

Testimony of  
William J. Aila Jr.

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and members of the committee, mahalo for giving me the opportunity to appear before you today.

I am humbled and honored to be considered to serve as Chairman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I would like to thank Governor Abercrombie for giving me the opportunity to be considered for confirmation by the Senate.

There are many people who have supported and guided me in my life, and I would like to acknowledge and thank some of them. My wife and best friend Melva, our children Kekoa and Kainoa, our grand children Kekoa and Ka'iana. My father William J. Aila Sr., step mom Ruby Aila, and my mom Caroline Aila. In addition, all of my brothers and sisters, aunties and uncles, extended ohana, and good friends.

I would also like to recognize two very special wahine in my life whom I always keep close to my heart, my great grandmother Maryann Francis Tavares, and Aunty Frenchy Desoto.

With out all of their love, support, and teachings, I would not be here today, and I thank them all, for with out them, I would not be here today.

I would like to recognize and thank all of my co-workers at DLNR, who work so hard day in and day out, to protect our valuable resources and admirably serve the people of Hawaii.

In my twenty-four years of service to the State of Hawaii, I have always believed that we have a special reciprocal relationship with the aina and the kai. That we must take care of them and in return they will provide and take care of us. I have also learned that if you treat people with respect, they will, in return treat you with respect. That it is okay to disagree with someone and not make it personal. Also, that good values are always more effective than good rules.

In my two months as interim Chair of DLNR, I have learned that all of the values listed above are practiced and demonstrated on a daily basis by your DLNR ohana.

In spite of budget cuts, spending restrictions and furloughs in the last several years, we continue to accomplish more work with fewer resources. Although there are continuing challenges, I am confident that with your assistance DLNR can meet them.

In closing I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to everyone who submitted testimony on my behalf or appeared in person to testify. I thank the committee for giving me the opportunity to appear before you and for your consideration of my nomination; I look forward to answering your questions.

Mahalo nui loa,

William.J.Aila Jr.

# **William Johnson Aila Jr.**

## **EDUCATION**

University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawai'i, B.S. General Tropical Agriculture, 1980.

Wai'anae High School, Wai'anae, Hawai'i 1976.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

1987 to present, Harbor Agent for the Wai'anae Boat Harbor, Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, Department of Land and Natural Resources. Manage, operate and maintain 31 acres of fast and submerged lands. Manage State waters from western end of Reef Runway to Kaena Point out to a distance of three miles. Diver in charge of Boating Division's Dive team. This team assists with the removal of navigation hazards and maintaining aids to Navigation the State has under its jurisdiction. Provide input to Boating Administrator on Legislative initiatives. Work with other State and Federal Agencies on joint issues.

1986-87 Storeroom Clerk, City and County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department. Issue equipment to HPD officers, including firearms, and other controlled items.

1983-86 Liberty House, Distribution Center, an AMFAC Company. Started as a stock clerk moving merchandise throughout the distribution center. Promoted to Neighbor Island Shipping Supervisor within a year and Reserve Stock Manager a year later. Responsible for movement of merchandise between four major department stores and 20 resort shops and for annual inventory of merchandise valued at more than \$10 million. Managed more than 50 employees including 8 supervisors

1982 to present, Commercial Fishing aboard my own vessel. Learned about 16 hour days, weather and competition. Also learned a great deal about business and regulatory impacts on business.

1980-82 Research Assistant, Dole Wahiawa Plantation, Castle and Cooke, Inc. Participated in design and implementation of early studies on organic fertilizer and soil conditioner. Also designed and implemented pineapple density trials. Results incorporated into management practice currently used around the world.

- 1978-80 While completing my major at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, I started a Nursery and Landscaping Business. Clients included the Gem Store chain, Wally's Garden Supply on Beretania Street, and the Payless Store chain. My father and brother continue the Nursery and Landscaping Business on a part time basis.
- 1976-78 While attending the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, employed as a store clerk for the Southland Corporation, owner of 7-11 store chain. Assisted with the opening of the Makaha location.
- 1975-76 While attending Wai'anae High School, employed as a stock clerk for the Cornet Corporation in Makaha.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE (Partial List)**

- 1983 to present, Member of the O'ahu Game Fish Club. Have also served as president.
- 1983-85 Board Member on the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. During this time supported expansion projects and senior day care initiatives
- 1986-88 Board Member on the Wai'anae Coast Neighborhood Board #24. As member supported responsible development initiatives that were consistent with community's vision
- 1988-90 Member on the State Bottom Fish Task Force, a committee to assess, make recommendations regarding, and assist with implementation of administrative rules governing bottom fish resources. At the request of Division's Administrator, traveled with Aquatic Resources personnel to all most of the public hearings, providing information, resulting in the adoption of State-wide bottom fishing closed areas.
- 1989 to present, co-founding Member of the Hawai'i Fishermen's Foundation, a group dedicated to the perpetuation of small boat fishing. Group was instrumental in mediating gear conflict between Longliners and Small Boat Fishermen.
- 1989-99 Member of Pelagic Advisory Sub-Panel to the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council (WESPAC). Served as co-chair from 1992-99. This panel made recommendations to the full council on federal fisheries management plans. Many of its recommendations adopted by U.S. Department of Commerce.
- 1992-94 Member of the State Shark Task Force, a committee charged with developing policies involving shark attacks occurring in state waters. Many of its recommendations adopted as current State policy.

- 1994-96 Chairman of the Small Boat Pelagic Fisheries Working Group. This committee made recommendations to WESPAC regarding issues such as the collection of catch data from the small boat fishing fleet in Hawai'i. Many of its recommendations adopted and implemented by U.S. Department of Commerce.
- 1996 Appointed as a member of the Saltonstall-Kennedy Constituency Panel. Invited to Washington, D.C. to review scientific grant applications related to fisheries projects and to prioritize funding requests. During this session the Southwest region, which includes Hawai'i, received record funding for projects, one of which resulted in changes in the State's ocean leasing statutes, which allowed open ocean aquaculture to proceed in State waters.
- 1995-97 Member of the Bottom Fish and Indigenous Rights Advisory Sub-Panel to WESPAC. These panels made recommendations to the full council on federal fisheries management plans. Many recommendations adopted by WESPAC Council and implemented by U.S. Dept. of Commerce
- 1997-98 Member of the State Gill Net Task Force, a committee charged with making recommendations to amend administrative rules governing the use of gill nets. Many of the recent regulations governing gill nets, resulted from recommendations.
- 1998 to Present, member of the Ukani Po Advisory Council, a committee set up to work with the U.S. Army regarding restoration of Ukani Po Heiau complex. Drafted restoration plan and access plan. Currently awaiting funding.
- 2000 Invited to testify before the U. S. House of Representatives Committee on Resources regarding pending legislation to ban shark finning. Legislation became federal law later in the session.
- 2000-01 Member of Makaha Elementary School's School Community Management Board. Assisted New Principal with difficult transition of past Administration.
- 2000 to 2010, Member of the Wai'anāe Coast Neighborhood Board, Parks and Recreation Committee. Made recommendations such as park closures, and overnight permit for Keawaula State Park, which has been adopted and implemented.

- 2001 to 2010, Co-founding member of Lokahi A Lanakila O Wai'anae, a group of community volunteers dedicated to keeping graduation ceremonies at Wai'anae High School. We entered into an agreement with school officials to provide planning and support services for graduation ceremonies. Ten years of successful graduations to date.
- 2001 to 2010, Council member representing Native Hawaiians on the North-Western Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Council. Responsible for providing advice to NOAA Sanctuaries Division of U.S. Department of Commerce. Review applications for access into the area.
- 2001-04, Board member of Wai'anae Coast Alternative Community Development Corporation. A non-profit dedicated to community economic development and social capital. Ma'o Organic Farm is an example of success.
- 2008 to 2010, President of the Board for the Wai'anae Coast Alternative Development Corporation. During this tenure Ma'o Farms grew from 5-acre operation to 23-acre operation, employing more than 30 people and contributing to the continuing education of more than 25 students in college.
- 2002 to 2010, President of the Lualualei Ahupua'a Council. A community group dedicated to protecting and preserving Hawaiian cultural sites and perpetuating cultural practices along the Wai'anae Coast. We continue to provide cultural monitors for construction projects. Organized workshops to teach Hawaiian culture along the Wai'anae Coast.
- 2002 to 2010, President of Mohala I Ka Wai. A watershed restoration group focusing on restoring the health of Wai'anae's watersheds and educating residents on the need to conserve water and protect our streams. Community partner in the Wai'anae Watershed Partnership, created to better manage our watershed.
- 2002 to 2006 Member of the Wai'anae Weed and Seed Task Force, a group of community members applying for federal Weed and Seed status to assist with reducing drug dealing and use in the Wai'anae community. Although funding expired, many projects such as community clean ups and graffiti paint out projects continue.
- 2004 to 2006 Appointed Board member of the Hawai'i Community Development Authority by governor to represent the public's interests in the development of Kalaeloa. Provided advice on Hawaiian Cultural perspectives that were incorporated into the Kalaeloa Master Plan.

- 2005 to 2010, Board member of Ka Papa O Kakuhihewa, an organization formed to fund educational projects relating to resource conservation in the area from Kapolei to Kaena. Continue to work through Hawaii Community Foundation to award more than \$70,000.00 in grants every year.
- 2005 to 2010, Board member of Hui Malama I Na Kupuna O Hawaii Nei, an organization dedicated to repatriating and reburying iwi kupuna and their possessions. President of organization since 2008.
- 2009 to 2010, member of Leeward Community College Wai'anae Campus Advisory Board. Provide advice on programs and curriculum choices for students attending classes at the campus. Advise on future planning options for the campus. Interact with Wai'anae community and expand support for campus.
- 2009 to Present, member of U.S. Army Ordinance Reef Advisory Committee. Provide advice to U.S. Army and the University of Hawai'i regarding plans, protocol on sampling strategies, and methodology of analysis, for health studies and plans for removal and disposal of ammunition disposed of off the Wai'anae Coast.
- 2009 to Present, member of Advisory Group to U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i. Providing advice to the Garrison on issues relating to the transition of Army lands located in Wai'anae, to public control and use. Issues include, unexploded ordinance, health, and protection of cultural sites and resources.
- 2009 to 2010, Chairperson of the Kaena Point Advisory Group. Provide advice and recommendations to the Board of Land and Natural Resources on management changes needed to reduce the negative impacts occurring at Kaena Point State Park Reserve. Review and make recommendations to improve the State's Ocean Recreation Management Plan as it relates to Kaena Point. Land Board is currently reviewing the group's recommendations.
- 2009 to Present, appointed to National Marine Protected Areas, advisory council. This group advises the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Interior, on policy issues relating to the Nation's Marine Protected Areas, and any uses within. The Advisory Council has recently adopted policies incorporating Native American, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander, views and positions into these National Policies.

# GM517

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the  
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON  
AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

To: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
The Honorable Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

Re: GM517 (William Johnson Aila, Jr.)  
Date: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Time: 1:15 p.m.  
Place: State Capitol, Room 225

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Governor's Message 517, nominating William Johnson Aila, Jr. to the position of chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

As you know, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) works cooperatively with its federal partners, particularly the U. S. Fish and Wildlife and National Parks Services, to protect Hawaii's most-valued natural and cultural resources. As a result, it is crucial that the chairperson of the board be unafraid of facing and addressing the long-standing problems that have plagued DLNR during the previous administration. I strongly believe that Mr. Aila is such a person.

During much of his life, Mr. Aila has served as a community advocate, environmentalist, and cultural practitioner. Through his work in the community, Mr. Aila has worked with a number of stakeholder groups and has a wealth of knowledge regarding a variety of issues within the purview of DLNR.

Combining the knowledge he has accumulated through these roles with his experience as the former harbormaster of the Wai'anae Boat Harbor, you will find that Mr. Aila more than qualified for the position.

As a member of the House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources, I look forward to working with Mr. Aila, who I am fortunate to call a friend.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this nominee.



COLLEEN HANABUSA  
U.S. Representative  
Hawaii, 1<sup>st</sup> District



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
National Ocean Service  
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Pacific Islands Region  
726 S. Kihei Rd. | 6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 302  
Kihei, HI 96799 | Honolulu, HI 96825  
<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/pacific.html>

To: Senate Sergeant at Arms  
State of Hawai'i Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Date: February 7, 2011

From: Allen Tom  
Regional Director  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Office of National Marine Sanctuary Program  
Pacific Islands Region

Aloha Senators,

On behalf of NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, I wish to provide testimony in support of Mr. William Johnson Aila, Jr. for conformation as the next Chairperson for the Board of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawai'i.

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) is a system of fourteen federally protected marine sanctuaries including two sites here in Hawaii, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) and the Papahānomokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument). Both of the sites in Hawaii are co-managed by the State of Hawai'i, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR); and in the case of the Monument, jointly managed with the Department of the Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service. Through this co-management arrangement, ONMS provides funds directly to the State of Hawai'i DLNR to assist in the management of these two sites.

It is therefore very important that our partnership with the State of Hawai'i not only remain intact, but in this time of fiscal limitations, that we have a Chairperson who understands this partnership, how it came to be, and how it needs to move forward.

Mr. Aila has been a part of the creation and development of the HIHWNMS since the 1990's. He has provided important input to the sanctuary management plan and participated in working groups to help ensure that local fishing and native Hawaiian rights were not negatively impacted by the whale sanctuary. More recently, Mr. Aila has served as a member of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council, where he participated and helped guide the management of the Monument. Mr.

Fagatele Bay  
National Marine Sanctuary/  
Proposed Rose Atoll  
National Marine Sanctuary  
P.O. Box 4318  
Pago Pago, AS 96799  
<http://fagatelebay.noaa.gov>

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale  
National Marine Sanctuary  
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 301  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
<http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>

Papahānaumokuākea  
Marine National Monument  
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 300  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
<http://hawaiireef.noaa.gov>



Aila was very instrumental in developing the Native Hawaiian Workshop plan for the Monument, such a plan, the first for our national marine sanctuary program, was also key in 2010 having UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) inscribe the Monument, the first World Heritage site in the United States in thirteen years.

Finally, it would take me pages to list all of Mr. Aila's qualifications. Mr. Aila brings to this position a tremendous set of skills, experience and understanding of the local, state and federal issues facing Hawai'i. He is comfortable dealing with western trained scientists and indigenous native Hawaiian cultural practitioners—this unique skill set will make him an exceptional manager of one of the State of Hawaii's largest departments. If the State of Hawai'i is to continue to seek new partnerships that will preserve our precious natural resources both terrestrial and aquatic, Mr. Aila offers the knowledge and abilities that will achieve these goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

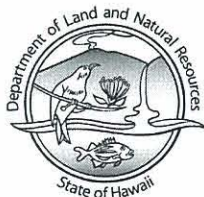
Sincerely,



Allen Tom

Regional Director, Pacific Islands Region  
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
DIVISION OF STATE PARKS  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GUY H. KAULUKUKUI**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
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

**Testimony of**  
**DANIEL S. QUINN, ADMINISTRATOR**  
**DIVISION OF STATE PARKS**

**Before the Senate Committee on**  
**WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011**  
**1:15 PM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of**  
**GM 517**  
**RELATING TO THE CONFIRMATION OF**  
**WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR.**

**AS**

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

I support the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Mr. Aila brings a broad range of skills and experience to this position and will be effective in this role.

Mr. Aila has a passionate commitment for the protection of our precious natural and cultural resources and an ability to work collaboratively with diverse groups to reach reasonable solutions for the benefit of Hawaii's people and resources.

As an employee of our Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, Mr. Aila has a unique familiarity with the challenges facing the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Mr. Aila served as a member of the Kaena Point Advisory Group, comprised of a diverse group of representatives from community organizations, fishers, cultural practitioners, and conservationists. Mr. Aila was selected by this group as their Chair, and provided effective leadership.

Mr. Aila is well-informed, well-spoken, well-respected, and fair. He will provide a balanced and collaborative approach as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and I urge you to support his confirmation.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GUY H. KAULUKUKUI**  
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of the  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

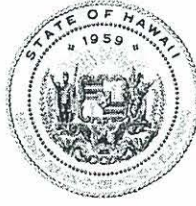
**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 517 - SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, WILLIAM JOHNSON  
AILA, JR., FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2014.**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) expresses its strong support for the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. to serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

For the first time, the Department has an opportunity to have someone serve as Chairperson with a unique quality. Mr. Aila comes to this position from within the Department with extensive knowledge of the issues facing our agency. Mr. Aila has been an employee of the Department for over 23 years as the harbormaster at the Waianae Small Boat Harbor, and has an equally long history as an advocate for the preservation and maintenance of the natural and cultural resources of our state. Many of our elected officials have worked with him over the years and know the depth of his understanding of the Department's issues. The Departments feel he is someone who we can trust; someone who is honest, cooperative, and willing to seek solutions to complicated problems that are "outside of the box."

Through the years, Mr. Aila has eloquently defended the environment and the aina that he grew up on. We all know how passionate he is about the ocean and natural resources of Hawaii and we know of his ability to reconcile differences to get people to work towards a common goal. Because Mr. Aila has shown through his dedication to public service, passion for the natural resources, and knowledge of cultural challenges, the Department encourages this Committee to recommend confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 517  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., FOR A TERM TO  
EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2014**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources' Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) strongly supports the appointment of Mr. William J. Aila as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Land Board). The Chairperson of the Land Board is also the Chairperson of the Commission. The Commission has had the benefit of working under Mr. Aila's leadership for only a short period. He capably chaired the Commission's January 20, 2011 meeting. Mr. Aila provided thoughtful commentary and shared his views on the importance of water and the challenge to find ways to balance all of our needs. We are confident that we can work well with Mr. Aila.

In the coming years, the Commission will make decisions on water matters that will affect our island communities for generations. As our State grows, and as the uses of water shift, competing demands upon our State's water resources will surely increase. The Commission is challenged with the task of ensuring that the State's finite water resources might yield the maximum beneficial use in the public interest.

Mr. Aila is a lifetime Hawaii resident. He was raised and still lives in Waianae, Oahu. He received a degree in tropical agriculture from the University of Hawaii-Manoa and has worked for the Department of Land and Natural Resources for more than 23 years in the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation. As the longtime and respected harbormaster for the Waianae Boat Harbor, his responsibilities included managing, operating, and maintaining 31 acres of fast and submerged lands. Over the last 20 years, Mr. Aila has served on numerous boards and councils, including the Hawaii Community Development Authority, Waianae Coast Weed and

Seed Steering Committee, Makaha Elementary School Community Management board, Waianae Coast Neighborhood board, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center board, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Council, and he was an advocate for the creation of the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Monument.

Mr. Aila's leadership skills, integrity, calm demeanor, and his dedication to resource protection and responsible management make him well-qualified to lead the Land Board and Commission in their respective missions to enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources for current and future generations.

We offer our strong endorsement of Mr. Aila's confirmation and respectfully request your Committee's favorable consideration of his appointment.

