importance has made our relationship mutually respected. Therefore, I, strongly approve this nomination for this Board.

I have been authorized to write this letter of support on behalf of the following organizations, all of which are Hawaiian organizations:

Aha Wahine
Malama Naau o Poe
Hoi Mai Ka Lei I Mamo

Kaleo Paik
President, Aha Wahine



GM 811

**Matt McDermott, M.A.
Hawaii Historic Places Review Board**

**Lani Ma'a Lapilio
President, Aukahi**

APRIL 14, 2015

Aloha Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts:

It is an honor and privilege to provide this letter of support for the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott M.A. to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. Matt is an experienced archaeologist and cultural resource management professional and responsible for a wide range of managerial, field work and research duties for Cultural Surveys Hawai'i.

I have known Matt for over ten years as a respected colleague and friend having worked together on many projects. He is a tremendous asset to any project and has earned the respect of both project proponents and cultural stakeholders alike. He is a hard worker and is well known for the high quality of his work as well as his reliability and integrity.

Matt is very familiar with the legal framework of the historic preservations laws and rules and how the Register criteria is interpreted and applied. Most important he is a true partner and collaborator – always seeking to bring people together and helping to move things forward. He has cultivated excellent relationships with cultural stakeholders as well as key decision makers and staff, both in the government and in the private sector.

Matt is highly qualified and very well suited for a position on the Review Board. I wholeheartedly support this recommendation. Mahalo nui loa for your time and favorable consideration in this matter.

From: [Sarah Wilkinson](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Matt McDermott](#)
Subject: GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 4:08:37 PM

Aloha,

This message is to express support for the confirmation of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. As Mr. McDermott's colleague for the past several years in the field of cultural resource management, I am confident in stating that he is extremely knowledgeable about Hawaiian archaeology and the historic preservation review process. Mr. McDermott is esteemed by his peers and would be a valuable asset to the Review Board.

Thank you,

Sarah Wilkinson

Sarah Wilkinson

Director, Hawai'i Island Office

Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, Inc.



Pacific Basin – O‘ahu
30 Aulike Street, Suite 301
Kailua, HI 96734

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www.pacificlegacy.com

14 April 2015

Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

VIA EMAIL:
HEAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: GM 811 - Nomination to the Hawai‘i Historic Places Review Board

Dear Mr. Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I am writing you with my unqualified support of Mr. Matt McDermott to be confirmed as a member of the Hawai‘i Historic Review Board. I am a professional archaeologist who has conducted archaeological investigations in Hawai‘i for over 40 years. I have known Matt McDermott for several years and know of his work for many more. I find Matt to be an honorable man of high integrity with considerable knowledge of Hawaiian archaeology and the historic preservation review process. Matt McDermott would make an excellent addition to the Hawai‘i Historic Places Review Board.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding confirmation of Matt McDermott.

Aloha,

Paul L. Cleghorn, Ph.D.
Principal and Senior Archaeologist

**Pacific Basin -
Hawai‘i Island**
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Hilo, HI 96720
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510.524.4419 Fax

Sierra/Central Valley
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El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
916.358.5156 Ph.
916.358.5161 Fax

**Inland Empire/ Mojave
Desert**
44702 10th St. West
Lancaster, CA 93534
661.729.9395 Ph.
661.729.9417 Fax

From: vkimura@kyo-yaco.com
To: [HEA Testimony](#); [Sen. Brian Taniguchi](#); [Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye](#)
Cc: [Sen. Mike Gabbard](#); [Sen. Gilbert Kahele](#); [Sen. Michelle Kidani](#); [Sen. Glenn Wakai](#); [Sen. Sam Slom](#)
Subject: GM 811- Mr. Matt McDermott- Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 2:32:50 PM
Importance: High

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Chair, Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senate Committee Members on Higher Education and the Arts
Senator Mike Gabbard, Senator Gilbert Kahele, Senator Michelle Kidani, Senator Glenn Wakai,
and Senator Sam Slom
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 811- Nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board

Aloha,

My name is Victor T. Kimura, with Kyo-ya Management Company Ltd, and we are submitting written testimony in Favor of Mr. Matt McDermott's nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

We have had the pleasure and honor of working with Mr. McDermott on various projects relating to Kyo-ya's planning for redevelopment or renovations specifically referencing our hotel properties in Waikiki.

We have observed and found that Mr. McDermott's careful and thoughtful work relating to archaeological fieldwork a tribute to our 'iwi' kupuna, and his sensitivity to our local host Hawaiian culture a tremendous asset in his work ethics.

Mr. McDermott, in his capacity as Project Manager for Cultural Surveys Hawaii, has demonstrated his detailed knowledge of both Federal and Hawaii State Preservation and Environmental legislation regarding to Cultural Resource Management, and his passion and interests with over 25 years as an archaeologist and cultural resource management professional is a benefit to our State of Hawaii.

Mr. McDermott has demonstrated his understanding and his ability to listen, understand, and address important issues with the acknowledged and recognized cultural and lineal

descendants of the area; and we have observed, the respect that is noted by these recognized descendants of his capabilities and respect to our host culture.

We request your kind consideration for Mr. McDermott to the nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board, and should any questions arise, please kindly call me at 808-931-8622 or by email at: ykimura@kyo-yaco.com.

We thank you for your consideration for the nomination of Mr. McDermott.

Aloha and Mahalo,

Victor T. Kimura

Senior Vice President

Kyo-ya Management Company, Ltd.

2255 Kalakaua Avenue

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: 808-931-8622

Email: ykimura@kyo-yaco.com

From: [Vicki Creed](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony GM 811,
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 9:36:07 PM

Victoria S. Creed, President
Waihona Aina Corp.
1057 Lunaanela St.
Kailua, HI 96734

April 10, 2015

HEAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA).
Testimony GM 811, In support of the nomination of Matt McDermott to be on
the [Hawaii Historic Places Review Board](#)

I am thrilled to support Mr. Matt McDermott for a position on the Hawaii
Historic Places Review Board. I have known Matt for more than 10 years. I
believe he is especially well-suited for this position, because he not only knows
his Hawaiian archaeology really well, but he has travelled to Middle America
and to Europe and he has the broad perspective on national treasures.

Matt is courteous, respectful, has an even temper and is very bright. He is a
good listener. He is great to work for or with. I remember being at St. Point
with Matt and crew one time and he explained how the large blocks of
pahoehoe lava near the caves were actual instruments for forming and making
tools. It made me look at my surroundings with more respect. Matt has also
been well indoctrinated with Hawaii State Laws, Federal Laws and protocols
for dealing with historic properties and I think he would be a wonderful asset
on the Review Board.

Thank you so much for allowing me to speak on Matt's behalf.
Victoria S. Creed

--

Vicki Creed
Waihona Aina
Kailua, Hawaii
Phone: (808) 261-8822
Fax: (808) 363-4950
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CULTURAL SURVEYS HAWAII

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, CULTURAL, AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION SERVICES - SINCE 1982



April 14, 2015

Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA)

Subject: GM 811 – Nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

Dear Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA):

I write this letter on behalf of my colleague, Mr. Matt McDermott, Archaeological Project Manager for Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, Inc., (CSH). For the past thirteen years I have worked and witnessed the excellence of Mr. McDermott's work, commitment and dedication in the discipline of Hawaiian Archaeology.

Mr. McDermott is a professional in all aspects of his work. *Pi`i i ka nu`u*, an old Hawaiian proverb best speaks of Mr. McDermott, for as it says, "Strive for excellence". This best describes his work here at CSH and throughout Hawai'i nei.

Mahalo for the time to write in support of his nomination.

Me ka ha`aha`a,

Aulii Mitchell

Cultural Director

Cultural Surveys Hawai'i

O'ahu Island

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Kailua, Hawai'i 96734
Ph: (808) 262-9972
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From: [Gilliland, Barbara](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: ["Matt McDermott"](#)
Subject: GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board - Matt McDermott
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:28:16 AM

Dear HEA Committee Members:

I'm writing in support of approval of Mr. Matt McDermott's nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. While working on the Honolulu rail project as the planning director for Parsons Brinckerhoff, I worked with Matt and other Cultural Surveys Hawai'i staff. Matt, was the program director responsible for the completion of multiple Archaeological Inventory Surveys for the project.

