

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 460**

Written Statement of Ka'iulani Murphy  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hearing on G.M No. 460, Nomination to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission  
Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 2:45pm

Aloha Committee Chair Clayton Hee and members of the Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs.

In response to the questions forwarded to me by your office, I present the following:

**(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission?**

I would be honored to serve the island of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe as a member of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The first time I had the privilege to visit Kanaloa Kaho'olawe was over 10 years ago while a student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Since that time I have had the privilege to visit the island with the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and the KIRC and experience the richness and the healing of the island. I had the honor of sailing the voyaging canoe Hokule'a to the island three times and experiencing Kanaloa at another level, as if sailing in the wake of our kupuna to this sacred island. I wish to be a member of the KIRC to further serve in the healing of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

**(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the KIRC?**

The role and responsibilities of a member of the Commission include the general management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve within the framework of its strategic plan. Kuleana include restoring the island and its waters while increasing culturally appropriate and safe use of the island towards the realization of the vision for Kanaloa Kaho'olawe, in which the island is restored and people care for the land.

**(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the KIRC, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the KIRC.**

Based on my experience as a voyager and an educator, I believe I am qualified to serve as a member of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. My educational background in Hawaiian Studies, years of experience with Kanaloa Kaho'olawe, and years of experience with the voyaging 'ohana has provided me with a strong foundation from which to make appropriate decisions required of a member of the KIRC. While serving as Captain of the voyaging canoe Hokule'a, I have the awesome kuleana to keep the canoe and the crew safe and on course by making decisions based on careful observation and years of experience. On the canoe and in the classroom I encourage critical thinking and planning in order to navigate a path towards success, which is what I hope to help with as a member of the KIRC.

**(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?**

During my term of service I hope assist in working towards the vision of the KIRC including accomplishing the following:

- Strengthen the collaboration between the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana and the Polynesian Voyaging Society and expand the volunteer base for the purposes of restoration and customary practices.
- Continue to develop and implement an appropriate plan to access cultural and archaeological sites related to navigation and the training of navigators.
- Support education programs on the natural, cultural, historical and spiritual significance of Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe.
- Begin construction of the Hakioawa Kitchen Hale and continue the renovation of the Honokanai‘a camp.
- Continue to prepare the KIRC for the transition of Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe to a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity.

**(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the KIRC?**

Three qualities that best describe me are passionate, honest, and caring. I believe the KIRC would benefit from these qualities because my decision-making would be grounded in my deep aloha for the island Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe.

**(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the KIRC?**

In the summer of 2009 I served as Captain of Hokule‘a on a voyage from O‘ahu to Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe. It had been five years since Hokule‘a’s last voyage to the island and the first time any voyaging canoe returned to utilize the navigation platform at Kealaikahiki for navigation training. The crew consisted of staff members of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission, members of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana, volunteers with the Polynesian Voyaging Society, and educators with the Pacific American Foundation. The collaboration of the four partners on the Malama Kaho‘olawe Project continues to be a success as the curricula created is shared in classrooms across the state and those crew members continue to train for future voyages with Hokule‘a and voyaging canoes dedicated to utilizing Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe as an educational resource.

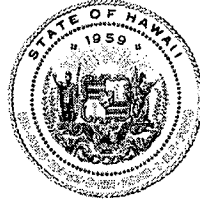
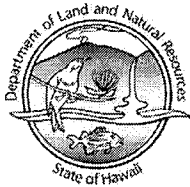
**(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the KIRC? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?**

I do not foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during my service on the KIRC. Should any such conflicts arise, I would seek the counsel and advice of the KIRC Deputy Attorney General and Policy Advisor.

Mahalo,  
Ka‘iulani Murphy

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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**

**Wednesday, April 7, 2010  
2:45 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In Consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 460 –  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
KA'IULANI MURPHY, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012.**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) is pleased to strongly support Governor's Message (GM) No. 460 on the nomination of Ka'iulani Murphy to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

Ms. Murphy was born on the Big Island and is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Hawaiian Studies. Ms. Murphy currently serves as an instructor in the Language Arts Department at the Honolulu Community College. She has previously taught at the Windward Community College.