Edward R. Underwood  
1470 Uluhala Place  
Kailua, Hawaii, 96734

**Testimony of**

**Edward R. Underwood**

**Before the Senate Committee on WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011**

**1:15 P.M.**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of**

**Governor's Message 517 – Submitting For Consideration And Confirmation To The Chairperson Of The Board Of Land And Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr., For A Term To Expire December 31, 2014.**

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, my name is Ed Underwood and I am currently employed as the Administrator of the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR), Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). I would like to declare my strongly support on the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as the new Chairperson for DLNR.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Aila since I began my career with the State in December of 2001. Mr. Aila is very knowledgeable of the inner workings and challenges that DLNR faces. He has worked with DLNR for over twenty three years and is familiar with the various divisions. With regards to DOBOR, Mr. Aila has extensive knowledge of the Division and I have gone to him for advice on a number of occasions.

I have found Mr. Aila to be a very fair person and he has the ability to listen to two sides of an issue and make an unbiased decision. In order to be more efficient and reduce costs, Mr. Aila was instrumental in creating a DOBOR S.C.U.B.A. dive team for the purpose of removing grounded vessels, maintaining moorings, and engaging in various water based activities. In 2010, Mr. Aila was recognized as a member of the "Team of the Year" by his fellow employees at DLNR for the services he performed as a founding member of the dive team.

In conclusion, I would like to ask this Committee for its favorable consideration of William Aila, Jr. as the new Chairperson of DLNR.



To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Water, Land and Housing

From: Momi Kamahele, Assistant Professor Hawaiian History and Hawaiian Studies  
Leeward Community College,  
Kumu Hula

Subj: Consideration of William Johnson Aila, Jr. for Chairperson  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

Date: February 11, 2011

Hearing: Measure: GM 517  
Date: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Time: 1:15 Conference Room 225

Dear Committee Members,

This testimony strongly supports William Johnson Aila, Jr. to be the head of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the following reasons.

I have known Mr. Aila for over ten years and he has been instrumental in improving the quality of life for our community in general and our Native Hawaiian community in particular. I have had the opportunity to work closely with Mr. Aila on several projects. As a board member of Ka Papa O Kakuhihewa—an organization formed to fund educational projects relating to resource conservation in the area from Kapolei to Ka'ena—I have witnessed his considerate and attentive leadership as we collectively discussed awarding funding to worthy organizations whose mission aligned with Ka Papa O Kakuhihewa. Currently, I also work with Mr. Aila on Hawaiian cultural protocol for the annual Makahiki Celebration in Mākua since 2001. We are part of a community group called Hui Mālama O Mākua comprised of Native Hawaiian practitioners and supporters. And, lastly, we have worked together to provide testimony and guidance in support of our community on issues of environmental, cultural and ideological concerns.

He is tireless. He is thoughtful, caring and genuine when he speaks to “kings” or “paupers”, to those in agreement and to those who disagree as well as to the seeming intractable soul who just can't be moved. Yet, his willingness to take the time, to convince, to talk, to mull-it-over and then make a decision is the mark of a leader.

I believe he will do honor to this position as head of DLNR and most importantly actually be a leader with vision and the will to implementation.

In closing, from my perspective, the DLNR is actually the body that protects the 'Āina, “that which feeds” our bodies, minds and spirit, and all that spring from “Her”—the natural resources we rely on for our well-being. “She” requires a “konohiki” who will lead us and steward 'Āina to benefit all who make Hawai'i their home. William Johnson Aila, Jr. is the perfect person for this monumental task and he will wear the mantle of leadership with dignity, integrity and honor.

Again, I strongly support and highly recommend William Johnson Aila, Jr. for the position of Chairperson for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you.



Senate Committee on  
Water, Land and Housing  
Hearing: Sat., Feb. 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m., Conf. Rm. 225

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
P. O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of GM517  
Consent and Confirm Gubernatorial Nominee, **WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR.**, for  
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

CHAIR DELA CRUZ, VICE-CHAIR SOLOMON & MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Thank you for allowing me to testify in my capacity as an individual member of the  
Hawai'i State Board of Education (BOE); I testify in strong support of GM517.

On February 19, 2009, the BOE presented William Aila, Jr., with a certificate to honor  
him for his service to Hawaii's public schools and for serving as a role model to others  
to get involved in the education of our youth. The certificate contained the following  
statement, in relevant part:

One of the principal strengths of our public school system is  
individuals who, through their generous and caring acts of giving, their  
commitment of time, and their belief in community service, support  
student learning and school success.

William Aila has been a longstanding volunteer in the Leeward  
community and its schools by drawing on his professional skills as Harbor  
Master of Waianae Boat Harbor to introduce new teachers from the  
Mainland to our island lifestyle, culture, and landscape through the  
Waianae Complex New Teacher Induction Program that includes tours  
along the Waianae coastline.

This former parent of Leihoku Elementary School and Friend of  
Leihoku has contributed hours of sweat equity and funding support by  
planting trees—monkey pod and palm—around the Leihoku Elementary  
School campus, serving as a volunteer for safety projects, and giving tours  
of the Waianae Coast to students as part of their educational experience.

William Aila has also been a strong Leihoku Elementary School  
advocate by testifying before the Honolulu City Council so that the  
school's playground would not be compromised in the road expansion  
project.

I hope this Committee will find the above statements made by the BOE about William  
Aila, Jr. aligned with those characteristics that would make an excellent Chairperson of  
the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Yours truly,

Kim Coco Iwamoto, Esq.  
State of Hawai'i Board of Education Member, Oahu-at-Large



GM 517

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of  
Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee,  
WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA JR.  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing**

February 12, 2010

1:15 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** the nomination of William Aila Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR).

Through his professional and community experience, Mr. Aila has demonstrated an expertise in nearly all the areas under the responsibility of the BLNR. Moreover, through all of his endeavors, Mr. Aila has exhibited an ongoing commitment to the protection of Hawai'i's natural, cultural, and historical resources.

Mr. Aila has served as the Wai'anae Harbormaster under the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the past 24 years. In addition, he has been a passionate grassroots advocate for the environment and the Native Hawaiian community. As a member of many boards, councils, and advisory groups, Mr. Aila has worked on protection and management issues related to aquatic resources, boating and ocean recreation, water resources, cultural and historical resources, conservation and coastal lands, iwi kūpuna, native and endangered species, and public parks.

His background, leadership style and openness to multiple perspectives make him uniquely qualified for the role of chairperson of the BLNR. Mr. Aila will serve as a critical bridge between the Native Hawaiian community and the BLNR, which have taken differing positions on many issues. As a Native Hawaiian fisher, hunter and gatherer, Mr. Aila deeply understands the intimate relationship between the 'āina and Native Hawaiian cultural identity, knowledge and practices. This background gives Mr. Aila a unique ability to better integrate Native Hawaiian knowledge, values, and approaches in current management practices for the benefit of all of Hawai'i's people.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to PASS GM 517. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to provide testimony.



The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
923 Nu'uuanu Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

Tel (808) 537-4508  
Fax (808) 545-2019

[nature.org/hawaii](http://nature.org/hawaii)

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting GM 517 Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Chairperson of the  
Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee William Johnson Aila, Jr.  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15PM, Rm. 225

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawaii's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for native species in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.*

---

The Nature Conservancy supports the confirmation of William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

We have enjoyed and appreciated working with Mr. Aila over the last several years, and have learned much about marine and fisheries management issues from his extensive local knowledge and experience. We have found him easy to approach, open to diverse points of view, capable of changing his position when presented with new information, eager to bring people together, and always respectful in his interactions with others – whether he agrees with them or not. This is an important skill set that will serve him well as Chair of the BLNR.

Most importantly for this job, Mr. Aila is clearly committed to the care and perpetuation of Hawaii's natural resources, and he understands the balance needed to meet both the responsibilities of sustainable resource management and the needs of people in relation to those natural resources. His commitment to the natural environment in Hawaii, his deep roots in the community, and his clear understanding of governance issues are a rare combination – and make him uniquely qualified to serve in this position. He also has the right combination of humility, compassion, patience, and perseverance to succeed.

Thank you for this opportunity to support Mr. Aila's confirmation.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

S. Haunani Apoliona Christopher J. Benjamin Anne S. Carter Richard A. Cooke III Peter H. Ehrman Kenton T. Eldridge  
Thomas M. Gottlieb Donald G. Horner J. Douglas Ing Mark L. Johnson Dr. Kenneth Y. Kaneshiro Bert A. Kobayashi, Jr.  
Faye Watanabe Kurren Eiichiro Kuwana Duncan MacNaughton Bonnie P. McCloskey Bill D. Mills Wayne K. Minami Michael T. Pfeffer  
James C. Polk H. Monty Richards Jean E. Rolles Scott C. Rolles Crystal K. Rose Nathan E. Smith Eric K. Yeaman



# NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Chartered by Congress to Create a National Resource in Conservation, Research, and Education

## COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

**HEARING DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011**

**HEARING TIME: 1:15 p.m.**

**HEARING PLACE: Conference Room 225**

**MEASURE: GM 517**

**TESTIMONY OF: Chipper Wichman, Hā'ena, Kaua'i**

**SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 517**

Aloha mai kākou, although I am not able to be at the hearing in person today I send this letter of strong support for William Aila, Jr., who has been nominated to be the next Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. As a kupa o ka 'āina no Hā'ena, Kaua'i I have been involved all of my adult life in perpetuating the natural and cultural resources of our pae 'āina (archipelago). Being involved in these activities I have interacted and worked with various parts of the DLNR and with nearly all of the previous Directors over the past 20 plus years and believe that William Aila has the skills and dedication needed to be successful in this position.

As you well know, the DLNR is the lead State agency in caring for our native biodiversity, our cultural and historic sites, our fresh water and marine resources, our legacy lands, forest reserves and state parks. I applaud Governor Abercrombie for nominating a man who has the cultural heritage, grass roots experience, and the proven passion and knowledge needed to lead the DLNR through the challenging years we face ahead of us - make no mistake these will be tough and we need a true leader like William Aila.

I would also like to add that in my professional capacity as the Director and CEO of the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) - a nonprofit organization dedicated to perpetuating our tropical biodiversity and indigenous knowledge and practices) - we work closely with DLNR on many fronts. I am certain that William Aila will provide the leadership need to make the DLNR an effective part of the conservation network that is striving so hard to preserve our heritage for future generations to know and enjoy.

Mahalo,

Chipper Wichman  
CEO and Director

February 11, 2011

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

FR: Richard P. Bettini  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

RE: **TESTIMONY IN FULL SUPPORT OF WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR.** for  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center would like to state its full support for the confirmation of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson for the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. Aila served several years as a member of our Board of Directors. The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center serves 29,000 patients annually, the majority Native Hawaiian, with over 50% covered under the State Medicaid program. The Health Center is among the top four largest non-profit organizations in the State and is the largest employer on the Waianae Coast.

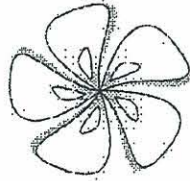
During his tenure on our Board of Directors, Mr. Aila presented a knowledgeable and committed voice for the needs of the community and our patients. He held a full understanding of business and financial matters and featured an objective and cooperative outlook in working with other board members and administration.

We are also well aware of Mr. Aila's work in the community. Well-respected for his genuine ability to listen, to get educated on issues, to not make rash decisions, and to work collaboratively, Mr. Aila is a role model for many young people and is called upon by numerous groups and individuals to assist with their concerns in a broad range of areas. Mr. Aila's demeanor is thoughtful, humble, and respectful. His broad range of experience and abilities in working with individuals and groups will be an asset in the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. He is not afraid to make hard decisions.

We ask for your support of Mr. Aila. He will make an excellent Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Mahalo.

# *Makaha Hawaiian Civic Club*



**P O Box 305, Wai'anae, HI 96792**  
**Ph: 349-1479**

February 11, 2011

**To:** Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

**From:** Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito, Secretary

**Re:** Comments for the Appointment of William Johnson, Aila, Jr. to  
Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

On behalf of the Makaha Hawaiian Civic Club, we are encouraged to know Mr. Aila who is a lifelong resident of Wai'anae is being considered for the above position. His passion, knowledge, and aloha for the aina is very truly appreciated and the Poe O Wai'anae are truly fortunate to have him as our son!





## KO'OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

February 10, 2011

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair/and Members  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: Support for William J. Aila, Jr., Board of Land and Natural Resources/GM517

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members:

The Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club strongly supports the confirmation of William Aila, Jr., as the new chair of the state Board of Land and Natural Resources and director of DLNR.

Established in 1937, our civic club works with native Hawaiians in the nine ahupua`a around Kane`ohe bay in the moku of Ko'olaupoko. It is critical to us that this important agency be led by a person we feel we can trust who will serve the mission of the department as well as be mindful of native Hawaiian values and treasured wahi kapu and wahi pana.

We have worked with Mr. Aila over many years, and have found him to be a person of great integrity and personal commitment to the preservation of our culture and heritage, and to our collective kuleana to malama ka pae `aina o Hawai'i as well as the oceans around us.

He will be taking on a significant responsibility to ensure the protection of our resources. It is imperative that his department be given all the support and funding necessary to ensure that our islands are kept safe from harmful activities or invasive species, that our cultural and natural resources are protected for generations to come.

We urge that you join us in supporting Mr. Aila's nomination by reporting this matter out of committee and to the Senate floor for confirmation. Mahalo for allowing us to offer our mana`o.

Me kealoha pumehana,

ALICE P. HEWETT  
President

P. O. Box 664  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
Ph. (808) 235-8111  
[www.koolaupokohcc.org](http://www.koolaupokohcc.org)

**ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS**  
**Testimony of President Soulee Stroud**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 517**  
**SUPPORTING WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR.**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HOUSING**  
Saturday; February 12, 2011; 1:15p.m.; Room 225

Aloha Chairman Dela Cruz, vice Chair Solomon and members of the committee on Water, Land and Housing. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs here to testify in support of William Aila as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The Association Board of Directors met on January 22, 2011 and among other agenda items was the impending confirmation of William Aila as the Chair of DLNR. It is the position of the Association that we should support Native Hawaiians who are appointed to key policy making positions and it is in that spirit that we support Mr. Aila.

It has been our experience, because we are a membership organization, that we will not always have unanimity for all the decisions we make, nor for all the positions we take. Such was the case with Mr. Aila.

The Association has, for several years supported first, the `Aha Moku Puwalu, then the `Aha Kiole advisory council, through resolutions debated then adopted at our annual conventions. Mr. Aila has consistently, in private and publicly, opposed the `Aha Kiole advisory council, even as we supported it. After some discussion, there was a majority vote by the Board to support Mr. Aila's confirmation.

It is in the keeping with being an organization of the majority and an organization that respects individual differences, that we send in this testimony of support for Mr. Aila. We hope that as the Director of DLNR he too will learn to hear all voices, to listen even to those who differ with his agenda, and will make fair and reasonable decisions

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM 517.



### Testimony

Supporting GM 517: Appointment of William Aila, Jr. as  
Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011 1:15 pm, Rm. 225

On behalf of the board of Friends of Honouliuli, a volunteer-based non-profit organization on O'ahu, whose mission is to preserve, protect, and perpetuate the environment and cultural practices of Honouliuli through stewardship and education, I would like to express our organization's unwavering support of GM 517: Governor Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Many of our board members and other volunteers have known Mr. Aila personally for many years as he is a well known and much respected community leader from the Wai'anae Coast. We respect and appreciate his strong work ethic and commitment to community. He understands deeply the environment and Hawaiian culture, and the intricacies of balancing divergent opinions. He does not shy away from controversy and makes time to listen to opposing viewpoints. But when he makes a decision, he is steadfast and shows perseverance – two qualities that are key to the success of the position of DLNR Director.

Governor Abercrombie has made a very wise choice in selecting Mr. Aila for this very important position. We support Mr. Aila and GM 517 and look forward to working with him in this new capacity to further our mission and responsibility.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Pauline M. Sato  
President

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Date: Saturday, February 12, 2011-02-11

Time: 1:15pm

Place: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY

In Support of

Mr. William Johnson Aila, Jr.

Board of Land and Natural Resources Gubernatorial Nominee

From  
Lālākea Foundation

Aloha kākou,

Please accept our letter of support for Mr. William Johnson Aila, Jr., the Gubernatorial Nominee for the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Lālākea Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the perpetuation and preservation of our Native Hawaiian practices, in particular, the art of Hula and Oli. Our cultural practices depend on the proper care and maintenance of our ʻĀina; ocean and forest. Mr. Aila's appointment to Chair of the BLNR is an important step toward this purpose.

The board members of Lālākea Foundation believe William Johnson Aila, Jr. has first hand knowledge of the land, cultural and natural resources of Hawaiʻi, possesses personal knowledge and experience of Native Hawaiian cultural practices, is very attuned to waterfront practices, will listen openly to all opinions and can make fair and rational decisions.

We urge you to support his appointment.

Me ka haʻiʻahaʻa a me ke aloha,

Dr. Kumu Hula Pualani Kanahale Kanakaʻole, President  
Kumu Hula Leinaʻala Kalama Heine, Vice President  
Kumu Hula Ulalia Woodside, Secretary  
Noe Noe Wong-Wilson, Treasurer

Kumu Hula Hōkūlani Holt  
Kumu Hula Manu Boyd  
Kumu Hula Pali Ahue  
Kumu Hula Mehana Hind

Address: 2106 Kaiwiki Road, Hilo, Hawaiʻi 96720

email: [noenoe@hilo.net](mailto:noenoe@hilo.net)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [namamo@yahoo.com](mailto:namamo@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 1:44:44 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Damien Kenison Sr  
Organization: KUPA - Hookena community non-profit  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [namamo@yahoo.com](mailto:namamo@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

Comments:



O`ahu Council  
Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs  
P. O. Box 664  
Kane`ohe, HI 96744

February 4, 2011

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
And Members  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Housing  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM517 – Appointment of William Aila, Jr. – DLNR Chairperson

Aloha mai kakou:

On behalf of the O`ahu Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, I urge your committee to approve the appointment of William Aila, Jr., as chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and to forward his name to the full Senate for confirmation.

Voting at our recent Council meeting of the 26 civic clubs on O`ahu, we are in strong support of his appointment as head of the DLNR.

Mr. Aila has an impressive history, both in public service as harbormaster on the Wai`anae coast for over 25 years and also as an advocate for native Hawaiian rights and the protection of traditional and cultural resources. He has also joined in the voices urging conservation of the natural resources of our islands, rounding out what we see clearly as a comprehensive commitment to the mission of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

It is our view that he offers personal experience, strength and integrity to meet the many challenges that have faced DLNR for decades. We stand ready to provide him with our support to work through the issues with which he will be confronted, many of which are of concern to our native Hawaiian community.

We ask your expeditious approval and confirmation of his appointment. Mahalo for this opportunity to offer our mana`o.

Me kealoha pumehana,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mahealani Cypher".

MAHEALANI CYPHER  
Pelekikena  
O`ahu Council-Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs



**Papa Ola Lokahi**  
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

**Papa Ola Lokahi**  
894 Queen Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

#### **Papa Ola Lokahi**

is a non-profit Native Hawaiian organization founded in 1988 for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and other native peoples of the Pacific and continental United States.