Matt is a highly respected member of the Hawai'i community. He is very knowledgeable about the cultural and historic development of the islands and brings a high degree of sensitivity and respect to maintaining a written/visual record preserving that heritage. I witnessed on multiple occasions Matt's patience and proactive sharing of his historical knowledge as well as knowledge of the historic preservation process to many different audiences. The project had (and continues to have) ongoing dialog with government entities including the O'ahu Island Burial Council (OIBC) and consultation with native Hawaiian individuals on the protection of ancestral burials. He often presents work plans to various audiences, including presenting information to the general public, ensuring that sensitive information is protected and honored in accordance with the wishes of native families.

Matt and his team were always very responsive to agency requirements, safety issues in the field during excavations and the need to provide information required and requested by oversight groups. Often a difficult task given the multiple jobs that were going on at the same time. He was responsive as well as proactive in ensuring everyone was kept informed of the status of the on-going work.

In addition, Matt always had a can do attitude. Completion of the HART AIS's was fast and complicated in order to address court decisions as well as needs to move the project forward. Through it all Matt maintained a proactive and positive demeanor, maintained critical relationships with State Historic Preservation Department staff, OIBC staff and HART representatives. I believe that Matt will be an excellent addition to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board and will bring an extensive body of knowledge regarding Hawaiian cultural development and a deep understanding of the preservation process that will serve the Hawaiian community well.

Sincerely,

Barbara Gilliland, AICP

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From: [Brian Takeda](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Nomination of Matt McDermott, Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 9:27:13 AM

Dear Senate Committee,

This is an endorsement of Matt McDermott, Archaeologist, to the Board. Matt has provided archaeological and historical reviews for a number of projects serving the public and private sectors. He has at all times demonstrated a depth of professional knowledge and ability to consider all stakeholder concerns in a sensitive and conscientious but objective manner. I believe these qualities would serve the Board well.

BT

From: [David Striph](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Governor's message Number GM 811- Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Sunday, April 12, 2015 12:34:12 PM

Aloha members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

I understand that Matt McDermott has been nominated to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I highly recommend Mr. McDermott for this position. I have been acquainted with Matt for several years now as he has been instrumental in working with us on the Ward Neighborhood Master Plan as noted below:

Ward Neighborhood Master Plan Development, Kaka'ako, O'ahu

Company: Victoria Ward, Limited / Howard Hughes Corporation

Project Dates: 2010 – On-going

Duties: The Ward Neighborhood Master Plan entails the development of 60 plus acres of urban Honolulu, with street and utility improvements, multiple high-rise residences, and commercial and park/recreation spaces. As the development's archaeological Principal Investigator, Mr. McDermott has worked closely with the project proponents, the State Historic Preservation Division, the Native Hawaiian Community, and the O'ahu Island Burial Council to provide appropriate historic preservation services. This includes literature reviews and archaeological sensitivity predictive models, archaeological inventory survey plans and surveys, and archaeological mitigation programs, including preservation, burial treatment, data recovery, and monitoring. To date, Mr. McDermott has either authored or served as the principal investigator for approximately 25 different reports and plans related to this development project. Mr. McDermott facilitated the consultation with recognized cultural descendants, SHPD, and the OIBC that resulted in appropriated significance determinations and mitigation decisions for identified archaeological features and deposits, including iwi kupuna (human remains).

Matt's work with the Howard Hughes Corporation and his tremendous experience with cultural and archaeological processes prepares him to be a very productive member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Mahalo,

David Striph
Senior Vice President-Hawaii
The Howard Hughes Corporation

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April 13, 2015

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS

TESTIMONY OF DAWN N.S. CHANG, PRINCIPAL OF KU'IWALU CONSULTING

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 811

GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MATT MCDERMOTT
Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

The Honorable Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in SUPPORT of Matt McDermott's gubernatorial nomination to serve on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. I have known Mr. McDermott for over 15 years working on projects such as The Howard Hughes Corporation, General Growth Properties, HART and Turtle Bay Resort.

