

GM 270

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
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**TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Governor Message 270 - Submitting for Consideration To The
Hawai'i Island Burial Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Roy S. Helbush**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

April 3, 2008

It is with pleasure that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) recommends Senate confirmation of the appointment of Roy S. Helbush to the Hawai'i Island Burial Council.

The Island Burial Councils were established under Chapter 6E-43.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to determine the preservation in place or relocation of previously identified native Hawaiian burial sites and to determine Hawaiian cultural and lineal descendancy claims for specific burials.

State law requires that Island Burial Councils be established for Hawai'i, Maui/Lanai, Molokai, Oahu and Kaua'i/Ni'ihau islands, and be comprised of representatives from specific geographic regions and representatives of developer/large property owners. Roy S. Helbush was nominated to serve as a landowner representative on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council. If confirmed, Ms. Roy S. Helbush will serve until June 30, 2012.

Roy S. Helbush was raised on the island of Hawai'i. Mr. Helbush's family has been ranching and farming on family land in Kau for many years. The Department notes that Mr. Helbush currently serves as a valued member of the Hawai'i Island Burial Council. During his service over the last two years, Mr. Helbush has gained the respect and admiration of his fellow council members.

The Department greatly appreciates your consideration of Roy S. Helbush and strongly recommends his confirmation to the Hawai'i Island Burial Council.