#### **Board of Directors**

##### *Member Organizations*

*Hoola Lahui Hawaii*

*Hui No Ke Ola Pono*

*Hui Malama Ola Na OIwi*

*ALU LIKE*

*Ke Ola Mamo*

*E Ola Mau*

*University of Hawaii*

*Hawaii State Department of Health*

*Na Puuwai*

*Office of Hawaiian Affairs*

#### **Ex-Officio Members**

*Hawaii Primary Care Association*

*Ke Alaula*

#### **Executive Director**

*Hardy Spoehr*

**TESTIMONY: GM 517, Confirmation of Mr. William Johnson Aila, Jr. to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources**

#### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Sen. Malama Solomon, Vice Chair**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011**

**1:15 pm**

**Conference Room 225  
State Capitol**

**Hardy Spoehr, Executive Director**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing. **Papa Ola Lokahi (POL) strongly supports for the appointment of Mr. Aila to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land and natural Resources.**

Mr. Aila brings to this office a refreshing background and one that is distinguished as a public servant. He is fully aware of the cultural values permeating our islands' lands and waters and has first hand knowledge of and great experience administering their use for the benefits of our island people.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide strong supportive testimony for this important measure.

**From:** [rhoda libre](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kauaiwestsidewatershedcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:kauaiwestsidewatershedcouncil@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** In support of GM 517- W. Aila-Hearing 2.12.11 1:15pm  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 8:33:40 AM

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Aloha,

The Kaua'i Westside Watershed Council of the kona moku supports confirmation for William J. Aila. We are a community watershed organization (over 6,000 constituents and 48 member committees) of the west side of Kaua'i and we believe that Mr. Aila has the experience and heart to help Kaua'i and its cultural community to protect our native and environmental treasures as well as bridge the great gap with trust and integrity with empowering our regional community stewardship and bring clarity, streamlining, and accountability to this department.

Mahalo,  
Rhoda Libre  
Kaua'i Westside Watershed Council





## Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

February 9, 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

GM 517

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31,

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.

Aloha Honorable Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Solomon,

We are submitting testimony on behalf of Hawai'i Wildlife Fund, a Maui and Hawai'i Island based non-governmental organization dedicated to the protection of Hawai'i's native wildlife, in support of the confirmation of William Aila, Jr., to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

We have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Aila since the early '90's through our involvement on the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and the Monk Seal Recovery Team, among other things. William has provided wise counsel to these and many other entities, representing not only the Native Hawaiian perspective and the broader Hawaiian ecosystem, but a deep respect for all opinions. We have benefited greatly from the wisdom he has shared in his careful, well-spoken way.

His experience as a conservation-minded fisherman and former Harbormaster as well as expert advisor on numerous panels and boards will be an asset for the Department of Land and Natural Resources and we wholeheartedly endorse his appointment.

Mahalo for your kind consideration,

~~GreetingLine~~

«GreetingLine»

President

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

William Gilmartin

William Gilmartin

Director of Research

Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

*Lihu'e Ohana*  
c/o Thomas T Shirai Jr  
P O Box 601  
Waialua, HI 96791  
Email: [LIHUEOHANA@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:LIHUEOHANA@hawaii.rr.com)

Notice of Hearing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15PM / State Capitol Conference Room 225  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Housing (WLH)  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz (Chair) / Senator Malama Solomon (Vice Chair)

RE: Testimony **Supporting GM 517** (Submitting for Consideration to the Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon & Committee Members,

My name is Thomas T Shirai Jr and providing testimony as *the Founder of the Lihu'e Ohana (LO)* which is recognized by the *Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)* as a *Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO)* and pending similar recognition by the *Department of Interior (DOI)*. The mission statement (*Kuleana*) of *Lihu'e Ohana (LO)* is to *Malama Iwi Kupuna* and *Na Mea Hawai'i (including mo'olelo)* within *Lihu'e Ahupua'a* where *Schofield Barracks* is situated and controlled by the *United States Army*. This name and acronym was chosen to honor the *Lo Ali'i of Lihu'e*. The weblink below defines the geographical *Kuleana* of the *Lihu'e Ohana* as well as the *Kawaihapai Ohana* of *Waialua Moku* preserved in an *oli (chant)* composed by *King Liholiho* entitled *Kalena Kai*:



[http://huapala.org/KAL/Kalena\\_Kai.html](http://huapala.org/KAL/Kalena_Kai.html) - Hula Chants & Songs Archives

The *Lihu'e Ohana (LO)* SUPPORTS GM 517's nominee *William Johnson Aila Jr* and feels he has an extraordinary background having been on the forefront of many *Hawaiian* cultural issues which includes *Malama Iwi Kupuna (caring for our ancestors)* especially at *Makua Military Reservation* where he has done proactively for a long time.

The *Lihu'e Ohana (LO)* believes this nominee under his tenure will be open and provide the necessary leadership consistent with our *Kupuna* and their practice of *Malama Iwi Kupuna* statewide. He will increase the quality and productivity needed for the controversial *State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)*. Nevertheless, to make these concerns a reality, confirmation to permanently fill this position is needed. By confirming this nominee, it will give him the benefit of the doubt and be held accountable for his actions. *William Aila* is highly deserving of this opportunity and therefore the *Lihu'e Ohana (LO)* supports GM 517 nominating him to serve as *Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources*. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting GM 517 and urge passage. *Malama Pono*.

*Thomas T Shirai Jr*

*Lihu'e Ohana – Founder*

# HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

**VIA WEB:** <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/emailtestimony>

**To:** Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Sen. Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water Land and Housing

**From:** Kiersten Faulkner  
Executive Director, Historic Hawai'i Foundation

**Committee Date:** Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 225

**Subject:** **GM 517, Confirmation of William J. Aila  
as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources**

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing in support of William Johnson Aila to be confirmed as chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

As the chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Mr. Aila will also serve as the State Historic Preservation Officer, responsible for planning and execution of both the state's historic preservation program and implementation of the federal preservation program in Hawai'i.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) includes the Historic Preservation Division, which implements the regulatory framework related to heritage protection programs. DLNR also has direct stewardship responsibilities for some of Hawaii's most significant and precious historic and cultural properties through its State Parks, Forestry, Coastal Lands, and other divisions.

In order to meet the legal, regulatory and moral obligations that come with these responsibilities, the Department needs to have a leader who is committed to resource protection within a stable and robust framework. HHF believes that Mr. Aila will provide principled leadership that is fair to all, and that he has a reputation for integrity and bringing people together.

The challenges facing DLNR, and especially the historic preservation division, are great. The stakes are high, as the natural and cultural resources of Hawai'i are fragile and irreplaceable. It is critical that the department be supported in its endeavors to protect resources, find and follow-through on solutions, and set a vision for the future. We believe that Mr. Aila will be able to meet these challenges and to engage in a broad conversation with the community about ways to address these issues.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports William J. Aila as chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

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## Historic Hawai'i Foundation

680 Iwilei Road, Suite 690 • Honolulu, HI 96817 • Tel: 808-523-2900 • FAX: 808-523-0800 • [www.historichawaii.org](http://www.historichawaii.org)

Historic Hawai'i Foundation was established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites and communities on all the islands of Hawai'i. As the statewide leader for historic preservation, HHF works to preserve Hawai'i's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, environmental sustainability and economic viability of the state.

COMMITTEE ON WATER LAND AND HOUSING

Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Sen. Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Saturday, February 12, 2011

1:15 p.m.

Room 225

RE CONFIRMATION OF WILLIAM AILA AS CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF LAND  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Aloha Senators Dela Cruz and Solomon, Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of William Aila as Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

My name is Lynette Cruz. I am the president of Ka Lei Maile Alii Hawaiian Civic Club. Our club honors the life and work of Queen Liliuokalani. Part of our work is to honor her at Iolani Palace, primarily on the grounds nearest to Pohukaina, the burial mound, in the makai-Diamond Head quadrant. Over the years our activities have caused some concern with DLNR, especially after 2008, when DLNR instituted rule changes that changed the way we could participate in activities in that area. We had not had the opportunity to dialogue much with the former head of DLNR under the former administration to explain our concerns regarding cultural practice and the protection of those practices under the Hawaii State Constitution.

Since Mr. Aila's appointment as head of DLNR, he has met with us twice, once at the Kanaina Building with the leadership of the Aha O Iolani (a consortium of Hawaiian organizations whose purpose is to honor the sacredness of the *pa alii* that constitutes the Palace and its grounds), and once with our club and others in the general public on Jan. 16, 2011, at the burial mound to honor those who are buried there.

Mr. Aila's strengths are his wisdom, his knowledge of the local community, and his adherence to protocols, including the protocols of his work. Our club believes that Mr. Aila has evidenced fairness in all his actions, and while we do not expect special treatment re Hawaiian cultural practices, we trust that he will do the right thing for both the community and the Department of Land and Natural Resources in carrying out his duties. We urge confirmation of his position as head of DLNR.

Mahalo me ka pono,

Lynette Cruz, President

Ka Lei Maile Alii Hawaiian Civic Club

45-057 Waikalua Loko Lp.

Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Phone (808) 284-3460 · Email: [palolo@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:palolo@hawaii.rr.com)



*Shaping the future for birds*

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
The State Senate of Hawai'i  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI

11 February 2011

RE: **GM 517** - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Testimony for a hearing to be held Saturday, February 12, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.

Dear Senators Dela Cruz and Solomon,

I would like to offer enthusiastic support from American Bird Conservancy for the nomination of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The State of Hawai'i faces environmental challenges that are unlike those of any other state and on a scale that few understand outside of Hawai'i. With 34 bird species, over 300 plant species, and dozens of invertebrates listed under the Endangered Species Act, Hawaii has more imperiled species than any other state, and nearly all of them occur only in Hawai'i. Yet the resources available to confront the challenges of conserving the state's unique biodiversity are inadequate, and the political will required to make tough decisions has not always existed.

Now, more than ever, strong leadership is needed within the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to better support biodiversity conservation and elevate protection of Hawai'i's environment to the prominence that it deserves. We feel strongly that Mr. Aila is the person to do this, and that he can do this with experience, skill, and integrity. Mr. Aila's background demonstrates that he is hard working and capable of bringing people together to solve problems in a respectful and constructive way.

Over the years, Mr. Aila has demonstrated his commitment to protecting Hawai'i's land and resources. He has worked with many of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials. Mr. Aila is familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise among ocean users. As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila



*Shaping the future for birds*

will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting sacred Native Hawaiian burials and other important cultural sites and traditions, and protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses. He worked with state and federal agencies and the public to formulate policies to accommodate practices for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for species such as the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan Albatross, and Wedge-tailed Shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.

We are grateful for the opportunity to support Mr. Aila's nomination.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "George E. Wallace". The signature is fluid and cursive.

George E. Wallace, PhD  
Vice President

About American Bird Conservancy: ABC is the only 501(c)3 organization that works solely to conserve native, wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. Working together, ABC and its more than 300 partners buy land, restore degraded habitats, conduct applied research, remove threats, provide data on the effects of global warming on ecosystems, and educate and engage the public on conservation issues. By focusing our work on the greatest threats to bird populations – habitat loss, poor habitat management, pesticides and toxins, collisions with man-made structures, fisheries management and invasive species – ABC's efforts benefit millions of American birds, representing dozens of endangered and threatened species and hundreds of more common bird species every year. ABC's Hawaiian Islands Endangered Bird Program is aimed at reversing the decline of native Hawaiian bird species.



# Hanalei Watershed Hui

February 8, 2011

**Testimony in Strong Support of: GM517**

Nomination of William Aila, Jr. for BLNR Chair

WLH 2-12-11

Room 225

1:15 pm

Aloha Chair De La Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and Committee members,

The Hanalei Watershed Hui is a community based nonprofit that implements the Hanalei Watershed Action Plan. This plan expresses priorities for restoration, protection and support of the cultural, natural, and economic resources of the Hanalei Bay watersheds.

We have met with Mr. Aila over the years regarding our community's efforts to regulate ocean and fishing uses and to discuss the economic impacts and opportunities of our community plans.

Mr. Aila possesses broad experience with those issues many of our communities are concerned about and has used his skills and knowledge for decades to share and support our connections.

Mr. Aila's ability to understand and relate to the kanaka and Traditional Ecological Knowledge will be key to his ability to foster positive communication and outcomes in the work of the BLNR. His experience in working in government will serve us all well and certainly shorten his learning curve in this job.

We are very proud and pleased to support his nomination as Chair of the BLNR.

We pledge our support to him and look forward to working together to mālama 'āina.

Me ka pono,

Makaala Kaaumoana  
Executive Director

E malama kumu wai ~ Protect the source

5299C Kuhio Hwy, P. O. Box 1285, Hanalei, Kaua'i, HI 96714

Telephone/Facsimile (808) 826-1985 Email: hanaleiriver@hawaiian.net

[www.hanaleiwatershedhui.org](http://www.hanaleiwatershedhui.org)

The Hanalei Watershed Hui is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

**From:** [Rick Gaffney](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM517  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 4:40:40 PM

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Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Water, Land and Housing

Hearing on GM 517

February 12, 2011, 1:15 PM

Conference Room 225

Testimony in support of the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz

Senator Malama Solomon

Members of the Committee:

On behalf of our over 1200 members, the Board of the Hawaii Fishing & Boating Association would like to strongly support the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

We are aware of Mr. Aila's extensive background, deep understanding of, and significant contributions to a broad cross-section of the issues relevant to the position for which he has been nominated.

His knowledge of the State's Boating Program and ocean recreation and small boat harbor management rules, is second-to-none. He has been fully engaged in federal and state ocean resources and fisheries management and conservation processes for decades.

He is also uniquely qualified by both his Hawaiian heritage and his long experience to seek balance amongst competing interests regarding land-use, water rights, conservation, species protection, gathering rights, development, preservation interests, fisheries and the many other matters that are the purview of the Chair of the BLNR.

We look forward to your confirmation giving us the opportunity to work with William Aila, Jr. toward resurrecting and enhancing Hawaii's troubled boating program and developing pono solutions to the many issues facing Hawaii's land



and important natural resources.

Aloha,

Rick Gaffney, President



To: COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

From: Lani Ma'a Lapilio

Hearing Date: February 12, 2011, 1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225

Subject: Support of GM 517 Confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

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

It is with great humility that I write this letter of **strong support** for the confirmation of William Aila as BLNR Chairperson. Mr. Aila is an outstanding leader who is well respected for his intelligence and dedication to the proper care of Hawaii's natural and cultural resources, including nā iwi kūpuna. I have known Mr. Aila for many years and as a cultural consultant, I have sought his counsel on many sensitive projects. I have always found him to be open minded and focused on listening to all of the concerns before seeking the best possible solution in very difficult circumstances.

Mr. Aila has the ideal background to serve as Chair of the Land Board. He has demonstrated his deep commitment to public service by sacrificing so much of his personal time and efforts to better our community through his leadership service on national, state and community advisory groups for more than 20 years. His wisdom, experience and solid cultural foundation will bring a balanced and reasoned perspective to the important deliberations and decisions of the Board.

You will not find a better suited leader to head the Department at this critical time, when Hawai'i faces the most extreme demands on its limited resources. Mahalo nui loa for your favorable consideration and support!

*Kawaihapai Ohana*  
c/o Thomas T Shirai Jr  
P O Box 601  
Waialua, HI 96791  
Email: [Kawaihapai@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Kawaihapai@hawaii.rr.com)

Notice of Hearing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011  
2:00PM / State Capitol Conference Room 225  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Housing (WLH)  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz (Chair) / Senator Malama Solomon (Vice Chair)

RE: Testimony Supporting GM 517 (Submitting for Consideration to the Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon & Committee Members,

My name is Thomas T Shirai Jr and providing testimony as *Po'o (head)* of the *Kawaihapai Ohana* which is recognized by *The Department of Interior (DOI)* as a *Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO)* whose *Kuleana (mission statement of responsibility)* has an emphasis on the *Northwest Coastline of Waialua Moku* which encompasses the *Ahupua'a of Kamananui, Mokule'ia, Kekahi, Auku'u, Kawaihapai, Kealia and Ka'ena*. The *Kawaihapai Ohana Kupuna* were *Cultural Practioners* which included gathering seafood subsistence and worshipping religious beliefs at *Ka'ena Ahupua'a*. Among these *Kupuna*, are members of the nominees *lineage* along with mine hence we are related and *Ohana*.

The *Kawaihapai Ohana* **SUPPORTS GM 517's** nominee *William Johnson Aila Jr* and feels he has an extraordinary background having been on the forefront of many *Hawaiian* cultural issues which includes *Malama Iwi Kupuna (carring for our ancestors)* along *Fishery Management* for TOMMOROW.

The *Kawaihapai Ohana* believes this nominee under his tenure will be open and provide the necessary leadership consistent with our *Kupuna* and their practice of *Malama Aina*. Its anticipated that the nominee will establish meaningful relationships and practical solutions with *Lineal Descendants of Ka'ena* regarding the *Ka'ena Natural Area Reserve Predator Proof Fence* and its alignment with *Leina Ka Uhane*.

He will increase the quality and productivity needed for the controversial *State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)*. Nevertheless, to make these concerns a reality, confirmation to permanently fill this position is needed. By confirming this nominee, it will give him the benefit of the doubt and be held accountable for his actions.

*William Aila* is highly deserving of this opportunity and therefore the *Kawaihapai Ohana* supports GM 517 nominating him to serve as *Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources*. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting GM 517 and urge passage. *Malama Pono*.

*Thomas T Shirai Jr*  
*Kawaihapai Ohana – Po'o*

**KA'ENA NATURAL AREA RESERVE (NARS)**

***Leina Ka Uhane***



***Pohaku Kauai***

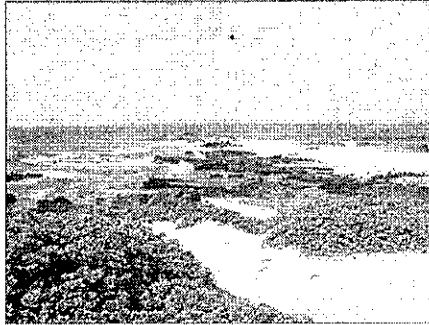
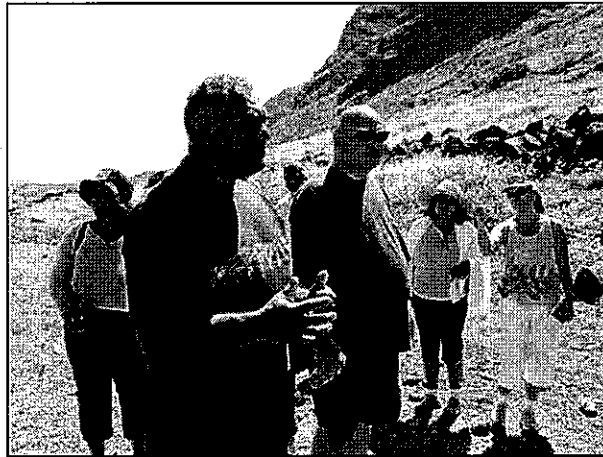


Fig 14: Alignment of Partially Submerged, Rocky Outcrops Forming the Western Point of Oahu with Pohaku o Kauai in the Distance (Facing West).

