

TESTIMONY
GM 386

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Monday, February 16, 2009
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 386 - SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION TO THE
ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF OAHU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
AARON D. MAHI**

It is with pleasure that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) recommends Senate confirmation of the appointment of Aaron D. Mahi to the Oahu Island Burial Council.

The Island Burial Councils were established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii 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 Hawaii, Maui/Lanai, Molokai, Oahu and Kauai/Niihau islands, comprised of representatives from specific geographic regions and representatives of developer/large property owners.

Aaron D. Mahi was nominated to serve as the Koolau Poko District representative on the Oahu Island Burial Council. If confirmed, Aaron D. Mahi will serve until June 30, 2013.

Aaron D. Mahi brings a deep understanding of the Hawaiian traditions and culture to his council duties. He is a highly respected Hawaiian as well as an internationally acclaimed musician. The Department notes that Aaron D. Mahi currently serves as a valued member of the Oahu Island Burial Council.

The Department greatly appreciates your consideration of Aaron D. Mahi and strongly recommends his confirmation to the Oahu Island Burial Council.

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

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
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From:
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2009 1:09 PM
To:
Subject: FW: GM386 - Testimony in Support of Reappointment of Aaron D. Mahi - O'ahu Island Burial Council

From: Jace McQuivey [mailto:McQuiveyJ@hawaiireserves.com]
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2009 10:00 AM
To: Sen. Clayton Hee
Subject: GM386 - Testimony in Support of Reappointment of Aaron D. Mahi - O'ahu Island Burial Council

February 13, 2009

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Submitted via email: senhee@Capitol.hawaii.gov and <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/emailtestimony>.

RE: Testimony in **strong support** of the re-appointment of Aaron D. Mahi to the O'ahu Island Burial Council.
Hearing, Monday February 16, 2009: 11:00am – Conference Room 229
Ref GM 386

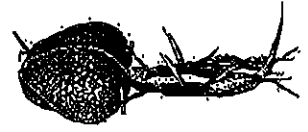
My name is Jace McQuivey and I currently serve on the O'ahu Island Burial Council as its Chairman. I offer this testimony in **strong support** of the re-appointment of Aaron D. Mahi to the O'ahu Island Burial Council. I do so individually and not in my capacity as Chairman of the Council. Through my many opportunities of working with Mr. Mahi in the community and on the O'ahu Island Burial Council, I know him to have an extraordinary knowledge of native Hawaiian genealogies, history, music and cultural practices. He is a treasure to the State of Hawaii because of his unique understanding of the language, culture and music. He is revered by the Hawaiian community for his gentle and steady approach to difficult issues and he is respected by all for his balanced approach and manner. The people of Hawaii should be honored that Mr. Mahi would offer himself to serve in this capacity and the O'ahu Island Burial Council would continue to be greatly served by his participation.

I strongly urge you to affirm the nomination of Mr. Mahi and thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.

Jace L. McQuivey

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February 13, 2009

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair,
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature Regular Session of 2009,
Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs
For Hearing of Monday, February 16, 2009, 11:00 A.M.

Subject: GM 386 Consideration and Confirmation to the Island Burial Council,
Island of O'ahu Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Aaron D. Mahi, for a
term to expire 6-30-2013

Aloha to the Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair:

We the undersigned are quite familiar with the good work of present Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. Aaron D. Mahi, on the O'ahu Island Burial Council.

We are thankful for the informed, thoughtful, and balanced perspective Mr. Mahi has provided and strongly support his confirmation to another term of service to the people of Hawaii in this important capacity.

Mahalo for your consideration of this testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Mr. Aaron D. Mahi.

Aloha.

Hallett H. Hammatt

David W. Shideler

Douglas Borthwick

From: kawikam@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2009 11:09 AM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: Support of GM 386- Consideration and Confirmation of Aaron D. Mahi to Oahu Island Burial Council

To be heard on Monday, 2/6/09 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 229 Before the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs-

Attn: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Re: Support of GM 386- Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Island of Oahu, Gubernatorial Nominee, AARON D. MAHI, for a term to expire 6-30-2013

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and the members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs-

It has been my privilege to serve with Anakala Aaron Mahi on the O'ahu Island Burial Council for these past 4 years. His deep wisdom and aloha for our kupuna is highly respected and is a true added blessing and value to the spirit and nature in which the OIBC conducts its duties. His gentle and spiritual kulana brings a necessary spirit of resolve, which is an important element to have as a foundation from which the OIBC must carry its responsibility regarding the care and treatment of ancestral remains. I highly support his nomination and appointment as the Ko'olaupoko District representative to the OIBC. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Kawika McKeague
O'ahu Island Burial Council, 'Ewa District Representative & Vice-Chair
(808) 265-7901
kawikam@hawaii.rr.com

TESTIMONY

GM 386

(END)