

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | 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  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
1:00 PM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 568  
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND  
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
I'INIMAICALANI KAHAKALAU FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2027.**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 568, nominating Ms. I'inimaikalani Kahakalau to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawaii, expiring June 30, 2027.**

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes. The Councils determine whether to preserve in place or relocate previously identified native Hawaiian burials site, recognize lineal and cultural descendants, and provide counsel and advise to the Department. With the exception of the Moloka'i Island Burial Council, the island burial councils consist of no more than nine members, of which six representatives shall represent a specific geographic area, and no more than three shall be representatives of development and large landowner interests. Ms. Kahakalau is seeking to represent the Hamakua geographic area.

Ms. Kahakalau currently lives within the moku of Hamakua, and she is seeking to represent that geographic area. Ms. Kahakalau grew up in a family that speaks the Hawaiian language and practices Hawaiian traditions. She is an innovator that converges her cultural practices with place-based education in which she serves her community.

She is a graduate of Kanu O Ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School and the University of Hawaii at Hilo. She is currently a partner in Kū-A-Kanaka LLC and a project director for Basic Hawaiian. Her responsibilities include projects on social media, creating games, and providing technical support. She also oversees the online Hawaiian language and culture program.

**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  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Senate confirmation will ensure that Ms. Kahakalau's knowledge and unique lived perspective informs the deliberations of the Hawaii Island Burial Council until June 30, 2027.

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

**GM-568**

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 9:13:39 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/20/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support