As an archaeologist with Cultural Survey's Hawai'i and his extensive background, Mr. McDermott will be an important and major asset to the board. It is this wealth of knowledge and experience that uniquely qualifies Mr. McDermott not only represent the archaeological perspective on the Historic Places Review Board (HPRB) but he also brings a cultural sensitivity through his work on these various projects. He regularly and consistently attends consultation meetings with consultants, developers and cultural and lineal descendants who have a connection to the land. His participation in these consultation meetings provides everyone a better understanding of the historical and archaeological background of the project. He always conducts himself professionally when faced with challenging issues.

I respectfully ask that Matt McDermott's nomination receive the consent of your committee and be forwarded to the full Senate for confirmation. I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on Mr. McDermott's nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

DAWN N.S. CHANG
Principal

From: [Derek Maurer](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Re: Matt McDermott
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 11:14:21 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

I am writing in support of Matt McDermott. I have known and worked with Matt for the past year on the newest Hilton property the Grand Islander. Matt as a representative of Cultural Surveys Hawaii has lead the Archaeological effort at the site and has done so in the most professional manor. His straight forward approach in understanding the issues and presenting them in a matter of fact way is both refreshing and appreciated by ownership as it allows for clear open discussion in the decision making process. I feel Matt would make an excellent member of the State Historic Preservation Board and support his nomination.

Sincerely,

Derek L. Maurer

Director, Project Management
Architecture & Construction



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April 14, 2015

Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
HEAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Subject: GM 811 – Nomination to Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Mr. Matt McDermott

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

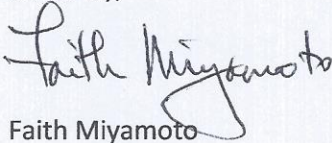
This is being written to support the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I am Faith Miyamoto, who formerly was the Chief Planner at the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART), until my retirement at the end of 2013. At HART, I was responsible for the planning work and completion of environmental studies for the Honolulu Rail Transit Project. During this time, I worked closely with Mr. McDermott on the archaeological studies for the project.

While working with Mr. McDermott, I was impressed by his vast knowledge of Hawaii's history and the federal and State laws that protect historic resources. I believe that these attributes will serve him well as a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Therefore, I urge you to confirm Mr. McDermott's nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faith Miyamoto". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "F" and "M".

Faith Miyamoto

From: [Gary Furuta](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Governor's Message Number (GM 811<Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board) Mr. Matt McDermott
Date: Sunday, April 12, 2015 2:10:45 PM

To the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts...

I wholeheartedly endorse the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I am a developer of very low-income rental housing projects in Hawaii and am a business acquaintance of Matt for many years, having worked together on several projects over the years. I first worked with him in 2005 on the Ainahau Vista senior affordable rental project in Waikiki, then more recently on the Hale Mohalu II senior and family rental master planned project in Pearl City, and presently again on the proposed Ainahau Vista II project to add more direly needed senior affordable rentals in Waikiki.

I can honestly say that without the expertise and assistance of Matt with respect to the archaeological and cultural encounters at the above-mentioned locations, we may never have been able to complete the low-income family and Kupuna rental projects. With his professionalism, character, experience and demeanor, along with his relationships and interactions with the DLNR, SHPD, Burial Council and recognized cultural descendants, in all instances Matt has been able to coordinate the needs and desires of all concerned to their satisfaction.

In my humble opinion, I believe Mr. Matt McDermott's educational background, professional experience and sensitivity make him a perfect candidate for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I support his nomination.

Aloha. Gary Furuta

From: [Hallett Hammatt](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Haven Giannasio](#)
Subject: Testimony in favor of the nomination of Mr Matthew McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 12:38:50 PM

Greetings

My Name is Hallett Hammatt and I am the president of Cultural Surveys Hawaii and a former member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board for two terms in the 1980s

I have known Matt since he was in Kalaheo High School. He has always has a very strong interest in Hawai`i's past and historic preservation in general. This interest intensified as a summer hire at Cultural Surveys Hawaii and college and graduate school for an MA degree.

