

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**

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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 645
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE KĀNE'OHE
BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JOSEPH PICKARD,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2029**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 645 nominating Mr. Joseph Pickard to the Kāne'ōhe Bay Regional Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2029.

Pursuant to Section 200D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Kāne'ōhe Bay Regional Council was established to, among other things, facilitate the implementation of the Kāne'ōhe Bay Master Plan as it relates to ocean use activities and advise and make recommendations to the State and the County on matters regarding the use of Kāne'ōhe Bay by the general public, marine research programs, and commercial ocean use activities, including legislative matters. Membership on the Council includes government officials, area neighborhood board members, and individuals representing user groups of the Bay.

Mr. Pickard is a Native Hawaiian business and community leader with decades of experience in environmental stewardship, marine operations, and regional planning. He is the longtime owner of Sea Hawaii Inc., a company providing eco-marine tours, marine sampling, and ocean transport services in Hawai'i, giving him extensive practical knowledge of local marine ecosystems and commercial ocean activities. Mr. Pickard also founded Environet, an environmental engineering and remediation firm that conducts undersea chemical munitions assessments and other environmental projects across the Pacific region. His past service includes membership on the Kāne'ōhe Bay Regional Council, as well as leadership roles in multiple Hawai'i-based organizations focused on environmental, community, and research initiatives. With his combined experience in marine operations, environmental management, and local governance, Mr. Pickard brings deep

regional insight and long-standing commitment to responsible stewardship of Kāneʻohe Bay. The Department welcomes the wealth of knowledge and wisdom that Mr. Pickard will bring to the Kāneʻohe Bay Regional Council.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support on the confirmation of Mr. Joseph Pickard to serve on the Kāneʻohe Bay Regional Council.



Ko`olau Foundation

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March 16, 2026

To: Sen. Chris Lee, Chair
Sen. Lorraine Inouye, Vice Chair
& Members, Committee on Water & Land

From: Mahealani Cypher, President
Ko`olau Foundation

Re: Re-Appointment of Joseph Pickard – Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council – GM645

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members:

The Ko`olau Foundation **strongly supports** the re-appointment of Joseph Pickard to serve another term on the Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council

We have known and worked with Joe Pickard for many years. He has proven himself a dedicated community leader, businessman and ocean sports advocate. Joe would serve on this Council to represent the commercial boating interests still legally active in Kane`ohe bay.

As one of the writers of the Kane`ohe Bay Master Plan, Joe has many years of history urging protection of the Bay itself and its marine resources. He remains a strong supporter of responsible management of this vital resource.

We urge our concurrence with his reappointment.

Mahalo for your consideration of our mana`o.