***Ka'ena – William Aila, Thomas Shirai & Others***



February 8, 2011

Committee On Water, Land, and Housing  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Re: GM 517 Re Confirmation to the Chairperson of the  
Board of Land and Natural Resources, William Johnson Aila, Jr.  
February 12, 2011 1:15 p.m.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of Committee On Water, Land and Housing,

As a long time resident of the Wai'anae Coast, I have witnessed Bill Aila's continued and consistent actions to protect, defend and go to battle for the environment – the aina, the oceans, the mountains, the native plants and wildlife over the past 20+ yrs. Always these actions were grounded and advocated from the native Hawaiian cultural perspective of respecting the earth and with the view of preservation for the future generations. While at the same time he has been firm, clear and never gives up on these issues, he has been gracious in gently teaching these concepts to others, especially the keiki.

In specific, Bill Aila has :

Fought for native rights in Makua Valley.  
Retrieved native iwi in other countries to be returned to Hawaii  
Visioned / helped develop best policies re the Papahānaumokuākea Monument  
Been active in the a large variety of conservation Boards

Along the way, he has also lent a hand to dozens of conservationists/cultural practitioners and small nonprofits either personally or through his television show.

Re the argument that he may not have balance, I can share that Bill Aila took the time to share Wai'anae's story when my group, the Women of Wai'anae, have brought large groups of Japanese tourists to the Westside, and welcomed them.

Finally, Bill has offered a commitment to work within the system, aware of the critical need for good policy, good laws and strong enforcement to protect and save the precious environment of this state. This is an outstandingly committed and effective individual that I urge you to confirm as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Karen GS Young  
President  
Na Wahine O Wai'anae/ Women of Wai'anae



## Testimony

Supporting GM 517: Appointment of William Aila, Jr. as  
Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011 1:15 pm, Rm. 225

Board of Directors

**Pauline Sato**  
President

**Mark Glick**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Douglas Philpotts**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Thomas Anuhealii**  
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**Sedrika Anuhealii**  
Secretary

**Judith Flanders**  
Director

**Jo Jordan**  
Director

**Kehua Souza**  
Director

**Kimo Campbell**  
Director

**Randy Stevens**  
Director

On behalf of the board of Friends of Honouliuli, a volunteer-based non-profit organization on O'ahu, whose mission is to preserve, protect, and perpetuate the environment and cultural practices of Honouliuli through stewardship and education, I would like to express our organization's unwavering support of GM 517: Governor Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Many of our board members and other volunteers have known Mr. Aila personally for many years as he is a well known and much respected community leader from the Wai'anae Coast. We respect and appreciate his strong work ethic and commitment to community. He understands deeply the environment and Hawaiian culture, and the intricacies of balancing divergent opinions. He does not shy away from controversy and makes time to listen to opposing viewpoints. But when he makes a decision, he is steadfast and shows perseverance - two qualities that are key to the success of the position of DLNR Director.

Governor Abercrombie has made a very wise choice in selecting Mr. Aila for this very important position. We support Mr. Aila and GM 517 and look forward to working with him in this new capacity to further our mission and responsibility.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Pauline M. Sato  
President

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Housing

FROM: Sara L. Collins, Ph.D., Legislative Chair  
Society for Hawaiian Archaeology  
[sara.l.collins.sha@gmail.com](mailto:sara.l.collins.sha@gmail.com)

HEARING: February 12, 2011, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 225

SUBJECT: Testimony in Strong Support of GM 517: Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr., for a Term to Expire December 31, 2014

I am Dr. Sara Collins, Chair of the Legislative Committee of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 150 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. On behalf of SHA, I am providing testimony in strong support of the nomination of Mr. William Johnson Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, for a term to expire on December 31, 2014.

Our members have met Mr. Aila over the years in different capacities, mostly to address controversies over burial preservation and other historic preservation issues. No matter how difficult or contentious the specific issue, they have always been able to work with him regardless of eventual outcome. He is known for his calm, respectful demeanor; he has the ability to defuse tense situations so that all parties can speak with one another in order to move towards a workable resolution. Mr. Aila conveys a basic respect for other people even when he disagrees with them.

In addition to his considerable skills in working with people, Mr. Aila has a strong record of public service within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). He is familiar with the challenges facing other divisions within DLNR, and we believe he has forged good working relationships with their staff. In particular, he understands the challenges of the Division's line staff that care deeply about DLNR's mandates.

Our members also respect Mr. Aila's long involvement with historic preservation matters, particularly his dedication in seeing to the protection and preservation of burial sites. Taken together with his personal skills and working background in DLNR, we believe that he can provide the leadership needed to improve the State Historic Preservation Division.

Finally, in soliciting our membership's thoughts on Mr. Aila's nomination, the Legislative Committee received nothing but positive comments, such as the following:

"He has been very proactive and helpful to all people in Wai'anae and boaters, He understands proper protocol and ways to include other people in his decisions. He knows the functions of a good leader."

"He is a good man, fair and open in his approach, and has the ability to bring everyone together on issues. In my experiences, when the issues get tough and controversial he has demonstrated great leadership in finding solutions."

"My experience of working with Aila is that he is a man of commitment and integrity who has spent years working to protect archaeological and cultural sites."

"I perceive him to be an honest and sane voice in a realm that is often clouded with hidden agendas."

We strongly support Mr. Aila's nomination and respectfully ask you to vote in favor of GM 517, which proposes the confirmation of Mr. Aila as Chairperson of BLNR. Thank you for considering our comments.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email address.





THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 225, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of GM 517 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR, for a term to expire on December 13, 2014.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association **strongly supports** GM 517 which offers Gubernatorial Nominee WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR to be considered and confirmed as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire on December 13, 2014.

Mr. Aila has long supported and been directly involved in natural resource management and Native Hawaiian cultural issues on the Waianae Coast of Oahu, as well as statewide and in the broader Western Pacific Region. He has a science background from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and has a demonstrated history of listening to and working collaboratively with community, industry, and government leaders and members.

Mr. Aila's Chairmanship of the challenging Kaena Point Advisory Committee, and membership in various Western Pacific Fishery Management Council panels and working groups, and the Waianae Coast Neighborhood Board are just a few of the numerous examples of his willingness and commitment to work with diverse interests to seek common ground so as to address pressing natural resource management and Hawaiian cultural matters.

In regards to aquaculture, Mr. Aila took the time a decade ago to begin learning the science behind our industry, especially in regards to ocean aquaculture, and last year

testified on behalf of the Hawaii aquaculture industry before a U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration listening session held in Honolulu on national ocean aquaculture policy. His openness and willingness to listen and learn before forming decisions is an invaluable asset for a nominee to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Mr. Aila has earned our respect over the years and we are honored to strongly support his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald P. Weidenbach". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Ronald P. Weidenbach  
HAAA President

**From:** [Windward Ahupua`a Alliance](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517 WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR. - DLNR CHAIR  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 10:35:45 AM

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**COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING**

***Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair***  
***Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair***

**1:15 pm**  
**Saturday, February 12, 2011**  
**Conference Room 225**

**GM 517**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation for the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources**  
**Gubernatorial Nominee WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR, for a term to expire December 31, 2014**

**STRONGLY SUPPORT**

Submitted by:  
Shannon Wood, **President & Co-Founder**  
**Windward Ahupua`a Alliance**  
**PLANT A NATIVE TREE CAMPAIGN/**  
P.O. Box 6366  
Kane`ohe, HI 96744  
Voicemail: 808/247-6366; Cellular: 808/223-4481 or 808/224-4496 (personal)  
Website: <http://www.waa-hawaii.org>; E-mail: <mailto:info@waa-hawaii.org>  
Website: <http://www.plantanativetree.org>; <mailto:info@plantanativetree.org>

Speaking on behalf of the **Windward Ahupua`a Alliance**, we strongly support **WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR's** confirmation as the **Chairperson** of the **Board of Land and Natural Resources**.

In addition to his professional qualifications, his dedication to the preservation & restoration of the Hawai`i's natural and cultural resources, Bill's style of dealing with people will have a positive impact on **DLNR's** employees, the general public, and the wide range of **NGOs** who have dedicated a portion of their human and financial resources who share the same values as he does.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express our support.

**From:** [Lloyd Lowry](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of the confirmation of William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 11:05:47 AM

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We are members of the [Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team](#), an independent group charged with assisting in the recovery of the Hawaiian monk seal, Hawaii's official State Marine Mammal. We have known William Aila for many years, working with him on the Recovery Team as well as on many other conservation issues. In his capacity on the Team William has provided us and others with wise counsel, representing not only the Native Hawaiian perspective but also the needs of the seals and the broader Hawaiian ecosystem. He is well versed in the concerns of all constituencies, landowners, boaters, fishermen, conservationists, etc. We have benefited greatly from the wisdom he has shared in his careful, well-spoken way. He is fully qualified to be in charge of caring for Hawaii's lands and natural resources, and we urge you to confirm him as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Walterbea Aldeguer  
Don Bowen  
Brian Funai  
Bill Gilmartin  
Dan Goodman  
Frances Gulland  
Rebecca Hommon  
Lloyd Lowry  
Don Siniff  
'Aulani Wilhelm

**From:** [Mia Nykoluk](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** MNMRC Supports GM 517: Appointment of William Aila, Jr. as DLNR Director  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 12:43:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [final Aila\\_itr.rtf](#).zip

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## ***Maui Nui Marine Resource Council***

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

**GM 517 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., in a term to expire December 31, 2014.**  
**DATE: Saturday February 12, 2011 TIME:1:15 p.m.**

Aloha Honorable Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Solomon,

On behalf of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (MNMRC), I hereby submit support for the confirmation of William Aila, Jr., to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. MNMRC is a community group representing a broad spectrum of fishers, scientists, educators, seniors and a variety of ethnic groups who's goals are to restore clean water, healthy coral reefs and an abundance of native fish to the islands of Maui Nui.

Mr. Aila would be a great asset to the Hawaiian Community in preserving marine resources. He has proven he can provide wise council in community, state, national and international forums, and is respectful of all opinions. His experience extends from a conservation minded fisher to an expert advisor of the native Hawaiian perspectives.

The Maui Nui Marine Resource Council endorses Mr Aila's appointment as we feel he will provide pivotal progressive leadership in the administration and management the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mahalo for your kind consideration,

Robin Newbold  
Chair, Maui Nui Marine Resources Council



HAWAII COMMUNITY  
STEWARDSHIP NETWORK

February 11, 2011

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Chair Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senator Malama Solomon, and Committee Members  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225  
Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15 p.m.

**RE: SUPPORT for the confirmation of William Johnson Aila Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Community Stewardship Network (HCSN) empowers Hawai'i's communities to care for their environmental heritage. As part of our work, we facilitate a network of more than 25 community-based organizations around Hawai'i that are engaged in mālama 'āina practices. HCSN fully supports the confirmation of William Aila Jr. as the Chairperson of the DLNR for three primary reasons:

1. **William's approach** to an issue or question is to learn about it and consider it carefully from various angles before making a decision. He cannot be accused of "siding" with the same sector or group regardless of the question at hand. Rather, throughout the years he has provided a fair and balanced assessment of many different types of issues as both a community member and as a DLNR staff member. He always provides his reasoning, and he does so with respect, honesty, and integrity. DLNR urgently needs this type of leadership.
2. **William's experience** as a long-time DLNR staff member provides him a unique and, again, urgently needed understanding of the inner workings of the DLNR. DLNR needs someone who really understands the organization in order to address its many needs and challenges.
3. **William cares** deeply about the natural and cultural resources the DLNR is supposed to steward. He is not a spectator of Hawai'i's environment and culture. He is actively a part of it.

Again, HCSN **fully supports** the confirmation of William Aila Jr. as Chairperson of the DLNR and sincerely hopes the Committee will do the same.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Debbie Gowensmith, HCSN Director

# UNITE HERE!

## LOCAL 5 HAWAII

*Eric Gill, Financial Secretary-Treasurer*

*Hernando Ramos Tan, President*

*Godfrey Maeshiro, Senior Vice-President*

Friday, February 11, 2011

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
and Members  
Hawaii State Legislature  
Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon, and members of the Senate Committee on Water,  
Land and Housing:

On behalf of UNITE HERE Local 5, a local labor organization representing nearly 11,000 hotel, health care and food service workers employed throughout our State, I hereby register our organization's strong support of GM 517 and the confirmation of Mr. William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

As a proven and dedicated community leader, our organization has worked closely and has come to know Mr. Aila in the last 10 years and it that time, we have observed first-hand his steadfast commitment towards defending the public's interest.

We know Mr. Aila to be an outstanding member of our community with a distinguished record of community service. He has dedicated countless hours advocating for fairness and equality in our community, and has been an unwavering ally of working people throughout our State. As a harbor master, Mr. Aila possesses a unique set of skills that will only compliment his already proven skills as a leader. We are confident that Mr. Aila, if confirmed, will continue to serve in our community's best interest.

We stand in strong support of GM 517 and humbly ask for your Committee's support of Mr. Aila's nomination.

Sincerely,

Cade Watanabe  
Community/Political Organizer



69-385 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY, WAIALUA, HAWAII 96791

Hawaii State Senate  
Donovan M Dela Cruz, Chair  
State Capital  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject:

Letter of support for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014

Dear Chair Dela Cruz:

The Friends of Ka`ena would like to submit this letter in **strong support** of the confirmation of William Johnson Aila Jr for chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. We are a non-profit community organization whose mission is to enhance, maintain and protect the natural and cultural resources of the Ka`ena Point area, including Kaena Point NAR, for present and future generations through active community stewardship, education, and partnerships.

Our entire board, and most of our membership, have either lived or worked in the Ka`ena Point area for many years and are all acutely aware of the challenges and needs of the area. As a result of this, the Friends of Ka`ena was given a position on the Ka`ena Point Advisory Council, of which Mr. Aila was the chairperson. During this time Mr. Aila showed strong leadership in guiding the group, and encouraging often disparate viewpoints to find common ground. In his more than 30 years of both public and volunteer service, Mr. Aila has demonstrated a strong conservation ethic which has served the varied ecosystems of Hawaii well. We do not doubt that he will continue to work towards protecting and restoring our native ecosystems as chair.

The Friends of Ka`ena fully supports the confirmation of Mr. Aila and look forward to working with him in the future. Thank you for your consideration and please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

**Josh Heimowitz**  
President





LIMAHULI GARDEN AND PRESERVE OF THE  
NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Testimony of Kawika Winter

**Strongly supporting GM517**

Senate Committee on Land, Water and Housing

February 12, 2001, 1:15pm

Conference Room 225

*Aloha mai kakou e* Chair Dela Cruz and other Committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony is **strong support** of the confirmation of William `Ailā, Jr. to be the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

From the time of my youth William `Ailā has been a role model for me. His passion to protect Hawai`i's natural and cultural resources, and the high level of integrity with which he operates has been an inspiration for many of us. Now, as I manage a 1,000 acre botanical garden and nature preserve dedicated to protecting and restoring the natural and cultural resources of Hā`ena, Kaua`i, I interface with eight different divisions of the DLNR on the regular basis. In doing so over the course of the last two administrations I have gained some perspective of what it takes to run things at the DLNR. I am confident that `Ailā has the skills and passion necessary to be a successful Chairperson for the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I strongly urge you to confirm William `Ailā, Jr. as Chairperson. Thank you again for your time.

Me ka `ōia`i`o,

**Kawika Winter, Director**  
**Limahuli Garden and Preserve**

**Testimony of  
KA'IULANI MURPHY  
Education Specialist  
Polynesian Voyaging Society**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND and HOUSING**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of  
GM 517  
SUBMITTING FOR CONFIRMATION TO THE CHAIR OF THE BLNR**

**I support** the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. He has the experience, knowledge, skills and commitment to meet the needs of such a demanding position.

I have known Mr. Aila for several years and have the highest respect and great aloha for him and his work. As a representative of the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) I have had the privilege to work with Mr. Aila while he served as harbormaster for Wai'anae Small Boat Harbor. I am extremely confident that Mr. Aila will provide much-needed leadership for the State and has the ability to bring people together to solve the critical challenges we face today to ensure a healthy and safe future of our islands and people.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of GM 517.



February 10, 2011

Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Attn: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 517 in Support of William J. Aila, Jr., Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Dear Senators Dela Cruz, Solomon and Committee Members:

This letter is written in support of the Senate's confirmation of William Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

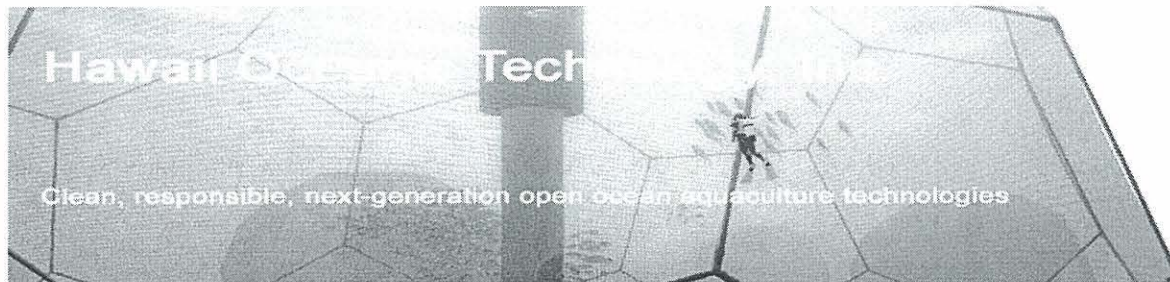
I have known and worked with Mr. Aila on various issues concerning the Ko Olina Resort as well as the greater Leeward community for more than 10 years. He is a person with a deep commitment to the environment, community and culture. Unlike most community advocates, he is one that will never be accused of being a blind crusader focused on a single agenda. William is known for his balanced positions that are supported by a broad knowledge base and analytical abilities. He is also a listener; a tenet which has served him and others well. All these traits will be invaluable in his new position in leading and improving DLNR.

Please confirm Mr. William Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of Department of Land and Natural Resources. He will, without doubt, be an asset to the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Williams", written in a cursive style.

Ken Williams  
Executive Vice President



February 6, 2010

TO: COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING, Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony In Strong Support the Nomination of William Aila Jr. as Chairperson of The Board of Land and Natural Resources – GM 517

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Donovan:

Please accept my testimony in strong support of the nomination to Chair the Board of Land and Natural Resources of William Aila Jr. Mr. Aila has an excellent reputation in the community as a fair minded and thoughtful person. I have not had the opportunity to work with him directly, but know others who have worked with him and found him to be knowledgeable and a strong leader in the community.

I am confident that he can effectively lead the Board of Land and Natural Resources and be a careful steward of our lands. With respect to open ocean mariculture, I am confident that he has taken time to understand the industry, its economic potential for the state of Hawaii and the true positive impact this industry has on our ocean resources. I am confident that he has studied the industry carefully and that he knows the facts and positive benefits a thriving mariculture industry and how it will contribute to the food security of Hawaii economy, create good jobs, tax revenues and export revenues.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of William Aila.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bill Spencer, President/CEO



The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, The Honorable  
Malama Solomon, Vice Chair, and Members  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Members,

RE: WLH Hearing on February 12, 2011 on GM 517

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony for the appointment of Mr. William Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Mr. Aila for the past ten years as the Director of Community Relations for Hawaiian Electric Company. We have worked together on numerous utility projects on the Waianae coast—from a new power plant at Campbell Industrial Park to a proposed wind farm at Kahe to the installation of new fuel lines to major repair and maintenance projects at the Kahe power plant to the replacement, repair and inspection of hundreds of utility poles along the coastline. With the exception of the wind farm which received substantial community opposition, all of the projects that we have worked on over the last ten years along the coast were successfully completed.

