



**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

Before the Senate Committee on
Water and Land

Wednesday, May 13, 2020
1:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In **SUPPORT** of
GM 754, Charles Young
Relating to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee

The Hawaii State Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) stands in strong support of Gubernatorial Nominee, GM Charles Young for consideration and confirmation to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Respectfully yours,

Leimana DaMate, Executive Director
Hawaii State Aha Moku
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Email: Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov



Moku O Keawe
Hawai'i Council for the
Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs
P.O. Box 7164 | Hilo, Hawai'i | 96720

Committee on Water and Land
Wednesday, May 13, 2020 Conference Room 229

Re: GM754 & 755 – AHA MOKU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Aloha Chair Kahele and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club supports GM754 & 755 that considers and confirms Charles Young to the AHA Moku Advisory Committee.

Mr. Young has actively served the Native Hawaiian community for decades. From developing and implementing community based subsistency plans, to collaborating on statewide efforts in support of fisheries management. His leadership is impeccably honest and his reasoning is thoroughly thought out. The Hawai'i Council strongly supports GM754 & 755 confirming Mr. Young.

Mahalo Nui,

Shane Akoni Palacat-Nelsen
Pelekikena

LATE

From: Mahealani Cypher <malamapono744@aim.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Linda Menda <l.menda@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: Re: WTL GMs

Aloha mai kakou!

We are re-submitting our support for the following nominees to boards and commissions, for the Wednesday, May 13, 2020, meeting:

GM550 - Dawn Chang, LUC - SUPPORT

GM584 - Wesley Yoon, BLNR - SUPPORT

GM670 - Jonathan Scheuer, LUC - SUPPORT

GM756/757 - Frances Kaluhiwa, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM758/759 - Godfrey Akaka, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM760/761 - Keith Robinson, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM762/763 - Lewellyn Kaohelauii, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM 764/765 - Manuel Kuloloio, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM 766/767 - Robert Luuwai, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM776/777 - Cedric Bertelmann, Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council - SUPPORT

GM 778 - Frederick Reppun, Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council - SUPPORT

GM7808 - Angela Hiilei Kawelo, Natural Area Reserves System Commission - SUPPORT

We had neglected to include the following two nominees:

GM752/753 - Anthony Pacheco, `Aha Moku Advisory Commission - SUPPORT

GM754/755 - Charles Young, `Aha Moku Advisory Commission - SUPPORT

We have attached letters for some of these nominees which apparently did not show up during our attempts to submit our testimony earlier.

Mahalo for letting us know of the mistakes in our submittals today.

A hui hou,
Mahealani Cypher, Chair
Government Relations Committee
Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 1:55:42 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 2:04:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senate Committee on Water and Land
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Gil-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I strongly support the nomination of Charles (Charlie) Young to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. For the past eight years I have both personally and through my work teamed with Charlie on issues of community-based natural resource management in the Kona moku of Hawai'i island and across the state. Charlie, a retiree and grandfather, is very familiar with the Hawaiian communities growth and vision to care for Hawai'i's natural resources. He is also familiar with the struggles the Aha moku has had in becoming an effective effort for our state.

Indeed it was -from my understanding- E Alu Pu a community-based natural resource movement network that I have worked with that some of the seeds and dreams for the Aha Moku arose.

In my work Charlie has helped take a lead in uplifting community-based natural resource management in his community and across the state. Charlie has travelled with me to exchange and build support and knowledge exchange and understanding among indigenous people and local community efforts worldwide. He also served the E Alu Pu Council with great aplomb, moving his communities issues forward while supporting a broader effort on likeminded issues in the Kona moku of Hawai'i island and across the state.

Charlie already has a long record of public service in regards to the issues that Aha Moku was created to address. I believe his resume and lifework speaks for itself.

Despite many frustrations with the Aha Moku Advisory Council's past communities across the state continue to believe that if done right the Aha Moku can be a mechanism of great good in transforming the way we mālama Hawai'i. I believe Charlie is the kind of person who will help make this happen.

Lastly, I consider Charlie to be a good and wise friend and a good heart and it is with this as his foundation that I think he will serve our state greatly.

I strongly support your vote in favor of Charlie's confirmation to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

Pupukahi i holomua e ho'okanaka

Kevin Chang

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 10:19:21 AM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ku'ulei	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kakou,

I am Ku'ulei Keakealani and I write this letter asking you to look with favor to onboarding Charles Young to the Aha Moku Council for Hawai'i island. I have association with "Uncle Charlie" as our life's work has brought us together in many ways throughout the years. First, I met him at Burial Council meetings as my 'ohana went before them countless times as we fought to protect our iwi kupuna in our homelands of Pu'uanahulu, Pu'uwa'awa'a and Ka'upulehu. Secondly, Uncle Charlie and I sit together on our Kai Kuleana Network where many coastal communities work hard and diligently to malama our 'aina aloha. He is always ready and prepared to report on the latest happenings of his area, fishing updates and even brings to our table a more broad reach of perspectives. He maintains a positive outlook and is usually the first to offer suggestions of how we can progress forward as an organization in becoming more formal and beneficial for each individual place as well as for the collective greater good.

