

TESTIMONY
GM 487

Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land

March 14, 2008

Lori Leimamo Buchanan

Legacy Lands Conservation Commission

Chair Hee, members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land, thank you for this opportunity to present background about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Legacy Lands Conservation Commission.

I was born and raised on the island of Molokai. I grew up in Manawainui where our closest neighbor was 3 miles away. I attended and graduated from Molokai High and Intermediate school.

I am the mother of eight children and have owned and managed small businesses related to security services, mortuary services, bus transportation and tourism. For the past 10 years I have concentrated my work and efforts in the field of conservation and am currently employed by the Molokai/Maui Invasive Species Committee.

I know the protection and preservation of our lands in Hawaii is crucial. With the ever increasing threats from development we must find ways to preserve lands in perpetuity. I believe my years of experience in planning and conservation can help the commission achieve these goals.

I am anxious and look forward to the challenge of serving Hawaii nei and to do what we all know to be pono.



COORDINATING GROUP ON
ALIEN PEST SPECIES

The Senate
Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 14, 2008
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 414
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of GM 487- Gubernatorial Nominee Lori Leimamo Buchanan

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to ask for your support of Gubernatorial Nominee Lori Buchanan to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. Ms. Buchanan is a well-respected and admired community leader not just on Moloka'i, but also in the greater conservation community statewide. As the Program Manager and half of the field crew of the Moloka'i Invasive Species Committee (MoMISC), Ms. Buchanan has tirelessly worked to detect, map and control incipient invasive plants and animals and to educate the public. She has seen to the eradication of several species of invasive plants on the island, and has kept coqui frogs from possibly becoming established.

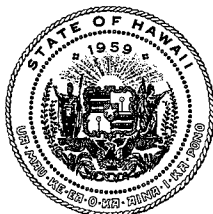
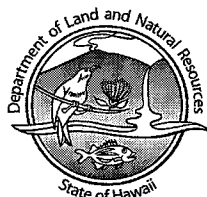
Ms. Buchanan's work on the Moloka'i Planning Commission is another example of her leadership abilities and dedication to perpetuating a livable place for the generations to come.

For these reasons and more, I am confident in Ms. Buchanan's ability to assist fellow commissioners, the department and the board in making wise decisions regarding land acquisitions and grants, and I ask for your support. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Aloha,

Christy Martin
Public Information Officer
Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS)
Ph: (808) 722-0995

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

on Governor's Message 487 – "LORI LEIMAMO BUCHANAN" GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE TO THE LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION, FOR A TERM TO
EXPIRE 06-30-2012

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WATER AND LAND

March 14, 2008

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message (GM) 487 to appoint Lori Leimamo Buchanan to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2012.

The Legacy Land Conservation Commission (Commission) is composed of nine members appointed by the Governor in accordance with Section 26-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), with at least one member from each of the counties, four members with scientific qualifications and academic degrees in wildlife or marine biology, botany, forestry, ecology, resource management, biogeography, zoology, or geology; one a member from an environmental organization; one a member from a land conservation organization; one a member in a statewide agricultural association; and one member knowledgeable about Native Hawaiian culture. The purpose of the Commission is to advise and make recommendations to the board on the acquisition of land having value as a resource to the State and the awarding of grants to qualifying state or county agencies or nonprofit land conservation organizations for the preservation of lands having value as a resource to the State under Chapter 173A, HRS.

Ms. Buchanan is filling the requirement of being a member from a land conservation organization organized in the State. Ms. Buchanan is an active member of The Nature Conservancy and served five years as the Chairperson of the Moloka'i Planning Commission. During this time, she developed expertise in land use law and policy. For the past five years, she has served as a field and outreach technician for the Moloka'i/Maui Invasive Species Committee and has worked with state, county and federal partners to coordinate, and carry out invasive species control on Molokai. Ms. Buchanan also has experience as a trustee and teacher at two Moloka'i schools, and has had heavy involvement in community organizations and activities with the Moloka'i community, and will be a representative of that island on the Commission.

The Department supports G.M. 487 on the appointment of Ms. Lori Leimamo Buchanan to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission and looks forward to working with her in the future.

**Testimony Relating to GM487 on consideration and confirmation to the
Legacy Land Conservation Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Lori Leimano Buchanan, for a term to expire 06-30-2012**

**Senate Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 14, 2008 2:45 pm
Room 414**

I am writing to support the confirmation of Lori Buchanan to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. I have had the honor of knowing and working closely with Ms. Buchanan on natural resource issues for nearly six years. She is professional in all she does and passionate about protecting Hawaii's natural resources.