Mr. Aila is ardently protective of the natural and cultural resources along the coastline. From the mountain to the ocean including the air quality and water sources within, he is passionate about improving the quality and abundance of these resources to ensure that ample quantities will be available for future generations to come. He is a fair and reasonable gentleman and I have appreciated his evenhandedness in dealing with both environmental and cultural concerns and the utility's needs. He has taken the time to understand complex utility issues and has always tried to work towards solutions that are mutually beneficial to the company and the community.

I have nothing but sincere respect and appreciation for Mr. Aila—for his commitment and passion, his unimpeachable integrity and sense of honor and decency. These qualities along with his wisdom, intellect and leadership acumen have earned him the respect of many political and community leaders over the years. I believe Mr. Aila is well-suited and qualified to serve as the Chair of BLNR and I strongly urge this committee to approve his appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Hoo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lori Hoo  
Director, Community Relations

Testimony before the  
**Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing**

Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225

**Statement on Governor's Message No. 517**

by Robert A. Alm  
Executive Vice President  
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

TO THE HONORABLE DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR, MALAMA SOLOMON,  
VICE CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

It is my pleasure to support the nomination of William J. Aila, Jr., to be the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I got an opportunity to work closely with William during the process of permitting a biofueled power plant on the Waianae Coast. He began as a skeptic but listened, asked questions, and challenged us to do right by his community. In the end, he supported the plant because he came to believe that it was necessary for Oahu and that it was going to be done in the right way for the community.

William is a man of deep integrity, a man devoted to his community, and a man willing to work with, listens openly and fully to others, then makes up his own mind on the right outcome.

The job of the Chairperson is to manage some of the greatest resources we possess as a people. It takes a person of great patience, it takes a person of great capacity to respect and listen to the views of others, and it takes a person of great passion for the land and the water and the truly precious resource they represent.

William Aila is that kind of person and I urge you to confirm his nomination.

# *The Mark A. Robinson Trusts*

1132 BISHOP STREET SUITE 1930 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 PHONE (808) 440-2734 FAX (808) 440-2710

DATE: February 9, 2011

TO: Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Senate Hearing: Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15 p.m.

FROM: William W. Paty  
Mark A. Robinson Trusts, Trustee

RE: William Johnson Aila, Jr.  
Nomination: Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

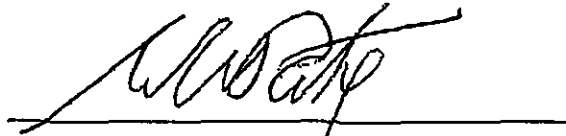
Mr. Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Ms. Solomon and Members:

My name is Bill Paty. I am a trustee with the Mark A. Robinson Trusts. I am here to support the nomination of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known and worked with William Aila, sometimes together, sometimes in opposition, for some 25 years. I first became acquainted with him when we both worked together to resolve a dispute between the Week-end Trollers of Waianae and the newly arrived Gulf Coast Vietnamese long liners, that had reached close to a gun-toting stage. Since that time we have held both supporting and opposing positions on water, fisheries, land use and environmental concerns. The Army's use of Makua has been the longest issue between us. As Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for Hawaii, I was usually supportive of the Army position. As the Army rotates commanders, I think William and I shared half a dozen or so generals between us, including one four-star admiral at Camp Smith. I mention this because over the years, we developed a trusting relationship and a strong friendship that underlies the differences we may have had.

I always knew his position. With the possible exception of Frenchy DeSoto, there was no one better at stating that position for the 6 o'clock sound bite. He doesn't pull any punches. But through it all, he always kept his word.

If confirmed, he will be stepping into one of the toughest jobs in the state. I had the job for a while, but for the most part, I had money and he doesn't. I don't know of anyone who has a better working grasp of the key issues facing the department. Of course, he has a lot to learn as I did, but he is a good listener and likes to get "mana'o" at all levels. He has strong leadership ability and deserves the opportunity to be Chairman of DLNR. I recommend you approve of his nomination.



---

William W. Paty, Trustee  
Mark A. Robinson Trusts



Wednesday, February 9th, 2011

State Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
State Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Hawai'i State Senate  
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature Regular Session of 2011

Measure: GM 517 – Testimony in support of William Johnson Aila, Jr. for BLNR Chairperson  
Date and time: Saturday, February 12, 2011; 1:15 p.m.

Honorable Senators Dela Cruz and Solomon,

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee William Johnson Aila, Jr. to the position of Chairperson of the State of Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) for a term to expire 31 December 2014.

For the past fifteen years, I have known and worked with Mr. Aila in support of improved marine resource management and the promotion of sustainable marine fisheries within the waters of our island home. In particular, I have served and worked with Mr. Aila in the following capacities: (a) as selected members of the Indigenous Fishers and Native Rights Advisory Panel of the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council; (b) as invited working group members in support of the design of a management plan for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (now the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument); (c) as an invited speaker and resource person to the U.S. National Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Council (on which Mr. Aila serves); and most recently (d) as invited expeditionary members on the *Holo I Moana* Interdisciplinary Research Cruise during June 2010 to the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument aboard the NOAA Research Vessel *Hi'ialakai* (R-334). As members of my family have been Mākaha neighborhood residents and local recreation fishers for three generations, I also know Mr. Aila personally in his capacity as the Harbormaster for the Wai'anae Boat Harbor, including his instrumental roles in nurturing and supporting the annual Ahi Fever fishing tournament series that my family participates in, as well as his role within the Hawai'i Fishermen's Foundation to protect and support sustainable, small-scale commercial Native Hawaiian fishing operations, such as that of my brother-in-law.

There are many reasons why I believe that Mr. Aila is an ideal choice to serve as the BLNR Chairperson. He is a gifted, wise, and visionary community leader who has earned the respect and trust of many groups and individuals, including the professional natural resource management community in Hawai'i. He is an knowledgeable *kahuna lawai'a* (skilled expert in marine fisheries), and is recognized by many of my colleagues and peers as a *konohiki* in his own right for northern Waianae, achieved through his observing, studying, and understanding the complex and often subtle changes occurring within the natural environment. Mr. Aila's intelligence and wisdom are matched equally by his deep compassion and moral strength,

making him a charismatic and talented public figure with an existing and firm foundation of considerable public support. He is not only an excellent listener who seeks out and respects differing points of view, but is skillfully able to indentify common interests and build upon shared values between disparate groups in order to negotiate and arrive at solutions that are agreeable to most or all parties involved. Mr. Aila inherently understands the need to strike the often elusive balance of meeting nature preservation priorities while promoting the sustainable use of our natural resources, and fortunately has decades of experience in our island home successfully leading and supporting efforts to achieve such balance. Finally, "Uncle William" (as many of us refer to him out of respect) is a good man who has consistently demonstrated and modeled through his own actions and words the true meanings of the Native Hawaiian values of *aloha* (love for all people, for the land and sea, and for our ancestors), *mālama* (particularly in caring for our natural heritage for the benefit of future generations), *kuleana* (particularly those responsibilities that we all share as current stewards of our islands' natural resources), and *pono* (particularly in terms of the need to remain upright and virtuous in our relationship with the land and sea through our own actions). In this regard, as Chairperson Mr. Aila would actively represent and symbolize the purpose and values of the BLNR.

It is for these reasons that I strongly support the nomination of William Aila, Jr. to the position of BLNR Chairperson. Choosing his leadership for this position would not only be justified, logical, and strategic; it would also be *pono*.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony, and for your continued service of leadership within our island home.

Respectfully submitted,



John E. Parks  
Owner and Executive Officer,  
Marine Management Solutions LLC

**From:** [Lea Hong](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517, Feb. 12, 1:15 p.m.  
**Date:** Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:37:24 AM

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Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) strongly supports the nomination of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

TPL has worked in Hawai'i since 1979 to conserve land for the people of Hawai'i. We have helped to protect over 36,000 acres of land, including Wao Kele O Puna and Waimea Valley (in partnership with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs), Pupukea-Paumalu and Sunset Ranch on the North Shore of O'ahu, MA'O Organic Farm in Wai'anae, Moanalua Valley near Tripler Hospital, Honu'apo, Pao'o, and Lapkahi on the Island of Hawai'i, Mu'olea Point and Ka'apahu on Maui, Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, Limahuli Garden, and Lumaha'i Beach on Kaua'i, and lo'i parcels in Halawa Valley on Moloka'i.

We have worked indirectly with Mr. Aila in his role as a director of the Wai'anae Community Re-Development Corporation on expanding MA'O Organic Farm's land base. He is an extremely hard working, intelligent, thoughtful, and fair individual who will serve the Department and the State of Hawai'i well. He has an excellent knowledge of DLNR, having worked within the department for decades. We strongly urge you to confirm his nomination.

I will not be able to attend the Saturday hearing due to previous commitments. My apologies.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify -

Lea Hong

Lea Hong  
Hawaiian Islands Program Director  
Trust for Public Land  
1136 Union Mall, Suite 202  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
808-524-8563 (direct)  
808-783-3653 (mobile)  
(808)-524-8565 (fax)

The Trust for Public Land - Celebrating 35 years of conserving land for people--2 million acres and counting. [www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

~~Thursday, April 2, 2009~~ Saturday, February 12, 2011  
~~1:154:30 PM, Conference Room 225~~  
State Capitol  
[WLHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WLHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
~~#-308~~

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING ~~FINANCE~~  
~~Representative Marcus R. Oshiro~~ Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz,  
Chair  
~~Representative Marilyn B. Lee~~ Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

In support of ~~GM 517SB-512, Relating to Taxation~~ Confirmation of  
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Testimony of Kelly and Robert King, Pacific Biodiesel

Pacific Biodiesel, Inc. is the oldest biodiesel production company in the U.S., in continuous operation since its first plant was constructed on Maui in 1996. Having opened America's very first retail biodiesel pump and developed proprietary technology, we have built a solid reputation as a leading pioneer in the biodiesel industry. Pacific Biodiesel owns and operates two biodiesel plants in Hawaii and is currently hoping to develop a new, state-of-the-art, zero-waste biodiesel facility on the Big Island. We would like to testify in strong support of the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr. for the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. As residents, business owners and involved community members, we understand the importance of this position and believe that Mr. Aila is an excellent candidate. The BLNR has an important responsibility in our state and we know that William Aila has the experience, intelligence and thoughtfulness, as well as the communication skills, to fulfill the duty of Chairperson.

I would also like to mention that, while our involvement with the BLNR to date has not been direct, our business is related to the use of natural resources, and we look forward to having a Chairperson who is community-minded. Mr. Aila's record of community involvement is extensive, and his concern for Hawaii's aina is well known.

Pacific Biodiesel strongly supports SB-512, which would amend an already-existing and funded ethanol facility tax credit to also encourage increased production of biodiesel in the State of Hawaii. Changing the support from just 'ethanol facility' to 'biofuel facility' would enable local companies to utilize this dormant incentive to expand biofuel production capacity statewide.

**We respectfully propose the following amendment to improve this bill:**

1. The specification for quality biodiesel, ASTM D6751, be added next to ethanol specification on page 5, line 9

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The included language limiting qualifying facilities to production capacities of not more than 15 million gallons per year encourages the construction of multiple sustainably-scaled facilities, providing a diverse and flexible biofuel production network within the state. Increasing the size and scope of applicants while limiting aggregate funding to \$12 million per year will incur the problems encountered by the federal Bioenergy Program. The federal Bioenergy Program greatly increased biofuel production but created an oversized pool of applicants for a limited amount of funding, ultimately reducing the shares of credits to individual companies significantly and crippling many of those businesses. In order for incentives to prove successful, there must be a meaningful pool of funds that we can count on, at least for a significant period.

While we realize the incentives in this bill were originally written for ethanol, they were also created more than eight years ago. In that time, the production cost of for both ethanol and biodiesel have risen significantly. The biodiesel industry has been struggling under the recent economic conditions as well as significantly reduced petroleum prices. A majority of U.S. biodiesel production facilities are running at reduced capacity, have shut-down entirely, or have gone bankrupt; furthermore, nearly all new biofuel facility construction has been stalled indefinitely. Current industry-wide costs for biodiesel plant construction are between \$2-\$3 per gallon of production capacity, depending on technology. Operation costs are increased by rising costs of supplies and input materials, labor, feedstock collection and processing, insurance, etc. Pacific Biodiesel is confident that the \$0.40 per gallon incentive provided by this bill is not overly generous for a biodiesel producer, or for any type of biofuel production. As an example, Pennsylvania recently instated a \$0.75 per gallon incentive to save the biodiesel producers in the state from shutting down production.

Pacific Biodiesel urges the passage of SB 542 confirmation of William Aila Jr, which will allow more sustainable businesses to utilize an already well-constructed policy, propelling the state forward towards energy independence and encouraging jobs and economic growth through locally-owned businesses. benefit the State of Hawaii's environmental and sustainability concerns. Companies such as Pacific Biodiesel can lead the State of Hawaii forward towards energy independence, new job creation and economic growth through locally-owned businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

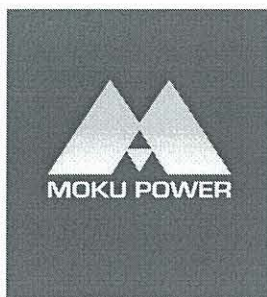
Robert King, President

Kelly King, Vice President

Pacific Biodiesel, Inc.  
40 Hobron Ave  
Kahului, Hawaii 96732  
Ph: (808) 877-3144  
[www.biodiesel.com](http://www.biodiesel.com)



Field Code Changed



**TESTIMONY  
SENATE WLH  
2/12/2011  
1:15pm  
RM # 225  
GM 517 - SUPPORT**

**Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee,**

**Moku Power, LLC is the chartered representative of the novel and highly disruptive Power Tube clean geothermal technology in the Hawaiian Islands.**

**We are in support of GM 517 and the confirmation of William `Aila, Jr. to the position of DLNR Chairman. We are familiar with his work on the Wai`anae Coast and on behalf of Makua Valley. We are confident that he will find balance among the many interests that come before the Land Board in a pono way.**

**sincerely,**

**Shawn James Leavey**

**Senior Project Developer  
Moku Power, LLC**

**Street ~ 47 Rainbow Drive Suite #2, Hilo, HI 96720 Mailing ~ 30 Halaulani Place, Hilo, HI 96720  
Telephone ~ 808.769.8324 Internet ~ [www.mokupower.com](http://www.mokupower.com)**

TESTIMONY OF Eric Enos, Executive Director  
Ka'ala Farm, Inc.,

**IN SUPPORT OF GM 517**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

February 9, 2011

**TESTIMONY in support of GM-517**, consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

**Submitted to:** COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING; Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Malama Soloman, Vice Chair

*Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Soloman and Members of the Committee:*

Our organization is Ka'ala Farm, Inc. (KFI) a 501 c3 not for profit organization located in Wai'anae. Ka'ala Farm, Inc. has been in operation for more than 25 years. Ka'ala Farm, Inc.'s (KFI) mission is to reclaim, preserve, and practice the living culture of the po'e kahiko (people of old) in order to strengthen the kinship relationships between the 'aina (land, that which nourishes) and all forms of life necessary to sustain the balance of life on these vulnerable islands.

We reclaim our living culture by learning and teaching traditions that have been nearly lost and make them relevant for today's world. We preserve our living culture by facilitating the transfer of knowledge from one generation to the next and by advocating for land use that supports the necessary connection between people and our land. We practice our living culture by inviting students, community members, and visitors of all ages to engage in hands-on, experiential learning with us. We create places where our traditions can be practiced and enable more people to take them to their own backyards.

Ka'ala Farm, Inc.(KFI) has worked closely with William Aila, Jr. for nearly 20 years. William Aila is a lifelong, committed community member of the Leeward coast. He has volunteered his time assisting KFI with educational, cultural and environmental programs involving our Keiki, Makua and Kupuna by doing things like volunteering himself and his boat to escort students who are in the ocean being taught Hawaiian traditional 'opelu fishing, sharing his knowledge as a cultural practitioner and as Harbor Master.

We strongly believe that the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources should be someone who is able to work with people in an official capacity but still be able to respect and understand the special needs of our home, our Hawai'i. We know William is one of a very few people who are able to wear many hats and accomplish the task at hand in a respectful diplomatic way.

We urge you and your committee to advise and consent to this nomination. For more information, please contact me Eric Enos at 808.291.2014. Mahalo.

<http://us.mq6.mail.yahoo.com/dc/blank.html?bn=555&.intl=us&.lang=en-US>  
<http://us.mq6.mail.yahoo.com/dc/blank.html?bn=555&.intl=us&.lang=en-US>



Cates International, Inc.  
P.O. Box 335  
Kailua, HI 96734  
Ph. 808 479-7104



THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Date: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Time: 1:15 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support for Confirmation of William Aila as the  
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha Senator Delacruz and Senator Solomon,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for William Aila Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known William professionally for well over twenty years and he has always been respectful to me, as well as others in the maritime industry.

I believe the Governor's choice of appointing William is a great one, simply because William's career with the Boating Division has given him firsthand experience in properly dealing with urgent and delicate situations. My business, Cates International, Inc (CII) specializes in marine salvage; therefore, I deal with the Chairperson of DLNR whenever emergency situations occur concerning our marine environment. CII is a prime responder for grounded vessels, and has conducted extensive coral

mitigation work for damaged reefs as well. For well over 20 years now, DLNR has called upon CII to assist with various emergencies; whether it is dead whale removal or a grounded vessel, each and every situation involves careful planning and mitigation not only for the safety of our citizens, but for the protection of the environment and our resources.

More recently, damage inflicted upon our coral reefs as a result of large vessel groundings has occurred here in Hawaii. CII was the prime contractor for coral reef mitigation efforts caused by the 2009 grounding of the USS Port Royal. The unfortunate grounding of the Port Royal caused the most extensive damage to a coral reef anywhere in the United States. I sincerely believe that William is a person who knows and understands the issues relating to coral mitigation and will have a balanced approach in mitigating these issues. His recent success resulting in the negotiations with the Navy during his short time as the interim Chairperson adequately demonstrates his ability as a leader.

Finally, I would like to share with all of you my experiences while trying to obtain an ocean lease to practice aquaculture here in Hawaii. CII was the first offshore aquaculture company in Hawaii, and the U.S. During the primary phases of planning, I met with William because I felt that he was respected in the Hawaiian community and would have pertinent insight regarding any cultural concerns I may run into. I took my ideas to William and presented what I thought would be a viable business; he was willing to listen to what I had to say and gave me valuable input which I adhered to. I also met with others in the Hawaiian community; many of who thought my ideas and plans had merit and verbally expressed support. However, William was the only person out of the many people I met willing to give me a letter of support. No one else was willing to put in writing their support for this new concept despite earlier discussions and positive reactions from them. This illustrated true leadership and respect, and William's ability to stand up for something that he believed in regardless of possible backlash and criticisms he might face from constituents. Over a decade later, many within our Community have benefited from the new aquaculture industry of offshore fish farming.

