

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 387**  
**LATE**

LATE FORGIVENESS

HAWAII STATE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Consideration of the Appointment of Mark Kawika McKeague  
To the Oahu Island Burial Council

Monday, February 16, 2009  
Rm. 229  
11 a.m.  
State Capitol

Testimony of:  
Kem Lowry

I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the appointment of Mark Kawika McKeague to the Oahu Burial Council.

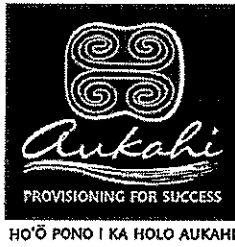
Kawika McKeague earned a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. I was pleased serve on his committee.

During his time in the department, Kawika earned the respect of faculty and fellow students with his intellect, energy and collaborative spirit. He managed to balance his studies with a job and commitments to his *hula halau*. In spite of multiple demands, his academic work was thorough and creative.

His final paper was a superb review and analysis of the technical, land use management and cultural issues associated with Hawaiian burial sites.

After graduation, he has done much to infuse his professional planning work with his deep knowledge of Hawaiian culture and traditions.

He offers knowledge, a collaborative spirit and deep respect for the challenges of the work of the Council.



LATE TESTIMONY

VIA EMAIL:

To: Senator Clayton H.W. Hee, Chair  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Lani Ma'a Lapilio

Hearing Date: Monday, February 16, 2009, 11:00 a.m., Conference Room #229

Subject: Support of GM 387 Confirmation of Mark Kawika Mckeague to the Island Burial Council, Island of O'ahu

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice-chair and members of the committee,

I am Lani Ma'a Lapilio, principal of Aukahi, a cultural consulting firm. My public service in the field of historic preservation includes my work as an Executive Board member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and regional chair, Board member of the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities, Board member of the Hawai'i Heritage Center, advisor to the Historic Hawai'i Foundation, board member of the Friends of the Judiciary History Center and the native Hawaiian Bar Association.

It is a great privilege to write this letter of strong support for the confirmation of Mark Kawika Mckeague to the Island Burial Council, Island of O'ahu (OIBC). I have had many opportunities to work with Kawika over the years and know him to be an intelligent and dedicated professional that is committed to the proper care of the iwi kupuna. He has a distinguished career as a cultural planning professional as well as a trained cultural practitioner, an ideal background for his deliberative work on the OIBC. Being a member of the Council is not an easy task and requires a huge commitment of time and dedication to the work of finding the best possible solution in very difficult circumstances. One must learn the laws, regulations and rules of practice and the role of the OIBC within this framework. As vice-chair of the OIBC, Kawika has been an effective leader and brings a balanced perspective to help find consensus in the important deliberations and decisions of the Council.

I have no doubt that Mr. Mckeague will continue to be a tremendous asset to the Burial Council. He is knowledgeable and well respected in both the Hawaiian and the community at large. Most importantly he is one that truly cares about the kuleana (responsibility) of caring for our ancestors. I believe that he will honor this kuleana and do what is right in the very difficult situations that come before the Council for deliberation.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and attention to this important matter and humbly ask for your support to confirm Mark Kawika Mckeague as a gubernatorial nominee to the O'ahu Island Burial Council. Aloha a hui hou.

**TESTIMONY**

**GM 387**

**LATE**

**(END)**