TESTIMONY GM 398

Senator Clayton Hee Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Hee:

I regret that I will be unable to attend your confirmation hearing on Monday February 16, 2009 due to my work commitments here in Hilo.

In your letter dated Feb. 11, 2009 you requested some background information which I am happy to provide below.

I have been a member of the HIBC since 1999 with the exception of 2004 - 2005.

I serve on the Council because I believe it's essential that we afford our Kupuna full protection from a development model that desecrates our ancestors.

My role and my kuleana are to protect our ancestral burials.

Having served on the HIBC for 8 years my qualifications stem largely from that experience and from the group of dedicated persons whom I have met and served with on the Council and those in the State Historic Preservation Dept. who support our efforts. My professional career in business has included land management and agricultural development.

I hope to continue the good work that the HIBC has already accomplished in protecting native Hawaiian burials, working with descendents and the general public.

Three qualities that I believe every Council member should aspire to are Integrity, Honesty and Compassion. These help guide me in my role as the Chair of the HIBC. The business of the Council is not something people can study and become adept at for who in our community as they grow and learn expect that one day they would be put in a position to have to protect their ancestral burials. Where does one learn that?

There is really no one experience that I can point to that stands out. It is through my years of experience on the Council dealing with the many emotional issues that I feel benefits the Council.

I do not foresee any conflicts of interests, we are cautious and consult with our Attorneys when any possible conflict may arise.

I hope this helps and that your hearing on Monday Feb. 16th goes well.

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Sincerely

Charles Young Chair – Hawaii Island Burial Council LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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 398 - SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHARLES KUI HIN YOUNG

It is with pleasure that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) recommends Senate confirmation of the appointment of Charles Kui Hin Young to the Hawaii 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.

Charles Kui Hin Young was nominated to serve as a Landowner/Developer representative on the Hawaii Island Burial Council. If confirmed, Charles Kui Hin Young will serve until June 30, 2013.

Charles Kui Hin Young is currently employed with Mauna Loa Inc. as the Vice- President of Operations. He previously served two terms in the 1990s on the Hawaii Island Burial Council. He is a respected community leader with a deep commitment to protecting and preserving Hawaiian traditions and culture. The Department notes that Charles Kui Hin Young currently serves as a valued member of the Hawaii Island Burial Council.

The Department greatly appreciates your consideration of Charles Kui Hin Young and strongly recommends his confirmation to the Hawaii Island Burial Council.

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

RUSSELL Y, TSUJI

KEN C. KAWAHARA DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BURALU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COSATAL LANDS
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INSTORE PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

TESTIMONY GM 398 (END)