In Conclusion, if confirmed, William will have to endure a tough road ahead; however, I believe that he is the best person for the role of Chairperson of DLNR. I know William will have the leadership to do what is right. I know from firsthand experience that although William may not

always agree with someone, he is willing to listen and share his thoughts in a respectful way. I believe William has the support within the DLNR Agency, as many have already expressed their opinions to me, and they look forward to a new day for DLNR. I can think of no other person who would be a better choice.

In closing, because of the reasons mentioned, I sincerely believe that William Aila is an exceptional choice for the position of Chairperson for DLNR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Randy Cates". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Randy Cates  
Cates International

**HAWAII FISH COMPANY, INC.**  
*North Shore AquaFarm*

P. O. Box 740  
Waialua, HI 96791, USA  
Contact: 808-429-3147, 429-3187  
E-mail: hawaiiifish@gmail.com

City Bank 2000 TIGR Award  
US SBA 2000 Tibbitts Award  
US SBA 2001 Small Business Award  
Special Congressional Recognition 2001

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The Senate  
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2011

Committee on Agriculture  
Senator Dovovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Date: Saturday, February 12  
Time: 1:15 pm  
Place: Conference Room 225, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Testimony in Strong **Support of GM 517**—submitting for consideration and confirmation of the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr., for a term to expire 12/31/2014

Hawaii Fish Company, Inc. is in strong support of William Johnson Aila, Jr. for Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Aquaculture will play an increasingly important role in Hawaii's future and requires a leader who is knowledgeable about the issues facing the aquaculture industry and one who also appreciates the potential contribution the industry has for Hawaii's sustainable future. Chair Nominee Aila certainly has the extensive background and abilities to assure that aquaculture ventures will be able to benefit the community. We are looking forward to working with Chair nominee Aila and believe his confirmation and role in the Land and Natural Resources will be a tremendous asset for not only the farmers, but for the people of Hawaii.

Estralita Pasalo Weidenbach  
Vice President



February 7, 2011

Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Representative Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Representative Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
GM517 Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15 p.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Submitting supporting testimony for the confirmation of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

I strongly urge your decision to confirm William Aila Jr. as the Chairperson for the Board of Land and Natural Resources. In the past two months I have had the opportunity to personally engage Mr. Aila and his perspectives of this position. Without hesitancy I commit my support to assist and advise on topics that would call for my assistance in the execution of his role as Director. It is well known that the issues that the BLNR and DLNR face are monumental and there is no quick fix. We need thoughtful leadership oversight that employs all the current assets of staff, data, and a grounded perspective that will aggressively work on rebuilding a healthy Hawaii. As a private citizen who many look upon as a spiritual Hawaiian leader as well as the President and CEO of Enterprise Honolulu, I look forward to working with Mr. Aila. I cannot think of a better person to lead the Board and the Department right now.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Pono Shim  
President & CEO  
Enterprise Honolulu, Oahu Economic Development Board



ENTERPRISE  
HONOLULU

THE BUSINESS CLIMATE OF PARADISE

735 Bishop Street, Suite 412, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • 808-521-3611  
Fax: 808-536-2281 • [www.enterprisehonolulu.com](http://www.enterprisehonolulu.com)

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 225, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In **Strong Support** of GM 517 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Aila Jr., for a term to expire on December 13, 2014.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Committee Members, my name is John Corbin and I strongly support GM 517, which recommends William Aila Jr. to be confirmed as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I was previously Manager of the State Aquaculture Development Program, which for many years was a division-level program in the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). As such, I was a colleague of Mr. Aila and can comment from first hand observations on his capabilities, work ethic and “fit” to the position of Chairperson of this very important department to the future of Hawaii. More recently, I have interacted with him regarding the development of offshore aquaculture projects.

Mr. Aila throughout his State career as Harbor Master of Waianae Small Boat Harbor has been a highly respected member of the DLNR team. His style on addressing issues is collaborative and he tries to understand all sides of a problem. Middle managers in State government, like Mr. Aila, put in long hours and are job oriented; qualities essential for a Department leader. Mr. Aila’s intimate knowledge of the mission and staff of DLNR will be invaluable in getting up to speed on the significant challenges that currently exist.

I am particularly pleased that someone with so much experience with the ocean and ocean issues will lead a department that has the primary responsibility for our coastal resources and 2.8 million acres of State marine waters. Lastly, Mr. Aila brings to the job his in depth knowledge of Hawaiian culture and his years of experience as a cultural practitioner that will be a plus in dealing with the complex land, fresh water and ocean use issues facing the state as we navigate the difficult path toward sustainable development.

I urge you to **confirm Mr.** Aila as Chairperson of DLNR. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

**John S. Corbin MS, CFP, AICP**  
President  
**Aquaculture Planning & Advocacy LLC**  
47-215 Iuiu Street  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
Phone: 239-8316

THE RESORT GROUP

February 11, 2011

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Lands, and Housing  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 225  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(via email)

**RE: GM517 -- Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.**

Honorable Chairman Dela Cruz,

**I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. William Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.** During my tenure as State Planning Director I had the privilege of working directly with Mr. Aila on multiple occasions on a wide range of land and coastal issues.

From entitlement, construction and design concerns with the Kalaeloa boat launch ramp, to multiple, often contentious dockets before the State Land Use Commission, to Climate Change planning, to issues related to the analysis of the significance of Native Hawaiian cultural and historic preserves -- Mr. Aila consistently shared his views and worked intensively to forge mutually beneficial solutions to complex problems.

Continually I was impressed with the depth of both his knowledge and his character. His calm, self-assured demeanor, mated with a heart-felt compassion and love for the 'aina, his culture and the people of Hawai'i all make him a natural leader and respected pillar in his community.

I eagerly look forward to working with Mr. Aila again in the near future.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Abbey S. Mayer  
Vice President, Government Relations

Laura H. Thielen  
Waimanalo, HI  
[lt@laurathielen.com](mailto:lt@laurathielen.com)

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**Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Hawaii State Senate  
Chairperson Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Confirmation Hearing for William Aila, Nominee  
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
February 11, 2011**

Chairperson Dela Cruz, members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing:

I strongly support William Aila's nomination for the Chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I apologize for not appearing in person to testify in front of you at the hearing, but I am on the mainland. Otherwise I would certainly appear before you to wholeheartedly support Mr. Aila's nomination.

As one of the few people who have had the honor of sitting in that seat, I believe William Aila possesses the qualities necessary for a very good Chairperson, as well as has the potential to be an exceptional Chairperson.

Obviously, someone of his, let us say experience rather than age, appears before you with an extensive record which requires your examination in the confirmation process, in contrast to lesser experienced and less active nominees who have and will be appearing before this body.

Mr. Aila's experience and background should be examined, but should not give you pause in confirming him to this position. Trust me – this job requires someone who has experience and an appreciation of recent and long-term history to navigate the myriad of interests, passions, and controversies that surround land, water, cultural and historic resources in Hawaii.

The real question you should wrestle with is whether Mr. Aila can be objective in his new role of Chairperson of DLNR, given his previous roles. This is no different than when you examine the record of a lawyer who has acted for years as an advocate, and determine whether she may successfully step into the objective role of a judge.

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Aila for nearly four years as his former boss. I have seen him representing the department at public hearings; I have worked with him as a community representative on an advisory board regarding contentious and conflicting interests within a community. I have witnessed his ability to act as an



objective mediator and facilitator. He is excellent at remaining calm and leading people to conversation and dialogue to define and resolve issues.

Based on my conversations with him during the transition, I believe William Aila fully understands the need to be objective in his new role, and, if confirmed, that he will be representing the interest of the entire State of Hawaii as the steward of Hawaii's natural and cultural resources.

Please confirm William Aila as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Laura H. Theielen

February 7, 2011

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

SUBJECT: Written Testimony for the Gubernatorial Nominee of William Johnson Aila, Jr.

Honorable Senator Dela Cruz, Solomon and committee members,

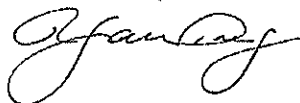
It is my honor to recommend to you William "Bill" Johnson Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawaii. I have known Bill for over 10 years and I have had the privilege of interacting with him often over the last 4 years. He is a person of unquestionable integrity, character and exceptional dedication. Without question he has the experience, leadership, keen sense of what is right and background to include the conviction and character to steer the Board of Land and Natural Resources on a successful course. His work ethics, devotion to duty, enthusiasm and optimism is an awesome combination we must take full advantage of. His critical and cognition thinking skills is necessary when it comes to making quality decisions for the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

With my service in the military of 33+ years ending as the Deputy Commander of the 29th Enhance Separate Infantry Brigade (Light), I have been around many leaders and critical thinker, both good and bad. My interacted with Bill places him among the realm of a quality critical thinking that does the right thing. His dedication to Hawaii and the community is most noteworthy. He continuous to give back to the community and protects our environment. His work on the Wai'anae Coast with the Health Center and interaction with the military regarding Makua Valley are some of the community efforts Bill leads. Another noteworthy point is Bill's ability to "do his homework!" He is always prepared when he enters a meeting and extensively researches his topic. I have enjoyed many discussions with Bill on how to improve the conditions for the community on the Leeward coastline and his dedication to the "*Ania*." I find him to be a fair man with principles of character to do what is right!

Bill Aila will make an effective leader for the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources. He is the right person, at the right time, to head up this critical department. His experience, leadership style and the ability to foster a collaborative environment is the right mix for such a critical position.

It is my honor to recommend to you this exceptional passionate leader. He will without a doubt serve the State of Hawaii well.

Sincerely,



Hon. Raymond Jardine Jr., MS, MSS, DBA  
President & CEO, Native Hawaiian Veterans, LLC (Hawaii New Small Business of the Year 2010)  
Vice Chair, National Veterans Business Development Corporation (Presidential Appointment)  
Board of Directors, National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)  
Chairman, Native Hawaiian Organizations Association  
Chairman, Kina'ole Foundation  
Chairman, Veterans for Obama, Hawaii  
Colonel (retired) U.S. Army

## Testimony in Support of William J. Aila

My name is Kevin Yim and I am an employee of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division Of Boating and Ocean Recreation. I want to voice my support in favor of the confirmation of William J. Aila as the Chairperson of Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known William for 14 years and have seen his patience, his initiative, his ability to communicate, and his ability to think creatively. I give three examples that represent these qualities:

1. My wife needed help with a school project on Hawaiiiana and I knew that William would be able to help her with it. On his day off, we arranged to meet downtown, far from his home in Waianae, and he spent an hour explaining the concept and answering her questions. I believe that he met with us because of the pride in the culture and his desire that everyone should know that about it.
2. When performing in-the-water repairs maintenance became very expensive for our division, William and other harbor employees initiated a dive team that would perform in-the-water repairs. They would use scuba gear and replace and repair mooring blocks. Throughout the years they would set swim buoys and inspect piers and docks. They would also salvage vehicles or other items that our division needed removed from the ocean or navigable waterways. Their work was recognized recently as they were named the Department's team of the year. His initiative and creativeness has saved the division thousands of dollars.
3. The division implemented a statewide computer program and William volunteered to be part of the group that tested it. He believed that he, someone with minimal computer knowledge, was the perfect person to test something that everyone would use. After all, if it was something that he couldn't do, then others would struggle with the program too. Making sure that the internet connection and data transfers worked in Waianae provided valuable information for the use of the system statewide.

I could provide you with more examples of the qualities that make William well suited to be the Chairperson of Board of Land and Natural Resources, but, since he has worked with many of you already, you probably know them. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin H.K. Yim EdD, C.P.A

1.800.586.6659  
FAXED  
2/10/11  
7:00 PM

Dante K. Carpenter  
3054 Ala Poha Place, #401  
Honolulu, HI 96818

HAWAII STATE CAPITOL  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

HAWAII STATE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING

1:15 PM; February 12, 2011  
Conference Rm. 225  
GM 517

Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, V-C Senator Malama Solomon and Committee Members:

Good Afternoon. My name is Dante K. Carpenter, a resident of O'ahu, and I am in support of Mr. William J. Aila, Jr., the nominee named in *Governor's Message 517*, for the post of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

I have known Bill Aila for many years in his professional capacity, as a community and environmental advocate, and as a strong Hawaiian cultural advocate, as well. I have admired his work ethic, community and cultural pursuits. He has always been consistent and forthright in his activities and never shirked his responsibilities as a citizen of this great state.

His background, training and personal commitment toward the preservation and care of the land, i. e., "*Malama O Ka 'Aina*" is, indeed, *made to order* for the responsibilities this important state position entails. Experiences such as being a former Democratic Party candidate for the position of governor as well as his personal and continuing commitment to good citizenship and community participation will stand him (and the state-wide community, as well) in good stead in the coming years as both leader and mentor for the DLNR.

Finally, I know that he will make a substantial contribution to the much needed upgrading of operations in both the protection and appropriate concurrent utilization of our state's natural resources. Please confirm governor's nominee Mr. William J. Aila, Jr.

Mahalo a nui loa.



Dante K. Carpenter  
(808) 833-8163 (D)

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Re: Measure  
GM 517

For DATE:  
Saturday,  
February 12, 2011

1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room  
225  
State Capitol  
415 South  
Beretania Street

To the Committee on Water Land and Housing,

I am writing to give testimony in support of the consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr.

I am a 399 Feature Location Manager who lives in Los Angeles and in Pa'auilo, Hawaii Island.

I have worked on several films in Hawaii in the last few years, including Jurassic Park 3, Pirates of the Caribbean 2 and 3, Princess Ka'iulani, and The Tempest.

During this time, I was privileged to experience Mr. Aila in his professional capacity as Harbor Agent for the Wai'anae Boat Harbor. I was struck by what I saw as Mr. Aila's deep respect and commitment to his community and noted his high standard of integrity for his work and for the people he works with. He displayed a keen understanding of the political workings of Hawai'i Government pertaining to the Film Industry and I was grateful for the chance to be supported by his input and knowledge.

It is my humble opinion that he would be an excellent choice as Chairperson of DLNR in Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony..

Sincerely yours,

Valerie Y. O. Kim  
Local 399, Location Manager  
[vkimjwel@aol.com](mailto:vkimjwel@aol.com)  
323 791-8987  
808 776-1085

**From:** WESLEY MUNDY  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony In support of William Aila Jr  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 5:36:28 PM

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Dear Committee On Water Land and Housing,

Subject: Testimony in support of Mr. William Aila Jr.  
Date: Saturday, 12 February 2011  
Time: 13:15hrs

Aloha and Thank You for this opportunity to submit my testimony in support of the appointment of Mr. William Aila, Jr. to the position of Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawaii. I apologize for not being able to attend this hearing, but currently I have been called to active duty in the United States Coast Guard as a Reservist and find myself in Virginia for the next year.

For those who don't know me, I am Wesley C. Mundy, a Field Supervisor with the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement, Department of Land and Natural Resources. Since April of 2007 I have been the Leeward Coast Supervisor for Law Enforcement Operations and have had the privilege of working with Mr. Aila. During that time I have found him to be a man of conviction, honor, integrity and solid core values. I have been fortunate to work alongside him in his position as the Waianae Small Boat Harbor, Harbor Master and also as a concerned member of the Waianae Community. Mr. Aila played a key role in educating me on the concerns of the community and also in developing the short term and long term action plans which guided myself and the officers assigned under my command in our enforcement projects that resulted in many successful endeavors to include the after hours permits for the Keawaula areas of Kaena State Park that both allowed the local practice of overnight fishing to resume in the area and at the same time give law enforcement officers the tools to remove dangerous elements from the area making it safe for families to return.

I would encourage the committee to confirm Mr. Aila to this position for a number of reasons. The simplest and most important of these being that he is a man who has devoted himself to the protection and preservation of the aina. Mr. Aila has been willing to make the "unpopular" stand for what is right over and over again on both sides of the aisle and done so knowing it would bring criticism from either government or certain activist factions. This strength to be honorable and right has earned him respect from both sides as well as trust. This is key in leadership positions and you will be hard pressed to find another candidate who could fill that position and begin to heal old wounds, correct past wrongs and at the same time lead the DLNR to becoming the agency that it can and should be.

In conclusion, I whole heartedly support Mr. William Aila Jr. for the position of Chairperson of the DLNR. Not only as a colleague, but as an Army Veteran, current member of the Coast Guard Reserves and a private citizen of the Great State of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Wesley C. Mundy

TO: Committee on Water, Land & housing

2-10-2011

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice-Chair

RE: GM 517 Consideration& confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of

Land and Natural Resources, William Johnson Aila, Jr.

Saturday, February 12, 2011 at 1:15 pm.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

I am a Viet Nam Veteran, born and raised in Hawaii. Over the years I have been involved in many community organizations and issues. Served on several school community based management teams, Governor appointment to State Office of Environmental Quality Council, Sub-Committee member of DMC part of the State Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, Waipahu Community Coalition and Association member, Waipahu Weed & Seed Advisory committee, Ka Lei Maile Hawaiian Civic Club and member of Malama Makua. I am a long time resident of Waianae, a fisherman and Hawaiian cultural practitioner. I continue to invest my time and limited resources to help build a strong Hawaii.

William has proven over the years to be an involved, passionate and caring member of Hawaii. He has breadth and depth on issues that matter for a State of Hawaii, its diverse culture, environment for a everlasting Hawaii.

One key example is his work with the now Ambassador to Afghanistan, Karl Eikenberry. At the time there were differences of opinion but William listened, shared and agreed to disagree on some points and worked to compromise on other points of differences. In the end they became friends. During the 9-11 attack on the Pentagon, General Eikenberry was serving a senior officer who's office was above the impact. William shared his emails with us as we were deeply concerned. The general rescued his boss from his burning office before it collapsed. This is an example of William Aila's personality and willingness to go the extra mile.

As a veteran, concerned community member and advocate for the Democratic process, I believe William Aila is the absolute best choice for the position to lead DLNR.

Mahalo,

James "Sparky" Rodrigues

86-222 Puhawai Road

Waianae, Hawaii 96792

808-696-2823

Thomas T Shirai Jr  
P O Box 601  
Waialua, HI  
Email: [Kawaihapai@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:Kawaihapai@hawaii.rr.com)

February 11, 2011  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1: 15PM  
State Capitol Conference Room 225

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HOUSING (WLH)  
CHAIR: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz / VICE CHAIR: Senator Malama Solomon

RE: TESTIMONY SUPPORTING GM 517 Submitting for Consideration to the  
Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee,  
WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon & Committee Members,  
I SUPPORT GM 517 Nominee WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR. However before  
going further, I'd like to share some information about myself. First and foremost,  
I'm recognized by the *State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)* as a *Recognized  
Lineal Descendant of Kawaihapai Ahupua'a* along with other specific areas within  
*Waialua Moku*. I've served on the *Oahu Island Burial Council (OIBC)* as *Waialua  
Moku Representative* and *The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Native Hawaiian  
Historic Preservation Council (NHHPC)*. I've had the privilege serving with the  
nominee on the *Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) Ka'ena Point  
Advisory Group (KPAG)* where he served as *Chairperson*.

In addition to being *Ohana*, he's been on the frontline regarding *Hawaiian* cultural  
issues with a strong emphasis on *Malama Iwi Kupuna* and our *Fisheries*. Therefore,  
his involvement exhibits exceptional leadership and knowledge in these forms of  
stewardship tenure required for this position.