As a young professional Matt has developed and matured into one of Hawai`i's most prominent archaeologists. He is skilled in the methods and practice of Hawaiian archaeology, has developed and maintained a close and trusting relationship with descendent groups, in particular Hawaiian groups and individuals

He has broad knowledge of Hawaiian archaeology, history, culture and has worked with most if not all of the individuals and organizations in Hawaii who are involved on many sides of these issues. He has constantly maintained the highest standards in his profession and consistently shown a deep understanding of the long term goals and benefits of historic preservation as an essential part of Hawai`i's future.

Matthew is a rising star in his field and I can say with great confidence, as one who has been in this role, that he will make great contributions as a member of the Hawai`i Historic Places Review Board.

Mahalo Nui

Hal Hammatt PHD.

From: [James Bayman](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: Governor's Message (No. GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 11:32:15 AM

I write to offer my strong support for the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have worked in partnership with Mr. McDermott for more than 15 years in my capacity as an archaeologist and as a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

When our archaeology students work toward (or complete) their degrees in anthropology, I seek to assist them in their efforts to secure professional employment in cultural resource management archaeology.

Through this effort, Mr. McDermott has employed many of our best students.

The employment of our students by Mr. McDermott provides budding young archaeologists an opportunity to begin their professional careers. At the same time, the quality of our students has enhanced the development of cultural resource management in the State of Hawaii.

Mr. McDermott has also assisted me in my efforts to educate students about archaeology by sharing his knowledge on field trips to local sites.

For these and other reasons, I anticipate the Mr. McDermott would be a fine member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

In short, I strongly support his nomination.

With best wishes,

James M. Bayman

From: [Jason Bright](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 4:50:23 AM

Aloha;

I am writing in support of Matt McDermott's nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. I had the pleasure of working with Matt as a part of the HRTP. I always admired Matt's considerable knowledge and of, and respect for, Hawaiian culture, history and archaeology. Matt always had the respect of everyone involved in the project, from staff, to consulting parties, to cultural descendants. We constantly relied on his deep understanding of historic preservation in Hawai'i. He is an excellent choice for the Board; one who would serve with integrity.

Jason Bright

From: [Nouchi, Jon](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811 - Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:29:22 AM

To whom it may concern:

I would like to offer this letter in support of Mr. Matthew McDermott's nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

As Deputy Director of Planning and Environmental for the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART), I have worked with Mr. McDermott over the past year. I know Matt to be timely, dependable, and sensitive to historic and cultural issues. HART relies on his guidance and counsel to make informed decisions about iwi kupuna and historic artifacts discovered during construction of our rail project.

While I am impressed with the knowledge Mr. McDermott holds in his field of archaeology and history, I hold his moral standards in even higher regard. Matt consistently demonstrates an unwavering commitment to preservation of Hawai'i's historic past. Therefore, I offer my unwavering support of his nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

Please feel free to contact me for additional follow-up comments or questions.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Jon Y. Nouchi | Deputy Director, Planning and Environmental | Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART)

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April 10, 2015

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 811, Nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

Aloha Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members,

My name is Jonathan Likeke Scheuer and I am testifying in **support** of the nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

In 2014 I completed three years of service on the O`ahu Island Burial Council, where I had the monthly opportunity to work with Mr. McDermott as he represented various development projects before the Council. I also was able to work with him in the field (literally, in the trenches) and in consultations with recognized cultural descendants. He is a professional, and he combines his knowledge and skills in Hawai`i history and archaeology with a humble and gentle demeanor and an ability to remain calm and focused in contentious situations. While I have not always agreed with him on every opinion he has offered, I have always seen that his determinations have been based on facts and a thoughtful interpretation of the information available.

For these reasons, I believe he would be a great asset to the Hawai`i Historic Places Review Board in their important work, and I urge you to support his nomination.

Mahalo for your consideration of my mana`o.

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Ph.D.

From: [Kathy Inouye](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811 -- Nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Friday, April 10, 2015 5:44:06 PM

It is without hesitation that I provide the Senate Committee my strong support of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I have had the pleasure of working with Matt in his capacity as an archaeological consultant on several of our projects. He is thorough and diligent in his work. We have worked as a team with cultural descendants and the Oahu Island Burial Council and he has demonstrated a strong sensitivity to their concerns. He has also been able to work with all stakeholders and has played a key role in achieving consensus and compromises where necessary. I think the State of Hawaii and this board would benefit from his experience and knowledge.

Kathryn Inouye
Chief Operating Officer
Kobayashi Group
1288 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 201
Honolulu, HI 96814

W - (808) 692-0041

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**From:** [Lisa Hirahara](#)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 811 - Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board  
**Date:** Monday, April 13, 2015 9:46:10 PM

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I strongly support Matt McDermott's nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I am an attorney, and I write this email in my personal capacity.

Mr. McDermott and I have worked together on the Honolulu Rail Transit Project. I found Mr. McDermott to be very knowledgeable in Hawaiian culture and archaeology, as well as Hawaii's historic preservation law, Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 6E.

A consummate professional, Mr. McDermott would be a welcome addition to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Lisa Hirahara  
Honolulu, Hawaii

**From:** [Mana Caceres](#)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt McDermott](#)  
**Subject:** GM 811- Matt McDermott's Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board  
**Date:** Sunday, April 12, 2015 11:18:38 AM

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Aloha dear members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts,

It is with great respect and honor that I am sending you this letter of SUPPORT for Matt McDermott's Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Matt for three years now and because of the various kuleana we both carry, I have the privilege of working with Matt quite often. I have witnessed first hand the respect and aloha he has for all things historical, cultural and anthropological and I myself have learned a great deal from Matt.

I fully support Governor David Ige's decision to nominate Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Mahalo nui for your time.

me ka leo ha'aha'a,

Mana Kaleilani Caceres  
O'ahu Island Burial Council, 'Ewa Moku.

**To: State of Hawai'i, Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA)**  
**Attention: Chair Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Lorraine R. Inouye, & Members of the THA Committee**

**Re: SUPPORT for GM 811 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MATT MCDERMOTT, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.**  
**Hearing: Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in CR 224**

Ke welina mai nei me ke aloha iā kākou apau:

My name is Mark Kāwika McKeague, former Chair and 'Ewa moku representative of the O'ahu Island Burial Council (OIBC) for nearly 7 years. I have over 22 years of cultural resource management experience in my profession as an environmental planner and as an active Kanaka Maoli cultural practitioner. My cultural background includes stewardship of iwi kūpuna since I was a child. I also am a Hawaiian composer and musician, most recently having been an apprentice under the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Folk & Traditional Arts program with Uncle Cyril Pahinui. I also carry kuleana as a graduated ho'opa'a and 'ōlapa under the direction of Kumu Hula Victoria Holt-Takamine. I write this individual testimony in strong **SUPPORT of GM 811** to confirm the nomination of Mr. Matt McDermott to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

I have known Mr. McDermott for over 13 years. He and I have worked together in a mutual spirit of commitment and dedication to our shared kuleana on numerous issues that have bearing on the unique historic and cultural landscapes within Hawai'i nei. One of these issues has and continues to be the respectful stewardship and protection of Native Hawaiian burials, which are the foundational underpinning of ancestral identity for Kanaka Maoli. Mr. McDermott is a well-respected archaeologist that has garnered a positive reputation and standing among constituents with the Kanaka Maoli community in this sensitive realm of our discipline.

I have had the distinct privilege and honor of working with Mr. McDermott in both my time and service on the OIBC as well as in a continued professional capacity as a Senior Planner with a local planning firm. In my humble opinion, Mr. McDermott is the epitome of disciplined excellence in his understanding, intellect, resolve, and genuine aloha for the kuleana to ensure projects he oversees fully comply with federal and state historic preservation and burial protection laws. Mr. McDermott and I have been able to partner together on several initiatives that always seek to put the heritage of place and its connection to a living culture as the forefront objective. Mr. McDermott also conveys an extreme sensitivity and earnest humility in how he conducts himself with respect to the 'ohana and communities who step forward to assume kuleana in cultural stewardship.

