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March 16, 2026

The Honorable Senator Chris Lee
State Capital
Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: GM 641 - Nomination to the Game Management Advisory Commission

Aloha Senator Chris Lee:

As requested, please find my written statement addressing questions 1 through 5 in your letter dated March 12, 2026 regarding GM 641 - Nomination to the Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC).

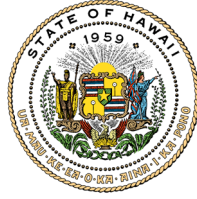
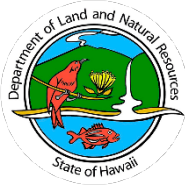
1. I wish to serve as a member of the GMAC to ensure Molokai is represented when it comes to discussions and decisions that affect our home and bring to light any issues and challenges we face as a community.
2. My understanding of the roles and responsibilities as a member of GMAC is that we serve as advisors to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, focusing on policies that balance wildlife conservation with recreational hunting opportunities.
3. I believe I am qualified to serve as a member of GMAC. I am a 3rd generation homesteader born and raised on Molokai. I grew up in a subsistence lifestyle where we harvested food from the land and sea. My father was the supervisor for the Molokai DLNR, so I was taught at a very young age the importance of protecting, managing and restoring natural and cultural resources. I have also served on several boards and am familiar with its culture and decorum.
4. My goal is to serve the board and community to the best of my ability. To be an effective tool for both the board and community to communicate and collaborate effectively.
5. I believe I do not have any affiliations, financial interests, legal record or prior work that could reasonably be perceived as creating a conflict of interest. However, I am a member of the Molokai Hunting Club and over the past few years, the club has been awarded grants of which I have entered into contracts with the club for which I have been compensated for work done under these grants.

Thank you for the opportunity and I look forward to our meeting. Should you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Elroy Mollena

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA
P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
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

Testimony of
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
Acting Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Wednesday, March 18, 2026
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 641
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE GAME
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ELROY
MOLLENA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 641, nominating Mr. Mollena to the Game Management Advisory Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2029.

Under Section 183D-4.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), the Game Management Advisory Commission (Commission) shall: 1) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board); and 2) Consist of nine members to be appointed by the Governor in the manner provided in Section 26-34, HRS. The Commission shall include a member from the County of Kaua'i, three members from the County of Maui (one member from each of the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i), two members from the County of Hawai'i (one member from East Hawai'i and one member from West Hawai'i), one member from the City and County of Honolulu, one at-large member, and the Chairperson of the Board or the Chairperson's designated representative. Other than the Chairperson of the Board, each member must be a hunter licensed in the State and have leadership experience in working directly with local hunters or shooting organizations. At least one member shall have knowledge, experience, and expertise in native Hawaiian cultural practices, and no more than three members shall represent, be employed by, or be under contract to any government sector.

Mr. Mollena has been nominated as a member of the Commission from the County of Maui, island of Moloka'i. Mr. Mollena is an active licensed hunter in the State of Hawai'i and would like to utilize his professional skills to assist the County of Maui in addressing obstacles related

to public hunting, access issues, utilization of non-public hunting area State lands, and wildlife-urban interface issues. Mr. Mollena is willing to meet with stakeholders to strengthen relationships that, in turn, will enhance game management policies and procedures.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

GM-641

Submitted on: 3/13/2026 1:57:35 PM

Testimony for WLA on 3/18/2026 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Godfrey Akaka	Testifying for The Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We support Elroy Mollena to represent Molokai for GMAC representative. He is a life long hunter gatherer, and communicates well with hunters and the people of Molokai. We are grateful for his intrest and time in serving our community in this capacity. Mahalo.