If confirmed, I know he will be willing to meet with *Lineal Descendants of Ka'ena  
Ahupua'a* of which he and I are among to discuss concerns about the controversial  
construction of *Ka'ena Natural Area Reserve Predator Proof Fence* and its alignment  
to *Leina Ka Uhane* which is the most significant *Wahi Kapu (sacred place)* within  
*Ka'ena Ahupua'a* and situated within the *Ka'ena NARS*.

Although, the current *State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)* has made some  
progress, I'm confident that given his background especially regarding *Iwi Kupuna*  
issues, he'll continue progress and productivity within this highly controversial  
division. There are limitations that can be accomplished until the vacancy is filled  
permanently.



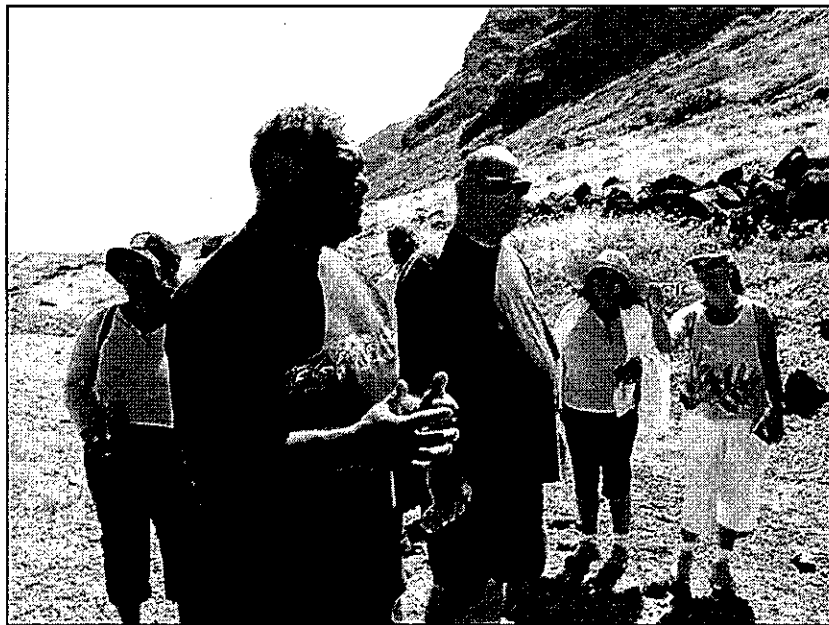
TESTIMONY SUPPORTING GM 517

William is the most qualified nominee for this position and therefore giving him the benefit of the doubt to *Ho'omau (proceed forward)* along with *Malama Pono (proceeding correctly)*. Thank you for your time strongly urge confirmation of William Johnson Aila Jr regarding GM 517. Sincerely,  
*Thomas T Shirai Jr*  
*Mokule'ia, Waialua*

*Leina Ka Uhane*



*Ka'ena Site Visit – Two Cousins with Others*



# Rick Gaffney

73-1062 Ahikawa Street, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
Phone: 808 325-5000 Cell: 808 960-6767 Fax: 808 325-7023  
Email: [Rick.Pacific@gmail.com](mailto:Rick.Pacific@gmail.com)

February 9, 2011

Hawaii State Senate  
Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Hearing on GM 517  
February 12, 2011, 1:15 PM  
Conference Room 225

Testimony in support of the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources

Chairs and members of the Committee:

I would like to offer my strong support for the nomination of Mr. William J. Aila, Jr. to serve as Chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Land and natural Resources.

I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Mr. Aila on a number of local, state, national and international boards and commissions and have always been deeply impressed with his broad expertise, his collegiality and his commitment to the development of both community and consensus-based solutions for improving the management, preservation and conservation of natural resources.

I have also had the opportunity to work closely with Mr. Aila on boating related matters for over 20 years and have found him to be the single most knowledgeable DOBOR employee in the State, and I have also long admired his management style and ability to involve the entire community in the working of their local small boat harbor.

His impressive background and experience presents the people of the State of Hawaii with the opportunity to gain a smart, capable, extremely hard-working Chairperson who can hit the ground running and begin to provide informed leadership and management of the Department of Land natural Resources and pono leadership of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Please confirm William J. Alla, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and natural Resources.

Mahalo,

Rick Gaffney

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [billdevick@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:billdevick@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 6:06:38 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: William Devick  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 94-374 Makalu Loop HI  
Phone: 808 6231965  
E-mail: [billdevick@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:billdevick@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:  
Testimony on GM 517, Feb 12, 2011, 1:15 PM  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members,

Based upon my experience as Administrator (now retired) of the Division of Aquatic Resources, I strongly support the confirmation of William Aila as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

William is a personification of the fundamental values that make Hawaii unique. He has shown a dedication to protection of our natural resources, a dedication which is strengthened by the fact that he is also a fisherman. He understands the need to provide access to those resources for reasonable use while ensuring their perpetuation for future generations, in accordance with the mandate of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. In this context he has been a strong proponent of the rights of native Hawaiians, which are inseparable from resource issues.

While serving as Administrator, I had many in-depth discussions with William on both specific problems and basic resource management philosophy. He was typically incisive, determined and a strong advocate for community input in decision-making. At the same time he strove to understand the interests and rationales of all sides.

He has continued to grow as a leader, has been deeply involved in contentious resource issues, including fisheries, and has demonstrated a remarkable ability to maintain his cool in the process. These will be enormous assets in successfully navigating the controversies faced by the DLNR Chairperson.

Worth noting is the fact that William Aila has entered the fray not out of personal ambition. He instead felt a deep need to protect the traditions and resources of Hawaii, and has had the courage and genius to move towards that end. He will certainly prove highly beneficial to the future of Hawaii as DLNR Chairperson.

Respectfully submitted,  
William S. Devick

**From:** [Aquilino Idao](#)  
**To:** [Aquilino Idao](#); [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Confirmation William Aila Jr.  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 7:22:06 PM

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**To:** [WLHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WLHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**From:** Aquilino R. "Aku" Idao  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Mr. William Aila Jr.,  
Senate Confirmation of Nomination of William Aila Jr.  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011

Dear Committee On Water Land and Housing,

Aloha and Mahalo for this opportunity to submit my testimony in support of Mr. William Aila Jr., for the State of Hawaii, Chairperson, of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Since my birth in 1956 and now 2011, the majority of my life has been lived as a resident of the Leeward Coast, as I was raised in Waianae. There was a break in my Waianae residency when I lived and worked for seventeen (17) years on the Island of Hawaii, where I served as a Police Officer and Criminal Investigator for the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney in the County of Hawaii from 1982 to 1999 before returning and transferring back to Honolulu.

I have personally known Mr. William Aila Jr., for well over thirty five years (35), as he and I grew up in the same valley (Lualualei) and attended the same elementary, intermediate and high (Waianae) schools.

I have known Mr. Aila and his family since the late 1960's. I can attest that William Aila Jr., has always conducted himself with much dignity and respect for his family, himself and towards others.

As a Law Enforcement Officer with over twenty (27) years of service. From the year 2000 through 2006, I was formerly employed at the Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and I was assigned to the State of Hawaii, US Marshals Fugitive Tasks Force. One of my prior assignments was to provide courtroom security in US Federal Court, during a procedure dealing with a civil dispute of rightful ownership of Hawaiian Relics and Artifacts. I must comment that Mr. Aila's involvement and manner in which he conducted himself and participated was very much

appreciated by myself and most of the Law Enforcement personnel assigned to that task. Mr. Aila's conduct and actions greatly contributed to maintaining peace and civility with opposing entities involved in this dispute.

Most recently during 2006 through 2008, I was professionally acquainted with Mr. Aila, as I was formerly employed with the State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Conservation & Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) as a Conservation and Resources Law Enforcement Officer. Since late 2008, to the present date, I am currently employed as a Supervisory Investigator, with the State of Hawaii, Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs, Office of Consumer Protection. But, I am submitting my testimony as a private citizen. I am not representing any state or county agency.

Truly I as were many folks within the community was pleasantly surprised when Mr. William Aila Jr., was selected and nominated by the Honourable Governor, Neil Abercrombie, for the position as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. William Aila Jr., brings to the table a very real understanding of the administrative, fiscal, and social challenges experienced by the department. As he was a DLNR employee for over twenty years and is currently the Master for the Waianae Small Boat Harbor, Mr. Aila has a very clear understanding of Hawaii's recreational and commercial fishing and boating communities.

As a Community activist, he has brought to the attention within many levels of the community and state and federal government's the need to care for Hawaii's environment and the health and welfare of Hawaii's people and natural resources.

Granted, there may be concerns by some within the community and state government that Mr. Aila is not a supporter of the Military or it's need to train, with regards to Mr. Aila's activism for the United States Army to discontinue it's use of Makua Valley as a live fire training facility. In my personal and humble opinion, Mr. William Aila Jr., is a supporter of our countries Military and it's need to train. The issue with Makua Valley is about correcting something that should have been corrected years ago. Clearly there is a need to identify these wrongs and correct them, Mr. Aila has brought this to the table and identified the issue's to be mitigated.

Mr. Aila has related to me personally of how he was raised and how he was taught and encouraged by his grandfather to preserve and conserve the aina (Hawaii) and it's natural resources. Mr. Aila related that was honoured and he was humbled, he made a promise to his grandfather to maintain the entrusted guardianship/stewardship of Makua Valley.

I am a staunch supporter of our countries Military and it's need to train: as a former U.S. Army soldier and over twenty seven (27) as a Law Enforcement, Police Officer and Criminal Investigator for the State and Counties of Hawaii and Honolulu, I would not support Mr. Aila if I believed his cause as an activist on the leeward coast was not just.

Mr. William Aila Jr., is well respected within many circles of the community as a supporter for the environment and someone genuinely concerned for the welfare of the community. I believe Mr. Aila's true strength as a leader and a person is that people can trust him, knowing that Mr. William Aila Jr., is a man with a humble and caring spirit, someone who listens and makes great efforts to mitigate challenges. He brings to the table not just these personal traits but years of working the many issues and challenges as a DLNR employee and manager. He is a force multiplier. Mr. Aila has demonstrated that he tries to live his personal and secular lives as a loyal, dedicated and more admirable and most importantly, that he is very considerate and fair.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide my testimony and support.

Respectfully Submitted:

Aquilino R. "Aku" Idao  
87-606 A Farrington Highway  
Waianae, HI 96792

cel. ph: 808-630-6865

----- End of Forwarded Message

**From:** [Art Rivers](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517 1:15 Saturday, 2/12,11 Hearing  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 8:21:33 PM

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February 10, 2011

To: The Hawaii Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing

From: Art Rivers - Haleiwa resident

Re: GM 517 - 1:15 pm Saturday, February 12, 2011 - Hearing for the consideration and confirmation of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, JR.

Aloha Honorable Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Honorable Vice-Chair Senator Malama Solomon and fellow Committee Members,

I am writing to submit testimony in support of the nomination of William Johnson Aila, JR. to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to have worked with Mr. Aila on numerous film projects over these past years. I have always found him to be professional, courteous, thorough, fair and consistent in his decisions, actions and manner.

In my capacity as a Location Manager, these projects have also involved coordinating the needs and movements of large productions and their personnel including Marine Coordinators, Water Safety contractors, renowned watermen and many members of our Island community - in Waianae and Island wide and in and outside of the film industry. All those I have spoken with have expressed the same - or even higher - regard for Mr. Aila.

His dedication to the protection and preservation of our natural resources, as well as to our cultural and community assets is well known, documented and greatly valued. And his community service record is both extraordinary and an example for others of this and future generations to follow.

Confirming Mr. Aila as the BLNR Chair is a positive act for the State of Hawaii and I sincerely request you do so at this hearing. Mahalo.

Please contact me via any of the below methods if you desire more testimony or have any questions. Mahalo for your time and consideration of this testimony.

Malama pono...

Art Rivers  
p & f) 637-5682  
c) 222-0672  
email: [arivers@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:arivers@hawaii.rr.com)

Aloha Senators Dela Cruz and Solomon, and Committee on Water, Land and Housing:

When I learned that William Aila was named to chair the Board of Land and Natural Resources, I was stunned. I have almost no faith in the "state" government, so, when its leadership does the right thing for the place and the people, it's worth celebrating. This letter of support is both a request for his immediate confirmation and congratulations to those responsible for his nomination.

William Aila is not simply the best person for this position, he may be the only person in Hawaii Nei who understands what matters, and he understands this in multiple ways, culturally, politically, spiritually, etc.... There is no one better qualified and there is no person with more passion, compassion, humility and actual faith in working within the system to make Hawaii a better place for everyone, despite all corporate and governmental interests to the contrary.

William Aila's confirmation as chair of BLNR will be the first right step in the right direction I have seen the U.S. government take in Hawaii in a very long time, if ever. I sincerely hope his confirmation is swift and unanimous, and that he is blessed with all that he needs to carry out this very difficult job at a critical time in our history.

Mahalo nui loa,

Anne Keala Kelly

Filmmaker



**From:** [A & B](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Apointment of Mr Aila to DLNR  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:56:18 AM

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Please support GM 517: Gov. Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire December 31, 2014. The confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing is this Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15 pm in Room 225 of the State Capitol.

We are fortunate to have a man with Mr. Aila's background and knowledge of our natural resources willing to take this position.

Bob Leinau zip code 96712

**From:** Roxie Sylva  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for William Aila.  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 10:11:16 AM

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NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011

TIME: 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 225

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

To whom it may concern,

I am writing a testimony in support of WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for the consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, for a term to expire December 31, 2014. I believe that if appointed, Mr. Aila will benefit DLNR greatly.

Roxie K. Sylva.

44 Ahe ahe Pl.

Pukalani, Hi

96768

**From:** [perinodesigns@gmail.com](mailto:perinodesigns@gmail.com) on behalf of [Judy Perino](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM517 - Testimony to support confirmation of William Aila  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 9:35:11 AM

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**RE: Consideration of GM517**

**To: Honorable Senate Committee Members of Water, Land, and Housing**

**To be heard on February 12, 2011 at 1:15 p.m., Senate conference room #225, in consideration and confirmation of William Aila to serve as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.**

**I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. William Aila as head of DLNR. Mr. Aila is extremely well qualified with first hand knowledge and experience regarding our fisheries resource.**

**He knows the facts and the science, and will be a tremendous asset in his capacity as chairman of DLNR in guiding the state through sound management policies of our ocean resources to benefit all the people of Hawaii.**

**I urge each of you to support his confirmation.**

**Thank you,**

**Judith Perino  
73-4492 Kohanaiki Rd. #9  
Kailua Kona, Hi. 96740**

--

Judith Smith Perino  
Perino Designs  
PH. 808 325 5919  
FAX 808 325 6262

**From:** [Thomas S. Dye](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517, Testimony Supporting Confirmation of William Aila  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 9:24:01 AM

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DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing,

My name is Dr. Thomas Dye. I am an archaeologist with more than 40 years of experience in Hawai`i nei, including six years with DLNR as the O`ahu Island archaeologist at the Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in the early 1990s. I have been an active supporter of the State's role in historic preservation and was an outspoken critic of the Lingle administration's mismanagement of the SHPD. I continue to be concerned about the future of the division, which currently cannot accomplish its core functions and has been rated by the National Park Service as a "high risk grantee."

I am testifying in strong support of William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known William Aila since we worked together in DLNR twenty years ago. Since that time I have had the pleasure of working with him on the Friends of the State Historic Preservation Division, a community group formed to support the State's historic preservation efforts. He is a generous, intelligent, and thoughtful man, whose heart is with Hawai`i and her people. I believe he has the commitment to rebuild the SHPD and that his long experience working at DLNR has equipped him with the know-how to get it done.

Please vote to confirm William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Dye, Ph.D.  
T. S. Dye & Colleagues, Archaeologists, Inc.  
Phone: (808) 529-0866 Fax: (808) 529-0884  
<http://www.tsdye.com>

**From:** [Sheenagh Burns](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#); [William Aila](#)  
**Subject:** Confirmation Hearing for William Johnson Aila, Jr.  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 4:45:22 PM

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Re: GM517, February 12, Saturday, at 1:15 pm; Hearing before the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing

Dear friends,

I regret that I am unable to testify at the Hearing in person and very much appreciate being given the opportunity to testify by email in support of William Johnson Aila, Jr.'s appointment as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known William for many years and have followed his career with interest. I was absolutely thrilled when Governor Abercrombie recognized his many talents and strength of character with this appointment. I believe William would be a Chairperson without peer in this position. He has a marvelous ability to understand and mediate all sides of a dispute while adhering to the law of the land. I say this in spite of what I know will be contrary testimony from those who have not always sought justice and objected to his style as an individual fighting a system that ignored the righteous and less powerful. I find his integrity to be without question, his sense of fair play to be strong, and his knowledge of this kuleana to be extensive.

Given his background and personality, William would be a perfect fit for this position. My support for his appointment is unequivocal! Just as those in opposition to my father's view's initially feared his election as Governor, so do Williams' opponents. (The parallels, in fact, are interesting.) However, I believe they will find out differently when his appointment is approved because it would give him the capability to focus on the aina of his beloved Hawaii as a whole and its impact on the future of all its people.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Sheenagh Uluwehi Burns, Ph.D.  
131 Oko Street #5  
Kailua, HI 96734  
(808) 254-4535  
[sheenaghburns@hotmail.com](mailto:sheenaghburns@hotmail.com)

**From:** [Don King](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony In favor of Bill Aila for DLNR  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 4:48:05 PM

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Dear Senators,

Please confirm Bill Aila as head of the DLNR. He is uniquely qualified for the position. Bill has shown through his service as harbor master in Waianae and in many neighborhood and state wide groups a real commitment to issues regarding our natural resources. He has also shown an ability to work with people with many different interests. Most of all, he cares.

Sincerely,

Don King  
Ocean user, film maker  
320 Poopoo Place  
Kailua, Hi 96734  
[donking@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:donking@hawaii.rr.com)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [confair@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:confair@hawaiiantel.net)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 5:17:53 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Renee Confair Sensano  
Organization: Individual  
Address: PO Box 860929 Wahiawa, HI 96786  
Phone: 8082161470  
E-mail: [confair@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:confair@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

Comments:  
Dear Senator:

Please confirm the honorable William Aila Jr. as Chairperson of DLNR. Mr. Aila brings a variety of professional & cultural experiences that will aid him in good decision making on behalf of Hawaii's land & natural resources.

Mr. Aila's background includes advisory council for National Marine Protected Areas; Chairperson for Kaena Pt. Advisory Group; Member of Advisory Group to US Garrison; Member of US Army Ordinance Reef Advisory Committee; Member of Leeward Community College Advisory Board; Member of Hui Malama I Na Kupuna O Hawaii Nei; Board Member of Ka papa o Kakuhihewa which awards \$70,000 in grants for resource conservation; Board member of Community Development Authority; President of Ukani Po Advisory Council which works with US Army; Member of State Gill Net Task Force; Member o Bottom Fish & Indigenous Rights Advisory Sub-Panel to WESPAC; member of Saltonstall-kennedy Constituency Panel; Chairman of small boat Pelagic Fisheries Group; Member of State Shark Task Force; Member of Hawaii Fishermen's Foundation; Waianae Neighborhood Board member; as well as harbor master just to name a few.

