DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Friday, April 9, 2021 1:00 PM State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 229

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 682 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES VERNON CHAR FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2025

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 682 nominating Vernon Char to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) for a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Vernon Char has served on the Board for a year and a half. Previously, he served for a year from 2014-2015. Mr. Char's experience in and focus on business transactions has been very helpful to the board in dealing with some of its complicated business matters, such as managing State commercial properties. Mr. Char has also volunteered extra time to help the Department address some of its homeless issues after seeing a staff presentation on the issue. He regularly hikes the state trails on his home island of O'ahu.

Mr. Char brings a wealth of public service experience from his time serving on other state boards and commissions, including the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the State Ethics Commission, and the Hawaii Advisory Committee to the United States Civil Rights Commission. Mr. Char was first appointed by Governor Ige to an interim appointment in October 2019 and has been a welcome addition the Board. His extra work on homelessness is in keeping with his founding the Manoa Forum, a think tank to discuss and exchange ideas of fundamental importance to humanity.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Governor's Message 682, nominating Vernon Char to a seat on the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND 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 RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

<u>GM-682</u> Submitted on: 3/30/2021 10:11:49 AM Testimony for WTL on 4/9/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the confirmation of Vernon Char for BLNR