

GM603 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, NORMAN KAIMULOA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2019

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

| April 6, 2017 | 1:15 p.m. | Room 016 |
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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee will recommend that the Board of Trustees **<u>SUPPORT</u>** GM603, which would confirm OHA Nominee Norman Kaimuloa as a Kona regional representative on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council (HIBC).

Mr. Kaimuloa maintains strong ties to his Kona moku as his family has lived on their Kuleana there since 1850. His cultural knowledge is grounded in his experiences as a member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha I and a caretaker of 'Aha 'Umi and Likelike. Mr. Kaimuloa has also served previously on the HIBC and seeks to renew his commitment to the preservation of Hawai'i Island iwi kūpuna.

OHA notes that, if confirmed, Mr. Kaimuloa will be one of two Kona representatives on the HIBC. While both will represent the interests of the kūpuna and 'ohana in their moku, one of these Kona representatives will occupy a long vacant seat previously reserved for a representative of large landowner or developer interests; this is consistent with Act 276 of the 2013 Legislature, which addressed longstanding quorum issues that inhibited many of the island burial councils from meeting.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM603 to confirm Mr. Kaimuloa to the HIBC. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.