I am very blessed to sit with Uncle Charlie on the Kai Kuleana table as I look to him as a role model and someone with clear thought and intention. I know he will be an asset to the Aha Moku and bring all of the qualities I mentioned, and much more to your table. His pleasant ways always makes it easy to listen to Uncle Charlie and I know many will benefit from his presence serving on the Aha Moku. He is very organized and will accomplish any task set before him. I ask you to consider him as a great person to assume a seat on the council and am happy to submit this letter in absolute support of this possibility. Mahalo nui for your time in reading through my thoughts as I support Uncle Charlie in this next kuleana of his life. Mahalo~ Ku'ulei

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 12:28:07 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Fry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to voice my support for Charles Young's nomination to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. His strong character, intelligence and calm demeanor would be an asset to any Committee.

George Fry

Puako, Hawaii

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 3:19:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Lamson Leatherman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wholehearted support Charles Young's nomination to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. I have worked / volunteered in efforts to protect natural and cultural resources in South Kona with uncle Charlie over the years - and have seen him work with community members and government agencies within his capacity as a Board member of KUPA (Kama'Āina United for the Protection of the 'Āina) at Ho'okena and as a longtime member of the West Hawai'i Fishery Council. Uncle Charlie is thoughtful, honest, easy to work with, and committed to protecting Hawai'i's people, plants, animals, and places. He would be an excellent choice for this leadership role.

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 5:02:13 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shaelene Kamakaala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 5:57:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harlan Miyoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Mai Kakou,

My name is Harlan Miyoshi, a volunteer and associate member of KUPA Friends of Ho'okena Beach Park on the Big Island of Hawai'i and I am submitting testimony regarding consideration and confirmation to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHARLES YOUNG.

It is with great enthusiasm and joy that I wholeheartedly applaud the nomination of Charles Young to become a committee member of the Ahu Moku Advisory Committee. I believe that he would be a tremendous asset to the council because of his wealth of knowledge in land and resource management, Hawaiian culture and community collaboration.

I have had the honor of working with Charlie over the last few years at Ho'okena to learn from his leadership and witnessed his tireless work and sacrifices that he has put into going to various meeting such as our board meetings, E Alu Pu, West Hawai'i Fisheries Council, Kai Kuleana Network, other organizations and other community related meetings as well as the work and communication to coordinate and support these meetings as well as community events. He has secured and managed grants from OHA, HTA, Conservation International and the county for the 'Opelu project to revive traditional Hawaiian fishing practices which is a testament to his impeccable reputation and relationship building skills.

Charles Young is most certainly the right choice for the Ahu Moku Advisory Committee, who will surely elevate the work of this committee as he has in Ho'okena.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Harlan Miyoshi

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 7:10:16 AM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanford Cho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have served as a board of Director of 'KUPA Friends Of Ho'okena Beach Park' along side of Charlie Young for a year. I have observed fist hand his dedication to the Community and the positive rapport he has with heads of other Organizations through out Hawaii. He is an example of a servant and would be a great representative for Hawaii Island. I support his nomination to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

Sincerely

Stanford Cho

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 7:37:15 AM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kinau Camacho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the nomination of Charles Young to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

He has been an active member in the South Kona community for many years, bringing his 'ike and mana'o to organizations such as Kama'aina United to Protect the 'Aina (KUPA) and the West Hawai'i Fisheries Council. Charles' experience and passion makes him an ideal candidate for the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

GM-754

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 5:20:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua DeMello	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

My comments on this nomination is not directed at the nominee but rather at the process for which nominations were provided to the legislature.

The Aha Moku Advisory Committee Final Rules of Practice and Procedure adopted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, effective October 20, 2016, provides for the process for nominations. Part 1, section 1-2 states:

" The committee shall consist of eight members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate **from a list of nominations submitted by the 'aha moku councils of each island**. Oversight of the committee shall be by the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources. The committee members shall vote for the committee chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members."

My question is, did the Governor provide his list of nominees from a list submitted by the Aha Moku Councils? If not, these nominations cannot be supported by the legislature based on procedure alone.

This will be a comment that I repeat for each nominee under each GM number.