



GM604

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SCOTT MAHONEY, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 6, 2017

1:15 p.m.

Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** GM604, which would confirm OHA Nominee Scott Haili Mahoney as the Ka'ū regional representative on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council (HIBC).

Mr. Mahoney currently resides at his family's homestead in Waimea, but traces his Haili 'ohana genealogies to Ka'ū and Kawaihae. Mr. Mahoney is currently retired, but has spent the last twenty years assisting with the removal of unexploded ordinance on Hawai'i Island, O'ahu, Moloka'i, and Kaho'olawe. Although he is not an archaeologist by training, Mr. Mahoney has accompanied many archaeologists on investigative assignments as safety support, while they conducted studies on archaeological resources and burial sites in dangerous areas. Through these experiences, he learned much about why and how to mālama iwi, and developed a deep connection to the preservation and protection of iwi kūpuna. He has also taken every opportunity to learn about burial laws and policies, studying *Ho'i Hou I Ka Iwikuamo'o* (the "Iwi Primer") as well as *Native Hawaiian Law: A Treatise*. He brings this knowledge, kuleana, and willingness to continue learning to his candidacy for the HIBC. Additionally, in his free time, Mr. Mahoney remains actively engaged in various cultural and community organizations including the Royal Order of Kamehameha I, Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo and its E Alu Pū Network, the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Home Lands Assembly, and Mālama Kōloa (where he assisted with the restoration and protection of the Hapa Trail).

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM604 to confirm Mr. Mahoney to the HIBC. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Thursday, April 6, 2017
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 604
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SCOTT
MAHONEY FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 604, nominating Mr. Scott Mahoney to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i expiring June 30, 2020.

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Councils determine whether to preserve or relocate previously identified native Hawaiian burial sites, recognize lineal and cultural descendants, and provide counsel and advice to the Department.

Mr. Mahoney resides on his family's homestead in Waimea, Hawai'i. He has genealogical ties to Ka'u and Kawaihae. In the past 20 years, Mr. Mahoney has participated in the removal of unexploded ordnances and it is through this experience that he has gained archaeological knowledge (including the identification of burial sites). Normally, the removal of unexploded ordnances requires archaeological monitoring. He is a member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha. Currently, none of the Hawai'i Island Burial Council seats have representation from a member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha. He is engaged in various cultural and community organizations including the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Home Lands Assembly and Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Mahoney's knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Hawai'i Island Burial Council until June 30, 2020.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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