As the lead person for invasive species issues on Molokai, Ms. Buchanan has excelled at building partnerships by involving members of the agricultural community, in addition to garnering the support of state, federal, county and local non-profit agencies. She has translated the respect she commands in the Molokai community into a supportive environment for invasive species control projects across the island. Under her leadership, the Molokai Invasive Species Committee has effectively stepped in to fill part of the gap in conducting work on agricultural pests in the absence of a state agricultural inspector on the island. She has excelled at protecting Molokai from some of Hawaii's worst invasive species.

Ms. Buchanan has extensive experience working within governmental processes. As the Chair of the Molokai Planning Commission, she presided over many contentious community issues. Her recent nomination by Mayor Tavares to return to the Planning Commission is a testament to her previous success on that body. She serves as an alternate on the Molokai Water Working Group, convened by the Commission on Water Resource Management. Ms. Buchanan's public service and involvement have prepared her well for a statewide conservation appointment. She has a natural ability to identify and articulate the central issue in a conflict in a way that allows participants to make clear choices under complex circumstances. Her focus is always on how to achieve positive action, for which she is widely respected.

As a Native Hawaiian and lifelong Molokai resident, Ms. Buchanan will make an excellent addition to the Commission. I recommend her to you without hesitation or reservation.



Teya M. Penniman

HUI HONU INC.

3785 Old Pali Road, Honolulu, HI 96817 Ph. 808-284-5777

Please find one letter of testimony for a hearing for GM 487 by:

Committee on Water and Land
2:45 p.m., Friday, March 14, 2008
Conference Room 414
One copy is being requested of each.

VIA FACSIMILE: 586-6659

Re: Testimony in Support of GM 487-Gubernatorial Nominee Lori Leimamo Buchanan

Aloha Chairman Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Gubernatorial Nominee Lori Buchanan to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Mrs. Buchanan is a respected friend and conservationist and is a long-time steward of the lands and oceans of Molokai. She is a community leader, works tirelessly as Program Manager of Molokai Invasive Species Committee (MoMISC), and has been a strong voice of reason on Molokai's Planning Commission.

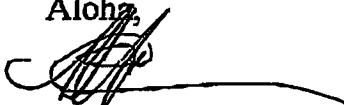
She is well-qualified and respected in the conservation field State-wide, and her work has given her a broad base of knowledge and support among her associates.

I cannot think of a better candidate to steward the 'aina and perpetuate the life of the land. Mrs. Buchanan's experience, dedication and wisdom are perfect qualifications for her seat on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

I ask for your support in confirming Lori Buchanan's nomination to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. She will make a wonderful member of this board.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Aloha,



Heidi Ho Conjugacion
Hui Honu Inc.
President



The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
923 Nu'uuanu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

Tel (808) 537-4508
Fax (808) 545-2019

nature.org/hawaii

MARK FOX
DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting GM 487 and the Confirmation of Lori L. Buchanan
to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission
Senate Committee on Water & Land
Friday, March 14, 2008, 2:45PM, Room 414

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawai'i's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for rare and endangered native species in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i and also work closely with government agencies and private landowners on cooperative land management projects.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i supports the confirmation of Lori Leimamo Buchanan to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Approved in 2005, the Legacy Land Act has provided a critical source of funding for land acquisitions to protect important natural, cultural, agricultural, and recreational areas. Thanks to this landmark legislation and the work of government and private partners, this program has contributed key funding support to protect undeveloped lands around the state that will be a natural legacy for generations to come.

With their individual and collective expertise in conservation, culture, agriculture, and community service, the Legacy Land Conservation Commission plays the critical role of reviewing and making recommendations on proposals for Legacy Land funding. The Nature Conservancy believes that Lori Buchanan will be a significant asset to the work of the Commission. Lori has good and valuable experience in conservation and land protection, including on-the-ground management and land use planning. She has a strong track record of organizing and managing successful conservation and land protection projects, and a very positive reputation for bringing partners together to achieve successful results.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support for Lori's confirmation to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. We hope you will give her appointment your most enthusiastic recommendation for approval to the full Senate.

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Big Island Invasive Species Committee



The Senate
Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 14, 2008
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 414
State Capitol

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Ms. Buchanan's work on the Moloka'i Planning Commission is another example of her leadership abilities and dedication to perpetuating a livable place for the generations to come.

For these reasons and more, I am confident in Ms. Buchanan's ability to assist fellow commissioners, the department and the board in making wise decisions regarding land acquisitions and grants, and I ask for your support. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Julie Leialoha
Big Island Invasive Species Committee
Manager
808-933-3340

TESTIMONY

GM 487

(END)