

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 396**

Testimony Before the Senate Commission on Water, Land and  
Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
February 16, 2009, 11:00 a.m., Conference Room 229,  
State Capital, 415 South Beretania Street

Henry K. Tancayo, Sr., GM 396  
Hawaiian Homes Commission, Molokai Island

Aloha Chairman Clayton Hee and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs. Mahalo for the opportunity to present some background about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

I am very honored to be nominated by Governor Lingle as the Moloka'i representative to this important commission that provides direction to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. I currently reside on a 40-acre homestead lot in Ho'olehua that was passed on to me by my grandmother, Mary K. Poaha. She was one of the first persons awarded a lease in 1926. Her daughter, my pure Hawaiian mother, gave birth to me on this homestead. My wife Patricia and I have been the lessees for over 40 years and we have raised our four children here.

I am a retired Battalion Chief of the Maui County Fire department. As Battalion chief, I was proud to serve the community. I would be equally proud to serve the state and the community as a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The Hawaiian Homes Commission has an important role in uplifting and preserving the native Hawaiian people of our state. The Commission can also have an important role of being creative in utilizing its assets to help the state in its economic recovery by developing new communities and strengthening existing ones.

As a Commissioner, I would work with others to address the important housing and economic development needs of native Hawaiians. I have the insight of a homesteader; I know the history of the department; I understand the struggles that need to be overcome; and, I have demonstrated leadership experience to make important decisions. I believe in progress but know the importance of balance. I am always guided by my Hawaiian values of lokahi and pono. Being a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner will give me the opportunity to work with others interested in awarding more homestead leases, facilitate successful agricultural and ranching activities, encourage

alternative energy and other economic development activities in the native Hawaiian community.

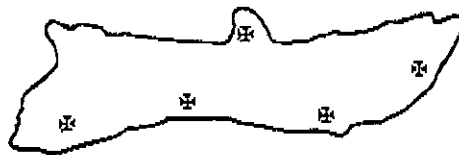
I believe I possess some of the qualities needed to be a successful Commissioner. As a homesteader, my wife and I have been involved with agriculture, raised livestock, owned a small business and have been involved in many issues in our community. Throughout my life on Molokai, I have taken on many leadership positions. As a young man, I was president of Kualapuu School PTA, Moloka'i Jaycees and the Kualapuu-Hoolehua Catholic Association. I was also active in 4-H for over almost 20 years as a livestock leader and council member. Later, I helped to create the Moloka'i Homestead Livestock Association and became its president. We acquired a 7000-acre lease where homesteaders can raise their cattle for subsistence and sale. Today the association has over 300 head of cattle. As a founding member of the Moloka'i Livestock Cooperative, we built the Moloka'i slaughter house. I also served on the Moloka'i Planning Commission that dealt with the complex issues of water and development on my island. Today I am an active volunteer for Hospice Moloka'i, the Moloka'i Seniors Program, and the Moloka'i Catholic Community.

I welcome the challenges of being a Commissioner. Mahalo nui loa.

# BLESSED DAMIEN CATHOLIC PARISH

St. Vincent Church  
Maunaloa

St. Sophia Church  
Kaunakakai



Father Damien's Churches  
Kalaupapa

St. Joseph Church  
Kamalo

Our Lady of Sorrows Church  
Kalua'aha

February 14, 2009

Senator Clayton Hee,  
Chairman, Land, Water, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hawaii State Capital, Room 228  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96818

Dear Senator Hee:

This letter is written in reference to the appointment of Mr. Henry Tancayo as Commissioner of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. I am pleased to support his appointment.

Mr. Tancayo is a respected member of the Blessed Damien Catholic Parish of which I am Pastor. To my knowledge, he has served and continues to serve in many positions with skilled leadership and knowledge. Included in Mr. Tancayo's many endeavors are his service as former chairman of the Parish Pastoral Council, as past organizer of upkeep and maintenance of the parish plant. He also serves as subcommittee chairman at our annual community fundraising events on island, and subcommittee chairman at our annual Blessed Damien Lei of Aloha on Oahu. All of these positions which reach out to the greater island community, require the ability to listen, plan and make appropriate decisions.

Mr. Tancayo displays a great willingness and commitment to the countless activities to which he is asked to participate and assist. Without doubt, Mr. Tancayo will be a welcome asset to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clyde L. Guerreiro".

Reverend Clyde L. Guerreiro  
Pastor  
Blessed Damien Catholic Parish

February 14, 2009

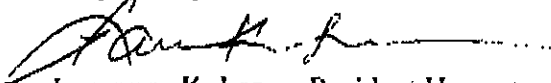
RE: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR  
MR. HENRY K. TANCAYO

It is my privilege to present to you Mr. Henry K. Tancayo a person of the most sincere and outstanding individual of the Hawaiian Community.

I have known Mr. Tancayo for the last sixteen years as an individual who will commit himself to seek ways of improving the quality life styles of Native Hawaiians. As a beneficiary of the Hawaiians Homesteads Act Mr. Tancayo resides in the Hoolehua district on the island of Molokai, and has helped to organize and continues to serve on the Molokai Homestead Livestock Association where the product of raising livestock for the homesteaders benefits everyone involved.

It is with the utmost respect that I believe Mr. Henry Tancayo can serve and use his treasured talents in any capacity that he is most capable of performing whether its for his family or the people of the Hawaiian Community.

Respectfully submitted.



Lawrence K. Lasua, Resident Homesteader  
Kalaniana'ole Colony, Kalamaula, Molokai

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