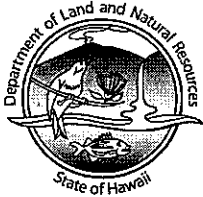


GM 287

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  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

Governor Message 287 - Submitting for Consideration To The  
Kaua'i/Ni'ihau Island Burial Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Michael Y. M. Loo

**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 Michael Y. M. Loo to the Kaua'i/Ni'ihau 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. Michael Y. M. Loo was nominated to serve as the landowner representative on the Kaua'i/Ni'ihau Island Burial Council. If confirmed, Michael Y. M. Loo will serve until June 30, 2012.

Michael Y. M. Loo is a self-employed real estate manager and currently works with Princeville Corporation. Michael Y. M. Loo's background in real estate development makes him a highly valued candidate for the Kaua'i/Ni'ihau Island Burial Council.

The Department greatly appreciates your consideration of Michael Y. M. Loo and strongly recommends his confirmation to the Kaua'i/Ni'ihau Island Burial Council.

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

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

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

April 3, 2008  
2:45 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON GM 286 AND 287, RELATING TO GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEES  
MARK S. HUBBARD AND MICHAEL Y.M. LOO TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL,  
ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NIIHAU.**

**TO THE HONORABLE JILL N. TOKUDA, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

My name is Bryan J. Baptiste, Mayor, providing testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominees Mark S. Hubbard (GM 286) and Michael Y.M. Loo (GM 287) to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Niihau (Council).

The Council plays an important role in determining the proper care and treatment of prehistoric and historic burial sites found within the County of Kaua'i. Their oversight ensures compliance with federal and state laws applying to historic burial sites, but more importantly, that the remains found in the sites are preserved or relocated with the sensitivity and dignity appropriate to our kupuna. Both Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Loo are well-known in our communities for their commitment to public service.

We ask you to confirm their nomination, and thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.

**testimony**

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**From:** Tom [tomesq@hawaiiantel.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2008 11:54 AM  
**To:** testimony; Sen. Jill Tokuda; Sen. J. Kalani English; Sen. Mike Gabbard; Sen. Clayton Hee; Sen. Russell Kokubun; Sen. Sam Slom  
**Subject:** Confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kauai and Ni'ihau, Testimony Re Confirmation of MICHAEL Y. M. LOO

February 12, 2008

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY  
[testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
[sentokuda@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sentokuda@capitol.hawaii.gov)

J. Kalani English, Vice Chair  
[senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senenglish@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Mike Gabbard  
[sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Clayton Hee  
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Russell S. Kokubun  
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San Slom  
[senslom@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senslom@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Legislature's Public Access Room  
Testimony Re Confirmation of **MICHAEL Y. M. LOO**

RE: Committee On Agriculture And Hawaiian Affairs  
Confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kauai and Ni'ihau,  
Governatorial Nominee **MICHAEL Y. M. LOO**

I have known this Nominee for nearly two years. I have had the pleasure to work closely with him on a professional basis.

Mr. Loo has had decades of experience representing very large landowners on the Hawaiian islands, especially Kauai. In particular, he has acted as consultant to large land developers on the island of Kauai. This would include land management, development and real estate brokerage issues.

Further, Mr. Loo has developed extensive relationships with the Kauai Hawaiian community and is very

2/12/2008

well connected to Kauai on all levels. This includes the Kauai County government officials and the local residents of Kauai.

His professional competency and ethics are unsurpassed.

**Tom Thompson -- Asset Administration**

Princeville at Hanalei  
P. O. Box 223040 | 5-4280 Kuhio Highway  
Princeville, Kauai, Hawaii 96722  
Phone: 808.346.5198  
Fax: 808.826.8989  
[tthompson@princeville.com](mailto:tthompson@princeville.com)



Princeville at Hanalei

March 23, 2007

The Honorable Linda Lingle  
Governor  
State of Hawai'i  
Executive Chambers  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Michael Y.M. Loo, Candidate for Kaua'i Island Burial Council

Dear Governor Lingle:

This will confirm our endorsement and support of Mr. Michael Y.M. Loo as a large land owner representative, to the Kaua'i Island Burial Council. Mr. Loo and his firm, Building Solutions, LLC, assist us in planning and real estate development activities for our lands at Princeville at Hanalei. As a long-term resident and involved community member, he is well qualified for this position.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve the needs of the State of Hawai'i and the Island of Kaua'i through Mr. Loo's participation.

Sincerely,

Princeville Associates, LLC

Jeffrey Stone  
Managing Partner

Z:\Email\WP\Loo\07-03\23 Office of the Governor.LXX

Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs Committee  
State Senate

Chair Tokuda and members of the Committee on  
Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs,

It is my distinct pleasure and honor to recommend Michael Loo to the Kauai-Niihau Island Burial Council as a land-owner representative. Pursuant to the statutes that created the State Burial Councils, Mike fulfills the position called for in his capacity as a representative of Princeville Corporation. As a former burial council member I understand the need for a clear understanding of the laws governing the disposition of inadvertent discovery of iwi and the ability to make reasonable and fair decisions in view of the landowner's interests and those of the descendants or claimants.

I have known Mike Loo for almost 40 years. Most of his professional career has been spent on Kauai at Princeville where development activity preceded the creation and adoption of the statutes aimed at establishing the process to handle ancient burials and inadvertent discoveries. Michael has been through a myriad of land use law amendments and adoption of new laws and is very familiar with most of the processes involved for each. He has had to deal with these inadvertent discoveries and has been involved with the re-interment and disinterment processes throughout his career. It can be a very sensitive process for the landowner and it takes a certain individual to be able to weigh the needs of the lineal and cultural descendants to make the right decision. Often that decision is a fine line and does create much controversy and emotional stress. For as long as I've known Mike, he has always been very forthright in all of his decisions. He is conscientious and diligent in his responsibilities not only as a professional but to the community he serves. I serve and have served with him on several boards and non-profit organizations and he is a very dependable, capable individual.

Mike brings a lot of land use and development expertise to the Burial Council which is important to the overall process. He understands the need to take appropriate and timely actions, a criticism sometimes aimed at many of our government boards and commissions. Yet, he is astute enough to know when cases need to be studied for the best possible resolution.

I wholeheartedly endorse Michael Loo for the position he is being considered and ask for your consideration in appointing someone who is deliberate and considerate in his actions and who is willing to serve the residents of Kauai and Niihau. Thank you.  
Tom Shigemoto

A&B Properties, Inc.  
Tom H. Shigemoto  
Vice President  
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