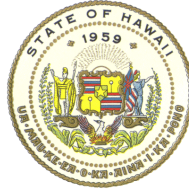


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**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, March 18, 2022
1:00 PM**

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 229

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 687
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAREN ONO FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2024**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 687 nominating Karen Ono to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Ms. Ono served as an Associate Executive for the Kauai Board of Realtors for the past 42 years. As one of two staff members, she has served in a variety of roles ranging from reviewing the governing documents to processing payroll to writing grants and legislative testimony. Ms. Ono's wide range of experiences in this organization will bring a deep knowledge of land use on Kaua'i, as well as a willingness to get a job done.

Ms Ono has served as the Board of Realtors Association representative on the Chamber of Commerce, the Kauai Business Council and the Rice Street Business Association. Through the association she had regular contact with its 600 plus members on a regular basis. She will bring this knowledge of Kaua'i to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board).

Ms. Ono graduated from Kauai Community College with an Associates Degree in Clerical Services. She will represent Kaua'i on the Board.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Governor's Message 687, nominating Karen Ono to a seat on the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 16, 2022

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
And Committee on Water & Land
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Lorraine Inouye, Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and the Committee on Water and Land,

RE: Letter in Support of Ms. Karen Ono to serve on the Board of Land and Natural Resources

I write in support of Karen Ono's appointment to serve on the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Karen Ono has contributed to the Kaua'i community through her work experience, volunteer work, and through her passion and commitment to Kaua'i residents.

Ms. Ono served on the Kaua'i Board of REALTORS as the Association Executive for 42 years before retiring, where she helped Kaua'i residents through various natural disasters and economic downturns. During her time on the Kaua'i Board of REALTORS, she submitted and was awarded a grant from the National Association of REALTORS \$100,000 to assist families that were impacted by the flooding in 2018. She served as an effective and important link between the government and the realtor profession.

She has also served on the Kaua'i County Tax Review Board and the Kaua'i Public Access, Open Space Commission, and has volunteered many hours with the Board of Directors on the Lihue Cemetery Association.

It is because of her passion and commitment to educating residents on the process of land use, the importance of climate change, the protection of our natural resources, and the preservation of our Hawaiian culture that I highly recommend her candidacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to support Karen Ono to serve on the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Nadine K. Nakamura, State Representative, District 14

COUNTY COUNCIL

Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair
Mason K. Chock, Vice Chair
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Felicia Cowden
Bill DeCosta
Luke A. Evslin
KipuKai Kualii

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk
Scott K. Sato, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349
E-mail: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

March 15, 2022

TESTIMONY OF FELICIA COWDEN
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON

GM 687, Gubernatorial Nomination of Karen Ono to the
Board of Land and Natural Resources
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 18, 2022
1:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference
Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of GM 687, Gubernatorial Nomination of Karen Ono to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) for a term to expire on June 30, 2024. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kaua'i County Council.

Ms. Ono, former Executive Director of the Kaua'i Board of Realtors (KBR), has consistently exceeded my expectations. An unexpected blessing from taking office three (3) years ago was to discover that KBR was a valuable community partner for understanding land use policy needs. Ms. Ono has been a kind, competent, and patient leader in confronting the significant economic displacement issues that face our island.

As a lifelong resident, Ms. Ono has a deep, personal understanding of the impacts of shifting from sugar to tourism to land development even as sales of homes and vacant parcels have increased especially for sight-unseen purchases from off-island. This represents a profound population shift among our residents in these past two (2) years. In her former KBR position, she has offered training to realtors, government officials, and interested members of the public in affordable housing, sea-level rise impacts, hunting and fishing access, and Hawaiian land title pathways from the Great Māhele, among many topics.

Ms. Ono's breadth of experience is strengthened by active attendance in government meetings, policy development, and economic and environmental events. Most importantly, she is a holistic thinker and a respectful listener.

Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee

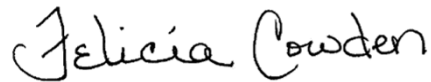
Re: GM 687, Gubernatorial Nomination of Karen Ono to the Board of Land and
Natural Resources

March 15, 2022

Page 2

Thank you for your favorable consideration of Karen Ono's nomination to the Board of Land and Natural Resources and for this opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Felicia Cowden". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Felicia" and last name "Cowden" clearly distinguishable.

FELICIA COWDEN

Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AAO:jy



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Hawaii State Aha Moku
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of
Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Friday, March 18, 2022
1:00 P.M.

Support for Governor Message 687, Karen Ono
Board of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer strong support for Governor Message 687, Karen Ono. This message is submitted for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Participants in the Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) Manokalanipo (Island of Kauai) supports this submittal.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku, Island of Manokalanipo (Kauai) works with participants of the seven traditional moku – Koloa, Makaweli, Waimea, Napali, Halele'a, Ko'olau, and Puna (Akau and Hema) as well as many of the sixty-nine ahupua'a encompassed within these moku.

Ms. Ono's administrative and clerical expertise, as well as attention to detail are attributes that will serve the communities, including native Hawaiians, well on the Land Board.

Aha Moku supports Karen Ono as a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and urges this Committee to Advise and Consent to Governor Message 687.

Respectfully yours,

Kawaikapuokalani Hewett, Ka Mea Ho'okumu, Email: kahalelehua@outlook.com
Rocky Kaluhiwa, Kahu Nui O Kakuhihewa, Email: rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com,
Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director, Email: Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-640-1214

March 18, 2022

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Via Videoconference

RE: GM 687 – Submitting for considering and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, KAREN ONO, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

HEARING: Friday, March 18, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

I am Kelly Liberatore, HAR President, submitting testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR," the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its over 11,000 members. HAR **strongly supports** G.M. 687, which considers and confirms Karen Ono to serve on the Board of Land and Natural Resources ("BLNR").

Ms. Karen Ono has been the Executive Officer of the Kaua'i Board of REALTORS® ("KBR") for over 40 years prior to her retirement. Throughout her years as a leader and voice for the real estate industry on Kaua'i, she has been a collaborator of diverse perspectives, including her work in advocacy, which gives her a deeper understanding of land use policy.

Ms. Ono has also created a culture of giving back at KBR, through coordinating build days for Habitat for Humanity, fundraising for the Kaua'i Independent Foodbank, helping our keiki on their path to college, amongst numerous other projects, that highlight her passion for her community.

Ms. Ono has also given her time and talents on serving as a representative on the Chamber of Commerce, Kaua'i Business Council, and Rice Street Business Association. Her experience and leadership will be invaluable to the BLNR.

Ms. Ono has the experience and knowledge to be a wonderful addition to the BLNR. For the above reasons, HAR respectfully requests your favorable consideration and confirmation of Karen Ono's nomination to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF KAUAI

4231 Ahukini Road • Lihu'e, Kauai, Hawaii 96766
Phone: (808) 246-2662 • Fax: (808) 246-8642



March 15, 2022

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Committee on Water and Land
Hawai'i State Senate
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:
RE: GM 687, Appointment of **Karen Ono** to the
Board of Land and Natural Resources

I am submitting this letter in **SUPPORT** of the nomination of Karen Ono by Governor Ige to be the Kaua'i representative on the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR).

I have known and worked with Karen professionally for over 30 years until her recent retirement. Our respective trade associations shared many common concerns and issues and that brought us together to work on behalf of our respective memberships, trades, and the Kaua'i community. Some examples of our collaborations and partnerships in recent years included hosting of candidates forums; the Kaua'i Board of Realtors participation in the Contractors Association of Kaua'i's Home Show's and numerous government affairs issues before county agencies and the Kaua'i County Council.

Through the years, I found Karen's work ethic, dedication, and values including her subtle native Hawaiian cultural values that would "pop up" from time-to-time as unwavering and as steady as Karen's personality. She is very dedicated and once she makes a commitment she will work tirelessly to prepare for and complete the task(s) she committed to. Karen is also a team player.

I fully support the nomination of Karen Ono to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 808.246.2662.

Sincerely,

Karen Taketa
Executive Director

copy: The Honorable Ronald Kouchi
Senate President

March 15, 2022

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President,
And Members of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha, Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate,

Thank you for all that you do and for considering our testimony.

This letter is intended as the strongest possible *support for Karen Ono for the Board of Land and Natural Resources*.

As the Principal Broker of Emerald Isle Properties, in Kilauea on Kaua'i, for 35 years, I have had the pleasure of knowing Karen professionally – as the Executive Director of the Kaua'i Board of Realtors – and I know her to be a great organizer and very efficient and dedicated to her work.

As the Founder and President of PAL Kaua'i – Permanently Affordable *Living*, a 501(c)(3) non-profit affordable housing developer – I have come to know how concerned she is to help provide our local families with sufficient homes, since she is helping us with this urgent work. Of course, solving this intractable problem will, by definition, involve many land use issues that will need to be addressed in the future. I am confident that Karen will prove herself to use candid and fair judgment when seeking the best balance for the future of Hawaii.

You are welcome to Email or call me at will if you need anything.

Thank you and please take good care.

PAL-Kauai.org


Jim Edmonds
President of the Board of Directors
(808) 443-8868



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A 501(c)(3) NON PROFIT CORPORATION

***PAL Kauai's Mission is to provide homes
And sustainable living solutions, within reach,
Restoring hope for the people of Kaua'i.***

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SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

March 18, 2022

1:00 PM

CCR229

Offering **COMMENTS** on

GM684

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOREEN CANTO, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

GM685

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, RILEY SMITH, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

GM687

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, KAREN ONO, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i offers the following **COMMENTS** on the nominees to the Board of Land and Natural Resources ("BLNR").

The Sierra Club appreciates the willingness of the nominated individuals to provide their time and expertise in service to the BLNR's important mission. The Sierra Club does emphasize the critical role of the BLNR in overseeing the management and protection of the lands and resources that provide the foundation of our islands' identity, social fabric, and ways of life. Accordingly, Sierra Club believes that this hearing provides a critical opportunity for the Committee, the nominees, and the general public to reflect on the nominees' knowledge, views, and commitment to make what may be difficult but necessary decisions to uphold their fiduciary and legal obligations under the constitution, statutes, and other laws of the state, with regards to our natural and cultural public trust resources and sites.

To assist in this process of reflection and assessment, the Sierra Club respectfully offers the following questions for the nominees before you today:

- 1) What expertise, knowledge, or skills do you possess that may be relevant to fulfilling the BLNR's fiduciary and legal obligations with respect to the conservation, protection, and use of our public lands and natural and cultural resources and sites?
- 2) Should stream diverters be allowed to dewater entire streams and waste millions of gallons of water per day, due to aging and leaky irrigation and reservoir infrastructure?

- 3) Do you believe it is appropriate to issue long-term leases of ecologically or culturally significant lands and waters before DLNR staff can demonstrate sufficient expertise and capacity to provide consistent and timely oversight over lease terms and conditions?
- 4) What is your position on community-based fisheries management approaches, and should greater weight be given to the testimonies of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practitioners and subsistence community members than outsiders who do not have a daily connection with the resources of their place?
- 5) What steps should the DLNR take to address the recommendations of the 2019 Audit of the Land Division's Special Land and Development Fund, which found a lack of an overarching plan for the Land Division's public land inventory, a lack of staff expertise and capacity to administer industrial and commercial leases, an overreliance on ground leases rather than more lucrative space leases in disposing of revenue-generating lands, and a lack of transparency and accountability, among other deficiencies, leading to significant opportunity costs to the DLNR and its mission?
- 6) Do you believe that the aquarium collection industry should be subject to stricter regulations based on evolving science regarding climate change impacts on our coral reef ecosystem, and the application of the precautionary principle?
- 7) What strategies should the BLNR employ to discourage shoreline hardening and encourage strategic retreat to mitigate the loss of our beaches and coastal areas?

The Sierra Club hopes and strongly believes that these questions will provide a much-needed understanding of the value that the nominees may bring to the BLNR, as it carries out its kuleana concerning matters of critical importance over the next several years.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.

March 18, 2022

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229 & Videoconference
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM 687 - consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, KAREN ONO, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

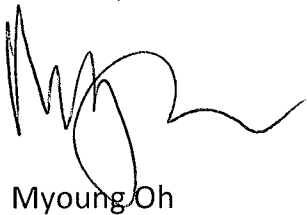
Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support** of GM 687 regarding the confirmation of Ms. Karen Ono's appointment to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Ms. Ono for over 20 years. She brings to the Board and to the State valuable knowledge and perspective, and am confident she will help shepherd goals of the state in preserving our natural resources.

I believe in her ability to serve the Board with an objective and thoughtful approach, and the Board of Land and Natural Resources will benefit from her expertise and guidance.

It is our good fortune that Ms. Ono is retired and can bring her values and breadth of experience to the Board and the public.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Myoung Oh', with a stylized, flowing script.

Myoung Oh

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 4:35:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
stephanie iona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have the privilege of knowing the quality of work, and consistent dedication KAREN ONO provides to any task she embraces. She will be an outstanding member of the Board.

Asking humbly for the approval of her appointment.

Gratefully,

Stephanie Iona, Civil Engagement Manager of Kekaha Agriculture Assn.

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 7:25:07 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia Ayonon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the appointment of KAREN ONO to the DLNR Board and know that with her knowledge and experience will serve Kauai and the State well. Thank you for your consideration of her appointment.

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:53:23 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Curtis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of the appointment of Karen Ono to the Board of Land & Natural Resources.

Karen has run the Kauai Board of REALTORS office for over 40 years, prior to her retirement last December 31, 2021. As REALTOR Emeritus, I've been fortunate to share my career and volunteer positions with the Kauai Board of REALTORS, Hawaii Association of REALTORS, and National Association of REALTORS with Karen Ono.

Together, we both experienced many ups and downs through the years, including 2 hurricanes, several floods, market upheavals, elections, and legislative dramas on Kauai. Karen Ono acted as a community leader during those events. As REALTORS and community, we came to depend on Karen's informed leadership.

The State of Hawaii would benefit from Karen's appointment to the Hawaii Board of Land & Natural Resources.

Your consideration is appreciated.

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 4:51:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth Tokioka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

Please accept my enthusiastic support of Karen Ono's nomination to represent Kauai on the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Karen for more than 20 years. She has always been an active member of the business community while engaging in countless diverse community support efforts as well.

Karen is a thoughtful and deliberative decision-maker, always looking at the various aspects of a topic or issue before weighing in. As the Executive Director of the Kauai Board of Realtors she kept her membership well-informed of the pressing needs of our community, and ensured the organization kept the best interest of Kauai in mind.

Karen is an advocate for balancing the social and economic needs of our community with the critical task of protecting our natural resources. As a lifelong resident of Kauai, she demonstrates a love for our island home in all she does. Most recently, she served seven years on the County of Kauai Public Access, Open Space Commission.

Now that she is retired, she is to be commended for her willingness to serve in this very important role. As she always has in the past, I am confident Karen will approach her role as a BLNR member with utmost diligence and respect for the important issues the Board will address.

I encourage you to support Karen for a seat on the BLNR.

Mahalo.

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:46:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Oi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Karen is qualified to sit as the Kauai member of the Board of Land and Natural Resource. Living on Kauai all her life she is very knowledgeable on the issue we face in Hawaii. I feel that she can make the hard decision to benefit all the people of Hawaii.

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 12:31:08 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jan TenBruggencate	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have known Karen Ono for many years as a principled, community-involved professional. I strongly recommend her confirmation to the Kauai BLNR seat.

--Jan TenBruggencate

DARYL Y. DOBASHI
ATTORNEY AT LAW
P.O. Box 922
LIHUE, KAUAI, HAWAII 96766
DOBASHID@HAWAIIANTEL.NET

FAX - (808) 245-6466

(808) 245-8777

March 15, 2022

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye
Chair of the Water and Land Committee
Hawai'i State Senate

Re: Letter of Support for Confirmation of Nominee KAREN ONO
to serve on the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Dear Senator Inouye:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support of Karen Ono. This year of 2022 marks my 75th anniversary of living here on Kaua'i. I was born and raised here. I have known Karen for years.

Personally, I got to know Karen a lot more when she was a tenant about 20 years ago. She was a fantastic tenant! I was sad to see her leave, but she had a chance to live in a much bigger place. Since Kaua'i is such a small place, I also know Karen's siblings, cousins and other relatives. "Wonderful" is the best word I can come up with as far as how her Ohana thinks of her.

Professionally, I was very pleased when Karen became the Executive Officer of the Kaua'i Board of Realtors. Before the pandemic, Karen scheduled continuing education events for realtors. As attorneys, we were also invited to participate here on Kaua'i. For me, there is nothing better to keep updated than to attend live seminars, but most are held on Oahu. Therefore, it takes a lot more time for outer-island attorneys to attend.

Karen has also made herself available for attorneys to call. When COVID hit, there were changes in the way real estate was sold. Even though I was able to read the latest restrictions on-line, I always contacted Karen to help ensure I followed the rules for doing "open houses" and public auctions whenever I was appointed as a commissioner by the court to sell real property. Karen has made a difference! In short, Kaua'i attorneys truly respect her!

Mahalo,


Daryl Y. Dobashi

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 10:25:39 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Minkin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am an attorney practicing on all island, including Kauai. I strongly support Karen because of her knowledge of property issues on the island of Kauai.. She has been an active leader in the community.

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 4:27:55 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary R. Begier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

GM 687 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, KAREN ONO, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Dear Senators:

I am testifying in support of Karen Ono for position on the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Having known and worked with Ms. Ono for over 25 years, I can say she is hard working, clear thinking, and empathetic to a wide scope of people and issues.

She is a critical thinker on difficult, complex issues, as well as fair in her judgement.

Ms. Ono will be a great asset to BLNR, and works well with others, not dominating, rather collaborating for the best outcome.

Thank you for your time, please contact me for any questions you may have.

Mahalo,

Terry Tolman

Cell 808-269-4646

Email Terry@Hookipa.com

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 7:37:12 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

As a Maui resident who has served as Chair of the Maui County Board of Water Supply and who is actively working to support investments in Maui County that meet environmental, social, and good governance (ESG) standards, I am very concerned about Gov. Ige's nominees to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I hope that when you consider these nominations, you will ask the individuals questions that are of vital interest to the residents of Maui.

Given their backgrounds, please ask the nominees their views on granting a 30-year lease to a foreign entity with a questionable history of water privatization — whose sole motivation is profit, as described in this February 23, 2022 Canadian media article about PSP, the owner and sole member of Mahi Pono Holdings, LLC:

<https://breachmedia.ca/canadian-pension-fund-invests-in-ex-plantation-privatizing-hawaii-water/>

I would also like to know whether nominees are aware that community control of East Maui waters has been one of the primary issues discussed by the Maui County Board of Water Supply (BWS) for the last three years and the topic of a BWS Temporary Investigative Report issued in January 2020.

Please also ask them whether they have researched PSP's egregious record of water investments in Australia as well as the foreign pension fund's record of negligence in elder care homes and exploitation of tenants in single family residences.

Finally, please ask them what steps they plan to take as a BLNR member to address the County of Maui's recent policy commitment to secure the East Maui leases for the people of Maui, per the resolution passed by the Maui County Council in January, and the subsequent letter from Chair Alice Lee to BLNR.

I look forward to a robust discussion of the nominees tomorrow.

—Shay Chan Hodges

Haiku, Maui, Hawaii

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 11:38:09 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Natalie Kurashima	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What is your background in natural and cultural resource management, conservation, or environmental sciences?

Should the U.S. military and the University of Hawai'i be re-issued leases for training and observatory development after their repeated, ongoing failures to protect our public trusts lands and waters?

Should water leases allow more than half of any given stream to be diverted for years on end?
Do 30-year water leases make sense in the climate change era?

Have you ever opposed efforts to protect water and its public trust uses through water management area designation?

Will you protect the rights of Native Hawaiians and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands as recognized in the Hawai'i Constitution and Hawaiian Homes Commission Act?

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 12:24:54 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Water and Land Committee Members,

I oppose the governor's nomination of Ms Ono to BLNR board. There are other applicants more qualified. We need knowledgeable board members with conservation/environmental science backgrounds and education rather than business, developer interests.

Karen Ono was the long-time association executive for the Kaua'i Board of REALTORS until last year, serving as the organizations chief executive from April 1979 to December 2021 and served as the representative for the Chamber of Commerce, the Kaua'i Business Council and the Rice Street Business Association. She has no 4 year degree or background in public lands/marine conservation.

Please consider other more qualified individuals.

Respectfully,

Diane Ware, 99-7815 Kapoha Pl, Volcano Hi 96785

GM-687

Submitted on: 3/17/2022 4:22:10 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2022 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
F. Lee Morey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have been active with the Kauai Board of Realtors for the past 36 years and served in many capacities from committies to President of KBR. I have worked successfully with Karen Ono during that time and found her to be a dedicated and committed Executive Officer. She had to learn the inner workings of Real Estate on Kauai along with the political nuances that accompany our most valuable resource. She was very successful in her position as Executive Officer of the Kauai Board of Realtors and will be missed in her retirement. Her knowledge and talents will be put to good use with the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Karen Ono will be a great asset to your Board. I can think of no one else on Kauai that would be more qualified to navigate our complicated Land Use System and the cultural sensitivity that must be part of that equasion.