Ms. Murphy is best known for her work as a navigator, having had the privilege of taking part in several Hokule'a's voyages, including the Hokule'a voyage from Honolua, Maui to Tahiti in 2006, to honor the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hokule'a's first voyage to Tahiti.

The Department is confident that Ms. Murphy will exhibit the same passion toward the traditional and cultural practices of the native Hawaiian people in conjunction with restoration of the Island Reserve as she has with the ocean.

The Department strongly supports GM No. 460 on the nomination of Ka'iulani Murphy to KIRC.

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

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI  
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

## KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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**Testimony of  
MICHAEL K. NĀHO'OPI'I  
Executive Director**

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

**Wednesday, April 7, 2010**

**2:45 PM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 460**

**NOMINATION OF KA'IULANI MURPHY TO THE  
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

COMMISSION MEMBERS

NOA EMMETT ALULI, M.D.  
*Chairperson*  
CRAIG NEFF  
*Vice-Chair*  
MILTON M. ARAKAWA, A.I.C.P.  
COLETTE Y. MACHADO  
LAURA H. THIELEN  
AMBER NĀMAKA WHITEHEAD

Michael K. Nāho'opi'i  
*Executive Director*

Governor's Message No. 460 nominates Ka'iulani Murphy to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) for a term to expire June 30, 2012. KIRC is pleased to offer its strong support of this nomination.

Ms. Murphy was born on the island of Hawai'i and is a graduate of Kamehameha Schools and the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Hawaiian Studies. Ms. Murphy currently serves as an instructor in the Language Arts Department at Honolulu Community College, and she previously taught at Windward Community College.

Ms. Murphy is best known for her work as a navigator, having had the privilege of taking part in several of Hōkūle'a's voyages, including the voyage from Honolua, Maui to Tahiti in 2006, to honor the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its first voyage to Tahiti.

KIRC believes that her work with the Polynesian Voyaging Society and within the Hawaiian community will assist KIRC in re-establishing Kaho'olawe as the center for navigation. Additionally, Ms. Murphy was a resource in the development of a navigational curriculum and could assist KIRC in establishing a field school on Kaho'olawe for future generations of navigators.

KIRC also believes that Ms. Murphy will exhibit the same passion toward the traditional and cultural practices of the native Hawaiian people, in conjunction with restoration of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, as she has with the ocean.

KIRC strongly supports Governor's Message No. 460 and the nomination of Ms. Ka'iulani Murphy to KIRC.



## KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

by

Neil J. Kaho`okele Hannahs, Director  
Land Assets Division  
Kamehameha Schools

Hearing Date: Wednesday April 7, 2010  
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 229

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda and members of the committee:

### **Testimony in Support of GM 460, Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission**

I wish to offer testimony in **support** of Gubernatorial Nominee, Ka`iulani Murphy, to the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC.)

Ka`iulani, a native of Waimea on the island of Hawai`i, was grounded at a very early age with an awareness of her culture and her kuleana to perpetuate traditional knowledge. Today, this quiet and humble young woman is emerging as a strong role model for young Hawaiians and a leader in perpetuating Polynesian wayfinding knowledge. Her accomplishments are extraordinary for her age and an inspiration for us all.

Ka`iulani, a 1996 graduate of Kamehameha Schools, became interested in Polynesian navigation as a student at the University of Hawai`i-Mānoa. As an undergraduate, she was introduced to master navigator Nainoa Thompson. Under Nainoa's mentorship, she has served as an apprentice navigator on voyages from Hawai`i to Tahiti in 2000, from Nihoa to Kure in 2004, and from Hawai`i to Micronesia and Japan in 2007. With her experiences as an apprentice navigator, she rose to the rank of navigator on Hōkūle`a's voyage from Kaua`i to Nihoa in June 2004. Most recently, Ka`iulani captained Hōkūle`a on a voyage to Kaho`olawe in the summer of 2009.

The island of Kaho`olawe possesses a deep spiritual connection to Kanaloa and a strong linkage to voyaging and navigation. As a Commissioner for the KIRC, Ka`iulani would make profound contributions to the Commission's efforts to further its vision and mission to mālama this wahi pana. Ka`iulani's experience as a navigator with the Polynesian Voyaging Society demonstrates her commitment and that of many others in her generation to the retention of traditional

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knowledge. As a Commissioner, she will represent the perspective of her peers and will strengthen the bridge the Commission must build to pass this kuleana to our youth.