In summary, Mr. McDermott's service, with your confirmation, would be an invaluable asset for the State and its public trust responsibilities, fellow Board members, and all interested parties- to the legacy and sanctity of our historical and cultural places, first and foremost; to the restoration of kuleana among families, organizations, and communities that undertake cultural stewardship responsibilities; to the governance and responsibilities of agencies entrusted to ensure historic preservation laws are appropriately administered; and to the competency of landowners and developers to understand the unique role they have as haku 'āina in Hawai'i nei.

Mr. McDermott is a esteemed advocate in the care of the historic and cultural heritage that lies within our island home. As it is public policy for the State to provide leadership in preserving, restoring, and maintaining historic and cultural property in a spirit of stewardship for future generations, I politely put forth that it is incumbent upon this Committee to confirm this nomination with unequivocal resolve. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a a me alo a ke ano o ku'u mau kupuna,

Mark Kawika McKeague  
Email: [kmckeague87@gmail.com](mailto:kmckeague87@gmail.com) | Phone: 808-265-7901

**From:** [Matthew Pennaz](#)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board  
**Date:** Friday, April 10, 2015 5:58:49 PM

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Please accept my utmost support for Governor Ige's nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

In working with Matt on several archaeological projects in Honolulu, he has been thorough, professional, and has always conducted his business with integrity. The Hawaii Historic Places Review Board will be fortunate to have him.

--

**Matthew Pennaz**  
*Sr. Project Manager*

**Kobayashi Group LLC**  
1288 Ala Moana Blvd. Ste. 201  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
Telephone: (808) 692-0045

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From: [Mike Dega](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811-Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 9:25:44 AM

This email is written in full support of Mr Matt McDermott for a position on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. The nomination of Mr. McDermott is solid in multiple ways. I have known the candidate for over 20 years, from graduate school together at UH-Manoa to being professional colleagues over the long duration in the islands. Mr. McDermott is highly knowledgeable about Hawaiian archaeology, having successfully conducted hundreds of projects through the Hawaiian Islands over the past several decades. He is a leader at his company (of large staff) and a leader in the archaeological community. Mr. McDermott is intimately familiar with the historic preservation review process, through his work here, and fully understands the mechanics of how historic properties are understood, ordered, entered into the State lists, and nominated. He is an excellent candidate for the board as he has evaluated thousands of historic properties during his tenure, as well as many nominations to both the State and National Registers of Historic Places. He has the expertise and experience to evaluate whether a property possesses the characteristics and requirements to be nominated, and how the nomination be vetted. Mr. McDermott would add expertise, knowledge, and charisma to the board, and would certainly aid in highlighting the unique historic properties which occur across Hawaii's landscapes and cities.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Mr. McDermott to the board and as an active member of the archaeological/historical community, would welcome his presence on the board.

Best,

Michael F. Dega, Ph.D.

From: [Missy Kamai](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811 - Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 7:16:18 AM

Aloha mai kakou,

I strongly support Matt McDermott for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I have had the privilege of knowing Matt McDermott for the last 17 years. He is passionate and knowledgeable in Hawaiian archaeology and well versed in the historic preservation review process.

As a native Hawaiian, an archaeologist, and a member of an NHO, *Na kuleana o kanaka 'oiwi*, I firmly believe that the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board will benefit with having Matt McDermott on their board.

Mahalo,
[Missy Kamai](#)

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chairman

Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

Hawaii State Capitol

Via HEAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: Testimony in support of GM 811 Matt McDermott nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board scheduled for April 16, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in State Capitol Room 224

Aloha Chairman Taniguchi and Senate Committee members:

My name is Phyllis Coochie Cayan. I am submitting testimony to support GM 811 nomination of Matt McDermott to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. In my former state position as the History and Culture Branch Chief for the DLNR, State Historic Preservation Division, I have had the opportunity to work with Matt McDermott on various archaeological projects where Hawaiian burials and other cultural resources needed attention and care. Matt McDermott has always been respectful and sensitive to Hawaiian cultural practices with his professional assistance whenever called upon.

