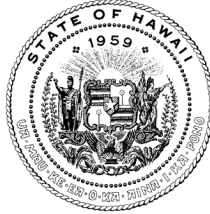


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 772
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF MAUI AND LĀNA'I, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, KYLE NAKANELUA FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2021**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 772, nominating Mr. Kyle Nakanelua to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Maui and Lāna'i expiring June 30, 2021.

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. Nakanelua, of part Native Hawaiian ancestry, is a lineal descendant of those born and raised on the island of Maui. He has worked as a Cultural Consultant to the Pu'ukohola National Historic Site, State Department of Transportation-Airports Division, and the Royal of Kamehameha (of which he was a member). He also does private contractor work for clients seeking understanding and knowledge of traditional Hawaiian rites, rituals, and protocols. He is been serving this council on an interim basis since September of 2019.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Nakanelua's knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Maui Lāna'i Islands Burial Council until June 30, 2021.

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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
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



GM772

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL,
ISLANDS OF MAUI AND LĀNAʻI, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KYLE NAKANELUA, FOR A TERM
TO EXPIRE 06-30-2021**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

May 13, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM772, confirming OHA Nominee Kyle Nakanelua to the Maui and Lānaʻi Island Burial Council (MLIBC).

Mr. Kyle Nakanelua has the requisite community connection and cultural expertise to excellently represent the Hāna moku on the MLIBC. Mr. Nakanelua and his 'ohana have deep lineal connections to Hāna. Over the past 35 years, Mr. Nakanelua has worked on his family's farm with his grandmother, who passed down to him the oral traditions and ancestral knowledge of their ahupua'a and moku. In light of her gift, he has always felt kuleana to contribute to the thoughtful management and protection of the iwi kūpuna of his ahupua'a, moku, and mukupuni. Mr. Nakanelua has also worked as a cultural consultant for the State of Hawai'i since 1996, specializing in educating clients about Native Hawaiian cultural traditions, spiritual customs, and protocols. Further, Mr. Nakanelua has practiced cultural preservation through his involvement with several community organizations; he has served as the Operations Officer of the Royal Order of Kamehameha, and currently sits on the Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site Advisory Committee, as well as the Pihanakalani and Haleki'i Heiau Restoration Committee. OHA is confident that these connections, experiences, and activities make Mr. Nakanelua extremely well-suited for serving on the MLIBC, and helping it carry out its important kuleana.

OHA notes that Mr. Nakanelua has already been serving as an interim appointee on the MLIBC for several months, and has thereby demonstrated his commitment to the MLIBC's mission to mālama iwi kūpuna.

Finally, OHA understands that that the Hāna moku representative seat on the MLIBC has been a historically challenging position to fill. As such, OHA is particularly pleased to join the State Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, which also nominated Mr. Nakanelua for the same position, in supporting his confirmation.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM772 to confirm Mr. Nakanelua to the Maui and Lānaʻi Island Burial Council. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

GM-772

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 12:52:05 PM

Testimony for HWN on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

GM-772

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 11:16:54 AM

Testimony for HWN on 5/13/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
EDWARD GOMES	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Shimabukuro Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the Committee: I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Kyle Nakanelua to the Island Burial Council, Island of Maui. Kyle's confirmation to the council would strengthen and advance the responsibility, knowledge and care to our iwi kupuna. Kyle's long history as a cultural and community leader has brought numerous positive outcomes to Maui's diverse communities. Kyle possesses the requisite experience and skills to be capable member of the council. I am honored to provide this testimony on his behalf and humbly request the committee approve his confirmation. Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony.