JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĂINA

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ÄINA





STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

> P.O. BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of DAWN N. S. CHANG Chairperson

## Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 1:00pm State Capitol Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

## In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 563 SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAI'I HISTROIC PLACES REVIEW BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, RALPH KAM, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2026

# The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 563, nominating Mr. Ralph Kam to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board expiring June 30, 2026.

The Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board (Board) is established under Section 6E-5.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Board orders and enters historic properties into the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places and evaluates and recommends nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

Mr. Ralph Kam received a Doctor of Philosophy in American Studies from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Mr. Kam is an instructor at the Hawaii Tokai International College and lecturer at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He has served as an educator since 1997. Mr. Kam's research, publications, and academic contributions illustrate his expertise in Hawaiian, American, and international history. He brings his working knowledge as a historian to this Board.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Kam's valuable knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board until June 30, 2026.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

DAWN N.S. CHANG CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> LAURA H.E. KAAKUA 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 ENFORCEMENT FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS



<b>RF</b> •	GM 563 Confirmation of Ralph Kam
Committee:	Wednesday, March 29, 2023 1:00 p.m. Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
FROM:	Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director Historic Hawaiʻi Foundation
TO:	Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair Committee on Water and Land (WTL)

### RE: GM 563 Confirmation of Ralph Kam Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation, I am writing in **support for GM 563, confirming Ralph Kam to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board** for a term to expire June 30, 2026.

The Historic Places Review Board is responsible for maintaining and adding historic properties to the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places, nominating historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and reviewing the state's inventory of historic properties and the content of the statewide preservation plan.

The composition of the Review Board is required to include professionally qualified members in the fields of archaeology, architecture, history and sociology, as well as knowledge of traditional Hawaiian society and culture. The state board is also required to meet the qualifications in federal law (see HRS §6E-5.5) and to conduct its meetings and hearings in compliance with open government and fundamental fairness procedures.

Dr. Kam is a well-respected historian, researcher, author and instructor. He served as the interim director of the Historic Preservation Graduate Certificate Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa several times, helping to shape a generation of preservation professionals. In partnership with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, the Program has organized an annual preservation lecture series for 36 years. Dr. Kam has curated the series since 2019 and has also been a featured lecturer. He received a Historic Hawai'i Foundation Preservation Honor Award in 2019 for his contributions to the book "Partners in Change."

Historic Hawai'i Foundation has found Dr. Kam to be eminently qualified for the position on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. We believe he will bring subject matter expertise and a strong preservation ethic to the Board's deliberations and decisions.

Therefore, HHF is pleased to support the confirmation of Ralph Kam to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

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Historic Hawai'i Foundation was established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites and communities on all the islands of Hawai'i. As the statewide leader for historic preservation, HHF works to preserve Hawai'i's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, environmental sustainability and economic viability of the state.

<u>GM-563</u> Submitted on: 3/22/2023 5:02:16 PM Testimony for WTL on 3/29/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NO!!