I believe Matt McDermott will be an asset to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board with his working knowledge of Hawaii in his field including but not limited to his work with community and business partners to protect and preserve Hawaii's historic resources.

Your positive consideration of this nomination will greatly enhance the care and protection of Hawaii's precious historic resources and properties. Mahalo nui loa.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Coochie Cayan

Cell: 808-348-6198

From: [Race Randle](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Cc: [Matt McDermott \(mmcdermott@culturalsurveys.com\)](mailto:mmcdermott@culturalsurveys.com)
Subject: GM 811—Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 12:40:56 AM

Aloha Committee on Higher Education and the Arts (HEA),

Matt McDermott is born and raised in Hawaii and has lived and worked on all eight main Hawaiian Islands, with the exception of Ni'ihau. He began his employment with Cultural Surveys Hawaii in 1988 as an archaeological field technician and by 2001, he became a Principal Investigator with wide-ranging research and managerial duties.

He has detailed knowledge of Hawai'i State and Federal historic preservation and environmental legislation as it relates to cultural resource management; extensive experience in historical ecology and paleo environmental reconstruction as well as experience in aboriginal ceramic analysis. Above all of his widespread knowledge and experience he is objective, honest, and committed to honoring the culture of Hawaii. Therefore, I believe Mr. McDermott is an ideal representative for the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Mahalo,

Race Randle | Vice President, Development | The Howard Hughes Corporation
1240 Ala Moana Boulevard | Suite 200 | Honolulu, HI 96814
808.791.2998 phone | 808.349.9364 mobile | 808.792.3500 fax

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Regina K. Hilo

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► **Committee on Higher Education and the Arts**

HEAtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: Mr. Matt McDermott's Nomination to the
Hawaii Historic Places Review Board

Me 'oukou ka welina o ke aloha,

I am writing in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Matt McDermott's to serve on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. He is a well-respected archaeologist and cultural resource management professional with a wealth of knowledge and experience. In his capacity as principal investigator and project manager at Cultural Surveys Hawaii, Matt has overseen a wide variety of projects and been responsible for planning, community consultation, day-to-day operations of ground crew, and report preparation.

As the O'ahu Burial Sites Specialist with the State Historic Preservation Division of DLNR, I work often with Matt on burial site issues and inadvertent discoveries of human skeletal remains. As a trained archaeologist, I trust Matt's perspective and interpretation of archaeological context. His reports are consistent and scientifically sound, and content is straightforward and easy to understand. As a cultural practitioner, I also recognize that Matt is intimately aware that the issues surrounding *iwi kupuna* require sensitivity. He has always come from a perspective that is scientifically sound and culturally *pono*.

Matt is a pleasure to work with. His professional and personal experience, knowledge, and familiarity with HARs and HRS pertinent to our burial sites program and our archaeology branch are phenomenal additions to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Kāko'o piha au i ko Matt McDermott koho'ana i keia papahana!

I fully support Matt McDermott's nomination to serve on the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

If you have any questions, please contact me using the email address provided above.

Ke aloha no,



Regina K. Hilo

4/13/2015

From: [Tim Rieth](#)
To: [HEA Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 811--Nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board: Support for Matt McDermott
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 7:08:44 AM

Aloha,

I am writing in support of Matt McDermott's nomination to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. I have known Mr. McDermott for 20 years, beginning during our time as anthropology students at UH-Manoa. During the past 20+ years, Matt has dedicated his professional career, and much of his private time, to the study of Hawaiian archaeology. With nearly three decades of experience---in the field, in the lab, and at his desk writing and conducting research---Matt has obtained an expertise in Hawaiian prehistory and state and federal historic preservation processes that few in the state possess. For these reasons, I highly recommend his nomination and believe that he will be a strong addition to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

Sincerely,

Tim Rieth

Project Manager, International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc.

Principal Investigator & Manager, International Archaeology, LLC