In addition to the educational impact she has through her work with the Polynesian Voyaging Society, this intelligent young lady inspires the next generation in the classroom, as well, by teaching a course in navigation at Honolulu Community College which combines modern science with traditional Hawaiian culture. Ka`iulani has also served as a Mālama Kaho`olawe Voyaging Curriculum Trainer with the Pacific American Foundation and has helped develop curriculum for Kaho`olawe.

Navigators have the ability to discern how the dynamic behavior of the wind, clouds, stars and waves can help us to heighten our awareness about where we are and to realize course adjustments that may be necessary to reach our destination. Ka`iulani possesses such skills. Her time has come and I look forward to the contributions of her leadership and service to the work of the Commission, the larger community and to future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Ka`iulani Murphy and respectfully recommend your favorable consideration of her appointment to the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission.

GM460 Murphy

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony of support for Ka'iulani Murphy

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the committee on water, land, agriculture, and Hawaiian affairs:

Thank you for your service to our state and your commitment to the success of this committee. I am writing in support of Ka'iulani Murphy's consideration and confirmation hearing to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

Ms. Murphy is a well respected leader of Hawaii as a teacher at Honolulu Community College and her role as Captain/Navigator for the Polynesian Voyaging Society. Ms. Murphy has extensive experience and is qualified to promote KIRC initiatives to: the importance of archeological sites, adherence to cultural protocols, the promotion of traditional cultural practices, and outreach opportunities for the community.

I have personally learned from Ms. Murphy in a formal classroom setting at Honolulu Community College and through my participation with the Polynesian Voyaging Society. Ms. Murphy's selection to the KIRC will be an asset to the commission and the community.

Sincerely,

Kawika A. Kane, IV  
91-1022 Owakalena Street  
Kapolei, HI, 96707

Tel: 808-372-2756



Testimony of Nainoa Thompson  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hearing on G.M. No. 460  
Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 2:45pm

Aloha Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Jill Okuda, and members of the Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of G.M. 460. On behalf of the Polynesian Voyaging Society, I strongly support the consideration and confirmation of Ka'iulani Murphy as a member of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

The Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) supports the work of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO) and the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) for Kanaloa Kaho'olawe. Our organization has collaborated with both entities in planning for the future use of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe for training of a new generation of navigators in wayfinding. In October 2004 we participated with other Hawai'i voyaging canoes in the dedication of the Kuhike'e platform for training of navigation students at Kealaikahiki.

Throughout the past few years Ka'iulani Murphy, as a representative of PVS, has worked with the PKO and KIRC and the Pacific American Foundation in developing a curriculum of science, math and social studies focused around the resources of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe. She has participated in the activities and programs of the PKO, notably, the re-construction of a traditional Hale Halawai in Hakioawa. She has also been instrumental in training a crew of PKO members and KIRC staff to participate in the upcoming worldwide sail of the Hōkūle'a, to represent the island of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

Having Ka'iulani Murphy serve as a commissioner would enhance the collaboration between the Polynesian Voyaging Society and the PKO and KIRC. Within the framework of the KIRC Strategic Plan and the Kukukulu Ke Ea Culture Plan for Kanaloa Kaho'olawe, Ka'iulani can contribute to the development and implementation of a culturally appropriate plan to access and stabilize cultural and archaeological sites related to navigation and training of navigators. She also has the expertise to support education and communication programs on the natural, cultural, historical and spiritual significance of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe. As an acknowledged leader among the upcoming generation of

Native Hawaiians, Ka'iulani will be an asset in preparing KIRC for the transition of the reserve to the future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity.

In closing, I truly believe Ka'iulani Murphy would be a wonderful addition to the commission of the KIRC and an outstanding representative for Native Hawaiian organizations and their interests. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony today.

Nainoa Thompson  
Polynesian Voyaging Society  
10 Sand Island Parkway Honolulu, HI 96819  
(808) 842-1101

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 460**  
**(END)**