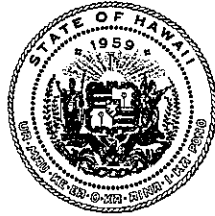
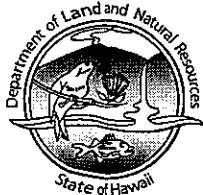


GM 273

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

LAURA H. THIELEN  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI  
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA  
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  
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

Governor Message 273 - Submitting For Consideration To The  
Molokai Island Burial Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Malia K. H. Akutagawa, Esq.

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

April 3, 2008

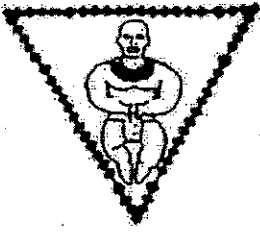
It is with pleasure that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) recommends Senate confirmation of the appointment of Malia K. H. Akutagawa, Esq. to the Molokai Island Burial Council.

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. Malia K. H. Akutagawa was nominated to serve as the Kalawao District representative on the Molokai Island Burial Council. If confirmed, Malia K. H. Akutagawa will serve until June 30, 2012.

Malia K. H. Akutagawa, Esq. is currently the Director of Molokai Rural Development Project. She was born and raised on Molokai. She has an extensive background in biology and law. The Department notes that Malia K. H. Akutagawa currently serves as a valued member of the Molokai Island Burial Council.

The Department greatly appreciates your consideration of Malia K. H. Akutagawa, Esq. and strongly recommends her confirmation to the Molokai Island Burial Council.



# HUI MĀLAMA I NĀ KŪPUNA O HAWAI'I NEI

(GROUP CARING FOR THE ANCESTORS OF HAWAI'I)

**Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs**  
**Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair**

## Testimony in Support of Gubernatorial Nominees to Island Burial Councils

Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna O Hawai'i Nei has been active for 18 years in the repatriation and reburial of ancestral Hawaiian remains and funerary possessions, including the conduct of 98 NAGPRA repatriation cases and hundreds of reburials. Our international repatriation efforts involved the South Australian Museum, the Royal Ontario Museum in Canada, University of Zurich in Switzerland and the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. We also helped repatriate other native people's remains back to their homelands of Australia, Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Tahiti, Marquesas, Tuamotu, Mangareva, New Zealand, and the Southwest and Southeast United States. For us, the bottom line has always been and will always be how best to provide requisite care and protection to iwi kūpuna (ancestral bones) and their moepū (funerary possessions). Having responsible members of the community serve on the island burial councils is an important way to help assure that requisite care and protection is provided to ancestral graves.

We submit this testimony to indicate our unequivocal **support** of the following gubernatorial nominees to their respective island burial councils:

- |      |                                     |                               |
|------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1)  | MALIA KH AKUTAGAWA                  | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (2)  | FRANCES COBB-ADAMS                  | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (3)  | SUE ANN M.M. HASEGAWA               | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (4)  | KEKAMAIIKAMAIIKALANI HELM           | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (5)  | ELROY KM MALO                       | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (6)  | JERSULA L. MANABA                   | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (7)  | MICHELLE KANANIONAPUA AYAU PESCAIA  | Molokai Island Burial Council |
| (8)  | KU KAHAKALAU                        | Hawai'i Island Burial Council |
| (9)  | SCOTT KIKILOI                       | O'ahu Island Burial Council   |
| (10) | HINALEIMOANA KK WONG                | O'ahu Island Burial Council   |
| (11) | ANGELA LISA LEIMAILE EHIA-QUITTEVIS | O'ahu Island Burial Council   |

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Halealoha Ayau  
Executive Director

## testimony

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**From:** Kathryn Davis [kdavis@QLCC.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2008 9:32 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Molokai Island Burial Council

Aloha,

I support the nomination of Malia Akutagawa to the Molokai Island Burial Council. I have worked with Ms. Akutagawa for many years as a Board-member of our non-profit Halawa Valley Land Trust, and in a more informal manner as a fellow community advocate for rural development.

She is honorable, respected, and educated about the intricacies of management of cultural resources. She is able to research problems to find solutions, and has been effective at the interface of community and government agencies in her capacity as a Molokai Planning Commissioner. Her legal background and knowledge of the law is an asset that helps in any discussion, and especially when dealing with such an important task as proper handling of Hawaiian ancestral remains.

Please confirm the nomination of Malia Akutagawa to the Molokai Island Burial Council.

Mahalo,  
K. Mahealani Davis  
P.O.Box 350  
Kaunakakai HI 96748

*Glenn I. Teves*  
P.O. Box 261  
Kualapu'u, HI 96757

March 31, 2008

**Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs**  
**Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair**  
**Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair**

RE: Letter of Support for Malia Akutagawa as a Nominee for the Molokai Burial Council

Aloha Senators! I'm writing in support of Malia Akutagawa as a nominee for the Molokai Burial Council. Firstly, this is a thankless job that the Governor's administration has had a difficult time finding able Molokai residents to serve.

Ms. Akutagawa is a top-notch candidate for this Council. She's articulate, learned, and has an intimate understanding of the issues related to this Council. I have worked with her in her present position as the Executive Director of the Molokai Rural Development Project since she started, and have served as the Chair for the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Her background in law, and her knowledge in culture and history of Molokai are key components to understanding the issues related to burials specifically on Molokai.

I hope you will peruse her application and find it fit to approve her nomination. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at cell 658-0794. Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Glenn I. Teves  
Hoolehua, Molokai

TESTIMONY of Moses K. N. Haia III

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

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

HEARING

DATE: Thursday, April 3, 2008

TIME: 2:45 p.m.

PLACE: State Capitol – Conference Room 224

RE: GM 273                    **Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Island of Molokai, Gubernatorial Nominee, Malia K. H. Akutagawa, for a term to expire 6/30/2012.**

Good morning Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair English, members of the Committee. I stand in strong support of Malia K. H. Akutagawa's appointment to the Molokai Island Burial Council. Ms. Akutagawa's professional and personal backgrounds provide her with a deep understanding of the culture, history, burial beliefs, customs and practices of native Hawaiians.

I have worked closely with Ms. Akutagawa and can assure you that her commitment to the protection and preservation of the unique historic and cultural heritage of this State's native people is deep, sincere, and unwavering. As such, I have every confidence that her participation as a member of the Molokai Island Burial Council will result in positive and creative action designed to further the State's stated public policy to "provide leadership in preserving, restoring, and maintaining historic and cultural property, to ensure the administration of such historic and cultural property in a spirit of stewardship and trusteeship..."

With the above in mind, I urge you to confirm Ms. Akutagawa's nomination. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.