Mr. Aila is a man of integrity. He has a vision for the betterment of our resources and land. He is one of the wisest individuals you can ask to be in this position.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Renee Confair Sensano

**From:** [Karen Chun](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony: GM 517 Please confirm William Aila DLNR Head  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 6:21:11 PM

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COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

**DATE:** Saturday, February 12, 2011  
**TIME:** 1:15 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Conference Room 225

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Please support William Aila head of DLNR. Mr. Aila has a lot of experience in caring for the 'aina and he is an outstanding candidate.

Karen Chun  
87 Lae St.  
Paia HI 96779



**From:** [Laura Thompson](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support of GM 517  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 7:01:53 PM

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Please confirm the appointment William J. Aila, Jr. to Chair the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

He is Hawaii intellectually, physically, ethnically, culturally and spiritually. Mr. Aila will do an outstanding job for all.

Mahalo and aloha,

Laura L. Thompson  
440 A Puamamane St.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821  
phone: 373-938  
email: [pinky@lava.net](mailto:pinky@lava.net)

In Strong Support of William Aila as Director of DLNR - GM 517

In Room 225 at 1315 on Saturday, 12 February 2011  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Housing

Chair Dela Cruz and Respected Members of the Committee;

My name is Reg White. I am recently retired as vp, operations for Paradise Cruise, Ltd. and Star of Honolulu Cruises and Events. During the past twenty eight years I have observed the inept and many times uncaring management that has been foisted upon us as directors for DLNR. This appointment is a true breath, yea strong wind , of fresh air on the departments management. Mr Aila is a fine upstanding honest and dedicated person who will do his very best to serve the cause of DLNR, namely the preservation and protection of our natural and cultural resources and the development of programs to perpetuate their operations, maintenance and care. He will prepare programs to allow our people and our visitors to become acquainted with these resources and cultural displays so that all will know why we want and need to care for them on into the future. He has feet on the ground experience with the internal operations and defects of the department and is the first person in years that I truly feel knows how, and has the will to fix these problems and make the department functional on a day to day basis. Please vote to confirm William Aila as Director of the Department of Land & Natural Resources.

Aloha,

Reg White  
1540 S. King St.  
Honolulu, HI 96826-1919  
808-222-9794  
RawcoHI@cs.com

8 February 2011

**TO:** Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

**RE: Testimony in Support of GM 517: Gov. Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources**

Distinguished Legislators,

Aloha! Please accept this letter as testimony in support of GM 517 - Gov. Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson ("Bill") Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire December 31, 2014. Over many years, Mr. Aila has demonstrated his commitment to protecting our land and resources. He has worked with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials. As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will bring an important and much needed perspective to this position. In the past, he has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to integrate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.

I support the appointment of Bill Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources because he has the experience, skills, and proven dedication to be an effective director of this challenging department and for our Hawaiian communities. Mr. Aila's personal and professional background will serve him well as Director of the DLNR. As harbormaster for Wai'anae and working at other state harbors as well, Mr. Aila is already familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise between ocean users.

In conclusion, Mr. Aila has been honored with this most prestigious appointment, while being given the tremendous responsibility of leading the DLNR in difficult times. I am confident he will serve with integrity, provide much-needed leadership, and bring people together to solve the challenges we face protecting our sacred sites, cultural practices, ocean, freshwater, ceded lands, forests, watersheds, harbors, recreation areas, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species.

Mahalo,



Jack Kittinger, PhD  
367-C Kapaloala Place  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lindsayc@hawaii.edu](mailto:lindsayc@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 11:11:43 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lindsay Young  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [lindsayc@hawaii.edu](mailto:lindsayc@hawaii.edu)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:

Mr. Aila has long been a supporter of conservation in Hawaii, not just on paper, but in practice. His impressive resume of professional and volunteer activities support this. I feel that he is not only the best candidate for this position, but will do an excellent job in continuing to preserve and protect Hawaii's natural resources. As a biologist who has worked for over 10 years in Hawaii to preserve our ecosystems, I feel strongly that William will do an excellent job in helping further his agencies mission.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ohukaniohia@gmail.com](mailto:ohukaniohia@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 11:25:49 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Sam Ohu Gon III  
Organization: Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Address: 923 Nuuanu Street Honolulu, HI  
Phone: 808 587-6241  
E-mail: [ohukaniohia@gmail.com](mailto:ohukaniohia@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:

As a current land board member, I look forward to working with William Aila, who brings a great deal of experience to DINR. In particular I look to even more of a balance of cultural and practical solutions to our natural resource challenges.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ggkhi@aol.com](mailto:ggkhi@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 1:54:26 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Gege Kawelo  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 87-155 La`iku Street Wai`anae, HI 96792  
Phone: 808 352-7069  
E-mail: [ggkhi@aol.com](mailto:ggkhi@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

**From:** [randy ching](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of GM517 (appointment of William Aila, Jr.)  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 1:34:28 PM

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GM517 -- appointment of William Aila, Jr. as Director of DLNR  
Water, Land, Housing Committee  
Saturday, February 12 at 1:15 p.m. in Room 225

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and members of Water, Land, Housing Committee,

William Aila, Jr. would be an excellent DLNR director. Please support his appointment. Not only is he knowledgeable about our natural resources, but also knowledgeable about Hawaiian cultural issues. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Randy Ching  
942-0145  
[oahurandy@yahoo.com](mailto:oahurandy@yahoo.com)

---

TV dinner still cooling?  
[Check out "Tonight's Picks" on Yahoo! TV.](#)

**From:** [walter ritte](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** confirmation of Bill Aila  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 1:30:46 PM

---

Aloha WLH committee members, my name is Walter Ritte from Molokai . I am in strong support of the confirmation of Mr. William J. Aila as the Chairman of the DLNR. He is already playing a key role while participating in three major issues on our island. The formation of a traditional place based governance structure called the Aha Moku, the building of wind mills on the island to serve Oahu, and the gathering of state wide fishpond operators on Molokai. He has the trust of the Molokai people and understands our problems and our willingness to help solve the threats facing our natural resources. He understands that it is we the people who will protect the natural resources for our future generations... it is our kuleana. Walter Ritte.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 11:13:15 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Penny Levin  
Organization: Individual  
Address: Wailuku, Maui  
Phone:  
E-mail: [pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

**Comments:**

I support the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

He has the experience and skills to be an effective director of this challenging department.

There are those that would paint Mr. Aila's community activist experience as a negative or weakness. I would offer that Mr. Aila's community experience is critically important to improving the relationships that DLNR has with the public, and most importantly, the Hawaiian community. It has always been deeply disappointing to me that this agency, which depends more and more on the good will of communities to get its work done (especially because of budget and staff cuts), and who is entrusted to protect our natural and cultural resources, has missed so many opportunities for positive relationships, collaboration and support and have turned so many opportunities into negative experiences for community members, kupuna, and agency staff.

Over many years and by many actions, Mr. Aila has demonstrated his commitment to protecting 'aina. He has worked with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisherman, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila brings a perspective to the director's office that have been sorely lacking, and often the root of conflict between Native Hawaiians and DLNR. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred sites and important wahi pana - and he understands the constraints under which agencies work. An example of the beneficial results this perspective brings is his work (along with others) with state and federal agencies, and the public, to formulate policies which accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

One measure of credential that should not be overlooked in the selection of leaders, comes from the community in which a person lives and works. In Wai'ānae, Mr. Aila is respected for his work to protect native and endangered species in the Wai'ānae mountains and along the Wai'ānae coast, for his honesty and fairness as a harbor master, for his humble leadership, intelligence, and hard-work.

As harbormaster, Mr. Aila is already familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise between ocean users.

He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.

FREDERICK A. DODGE, MD  
MARY "KIT" GLOVER, MD  
86-024 GLENMONGER STREET  
WAI'ANAE, HAWAII 96792

February 8, 2011

TO: Committee on Water, Land & housing  
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice-Chair

RE: GM 517 Consideration & confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of  
Land and Natural Resources, William Johnson Aila, Jr.  
Saturday, February 12, 2011 at 1:15 pm.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

We are retired Wai'anae Family Practitioners who have lived on the Wai'anae Coast for many years. We have known William Aila, Jr. for over a dozen years.

William has been the Wai'anae Harbor Master for over two decades and has done an outstanding job. He has been a member of numerous community and state boards and projects, including but not limited to, Wai'anae Coast Alternative Development Corporation ( MA'O Farms, past President of the Board); Mohala I Ka Wai (Watershed Restoration, past President); Ka Papa O Kakuhewewa ( resource conservation); U.S. Army Ordinance Reef Advisory Committee (re munitions disposed of off the Wai'anae coast); and many others.

William has taken courageous stands, and has done so aloha and intelligence. We've never known him to hold a grudge. He is committed to defend, protect and fight for our environment. His actions are consistently grounded and advocated from the native Hawaiian cultural perspective of respecting the 'aina, wai and kai, and preserving these resources for future generations.

William is outstanding choice to head DLNR. We give him our strongest recommendation without reservation. We urge you to confirm his appointment.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Kit Glover, MD  
Fred Dodge, MD

**From:** [Daniel Grantham](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517: Appointment of William Aila, Jr. as DLNR Director  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 11:41:35 AM

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Dear Senators,

I support William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Daniel Grantham  
P.O. Box 610  
Haiku, HI 96708  
808-572-4571

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [deetex123@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:deetex123@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 12:20:19 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Texidor  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 814 Kinau #308 Honolulu, Hawaii  
Phone: 808 536-5427  
E-mail: [deetex123@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:deetex123@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Over many years and by many actions, Mr. Aila has demonstrated his commitment to protecting our land and resources. He has worked with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials.

Mr. Aila's personal and professional background will serve him well as Director of the DLNR. As harbormaster for Wai'anae and working at other state harbors as well, Mr. Aila is already familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise between ocean users.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.

We, the undersigned, fully support the appointment of William Aila, Jr. as DLNR Director.

Aloha,

Diane Texidor and Family  
Henry George, Jr. and Family  
Hayley and Aloha Cerit

To: Chairman Donovan Dela Cruz  
The Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing

Re: William Aila Confirmation as Chair of DLNR  
Saturday, Feb. 12 – 1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225

Aloha Chairman Dela Cruz and Members of the Senate Water,  
Land and Housing Committee:

I am a proud Hawaiian who spent my childhood in Kalapana and have been a resident of Kalaupapa for more than 50 years. I write in support of William Aila to chair the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Many of us who have been concerned about the degradation of Hawaii's unique cultural and natural resources have long heard the name of William Aila as not only a protector of these valuable and irreplaceable resources, but as someone who can work with others who might have differing views. I have also had the opportunity to sit in a meeting with Mr. Aila where I was impressed with his willingness to listen and learn from others in the room rather than dominate with his own opinions.

To head up the Department of Land and Natural Resources with all of its many divisions that have traditionally been understaffed is a daunting challenge for even the best among us. I believe that William Aila is the best choice for repairing the flaws of this important agency and moving forward.

DLNR has oversight of the lands and waters of Hawaii, Hawaiian archaeological sites and places of cultural and historical significance that are especially important to the Hawaiian people.

We need someone with a deep understanding of our culture to lead this department that is at the heart of preserving the real Hawaii for present and future generations.

Please approve William Aila as Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mahalo nui loa,



Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa

PO Box 56

Kalaupapa, Hawaii 96742

808-567-6217

**From:** [Lloyd Lowry](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Confirmation of William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 10:44:28 AM

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My name is Lloyd Lowry and I am a marine mammal biologist living in Kailua Kona on the island of Hawaii. I have 35 years of experience working on marine mammal science and conservation issues in Alaska, Hawaii, and elsewhere. I have known William Aila for about 10 years, and have served with him on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council and the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team. William is a fine person, intelligent, concerned, and willing to work hard to conserve and protect Hawaii's resources. He is fully qualified to be the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and I urge you to confirm his appointment to that position. Lloyd Lowry

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Lloyd F. Lowry  
73-4388 Paiaha Street  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740  
phone: 808-325-6885  
e-mail: [lloyd@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lloyd@hawaii.rr.com)

**Testimony of**

**Eric. A. Brundage**

**Before the Senate Committees on  
Water, Land and Housing:**

**Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In Consideration Of  
GM 517**

**RELATING TO CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., FOR A  
TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2014**

I support the confirmation of William J. Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Mr. Aila for nearly twenty years and have found him to be a man of honesty and integrity. He cares deeply for the people of Hawai`i and for our precious natural resources. He is a dedicated, hard-working individual who works well in collaboration with others but is unafraid to act independently to do what he knows is right.

I have great confidence on Mr.Aila and I ask your support in confirming him as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.



**Dane Wicker**

---

**From:** Ginger G. Peterson [gingergp@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 07, 2011 8:21 AM  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** GM 517 - William Johnson Aila Jr.

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to express my support of William Johnson Aila, Jr. to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land & Natural Resources as per his Gubernatorial Nomination for this position.

My experience working with Mr. Aila when I worked as a Film Location Manager/ Film Production Supervisor on large feature films and TV Series was that he was an extremely efficient and very knowledgeable about his job and acted in a concerned and caring manner.

I think he would be terrific as the Chairperson of DLNR because he really knows Hawaii and what it will take to make this position work to ensure things are run correctly.

I support William Johnson Aila, Jr. whole heartedly and I am confident his nomination will be approved.

Sincerely,

Ginger G. Peterson  
E-Mail: [gingergp@gmail.com](mailto:gingergp@gmail.com)  
Cell: (808) 753-6999  
Resident of Honolulu, Hawaii and kama'aina since 1978.

## Dane Wicker

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**From:** Olayvars [Olayvar@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 07, 2011 2:36 AM  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* Confirmation William Aila Jr.

Dear Committee On Water Land and Housing,

Subject: Testimony in support of Mr. William Aila Jr.  
Date: Saturday, 12 February 2011  
Time: 13:15hrs

Aloha and Mahalo for this opportunity to submit my testimony in support of Mr. William Aila, Jr. for the State of Hawaii, Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known William Aila for nearly twenty years, professionally as a State of Hawaii, DLNR Wildlife Technician, and as a State, DLNR Conservation and Resources Law Enforcement Officer. Though I am currently employed as a Federal Conservation Law Enforcement, Deputy U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Officer aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. I submit my testimony as a private citizen. I am not representing any state or federal agency. I am a former resident of the Leeward Coast, raised in Waianae and Ewa Beach, currently residing in Pearl City, Pacific Palisades.

Truly I as were many folks within the community was pleasantly surprised when Mr. William Aila was selected for the position as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, William brings to the table a very real understanding of the administrative, fiscal, and social challenges experienced by the department. As a DLNR employee for over twenty years and currently the Master for the Waianae Small Boat Harbor, William has a very clear understanding of Hawaii's recreational and commercial fishing and boating communities. As a Community activist he has brought to the attention within many levels of the community and state and federal government's the need to care for Hawaii's environment and the health and welfare of Hawaii's people.

There may be concerns by some within the community and state government that Mr. Aila is not a supporter of the Military or it's need to train, with regards to Mr. Aila's activism for the United States Army to discontinue it's use of Makua Valley as a live fire training facility. In my personal and humble opinion, William Aila is a supporter of our countries Military and it's need to train. The issue with Makua Valley is about correcting something that should have been corrected years ago. Clearly there is a need to identify these wrongs and correct them, William brought this to the table and identified the issue's to be mitigated.

Mind you I am a staunch supporter of our countries Military and it's need to train: as a former U.S. Marine (12 years) with two combat tours under my belt and currently employed as a Federal Conservation Law Enforcement Criminal Investigator for the United States Marine Corps, part of my duties as a Federal Officer is to assure that Military personnel training will not be prevented or compromised from doing so. I would not support William if I believed his cause as an activist on the leeward coast was not just.

William is well respected within many circles of the community as a supporter for the environment and someone genuinely concerned for the welfare of the community. I believe Williams true strength as a leader and a person people can trust is knowing that William Aila is a man with a humble and caring spirit, someone who listens and makes great efforts to mitigate challenges. He brings to the table not just these personal traits but years of working the many issues and challenges as a DLNR employee and manager. He is a force multiplier.

Mahalo.

Respectfully Submitted:  
><>

**Dane Wicker**

---

**From:** Nimboy44@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 06, 2011 9:50 PM  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** William Aila

I strongly support the appointment of William Aila as Chairperson of the DLNR.

William Quinlan  
Sunset Beach.  
Oahu.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pua.aiu@gmail.com](mailto:pua.aiu@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 1:24:15 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Pua Aiu  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 2185 Kaululoa Place Honolulu, HI  
Phone: 808-753-2338  
E-mail: [pua.aiu@gmail.com](mailto:pua.aiu@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments:

I have known Mr. Aila for about 10 years and I have worked both with him, and in opposition to him. In all cases Mr. Aila has shown respect for all points of view, while holding steadfast to his own beliefs. Mr. Aila has shown himself as being willing to compromise in the right situations, and in my experience is always willing to listen to opposing points of view.

As we know, the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources holds a position that can be controversial, and often has very passionate supporters and opponents. The Department needs a leader who has a clear vision, but can still talk to people who have divergent viewpoints. As someone who has come from the Department and who has often opposed Department positions, I believe Mr. Aila understands the Department and its challenges and will provide the leadership the division needs.

**From:** [sabrakauka@aol.com](mailto:sabrakauka@aol.com)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517 - In Support  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 11:57:32 AM

---

Aloha Kakou,

I write in strong support of the appointment of William J. Aila Jr., for Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Sabra Kauka  
PO Box 3870  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i Hawai'i 96766

**From:** [Lori L. Buchanan](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517 on 2/12/2011 in Rm. 225 at 1:15pm.  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 11:46:57 AM

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Dear Members,

I am writing to support the confirmation of Mr. William Aila Jr. as Chairperson to The Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As a resident of Molokai, many island issues involving DLNR have long been ignored. I feel under the new leadership of Chairperson Aila, neighboring islands will begin to strengthen our communication to state leaders.

As our state moves forward to incorporate new energy initiatives, the need for support by neighboring islands is crucial. The challenges ahead are daunting but I believe Chairperson Aila possess the heart and commitment to facilitate positive outcomes. I urge you support his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Lori Buchanan  
P.O. Box 133  
Hoolehua, Hawaii 96729  
(808) 336-0625

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mluoahu@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:mluoahu@hawaiiintel.net)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 8:27:15 AM

---

Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Maydeen Lu  
Organization: Individual  
Address: Kaneohe, HI 96744  
Phone: 247-1913  
E-mail: [mluoahu@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:mluoahu@hawaiiintel.net)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments:

To: Senate Committee, Water, Land, and Housing  
Date: February 4, 2011  
Subject: WLH Measure GM517, Confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr.  
For Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

I would like to submit personal testimony in support of confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chair for the Department of Land Natural Resources.

I previously worked with Mr. Aila for 10 years at the Boating Division of DLNR. I currently work at DLNR/State Parks.

I firmly believe that Mr Aila will make a positive contribution to DLNR as its Chair. He has a passionate desire to preserve the resources of Hawaii for all of us now, and to preserve the lands and resources for those who inherit it in the future.

Being passionate in preserving the resources is good, but Mr. Aila can go one step further because he can and will be a leader who will work well with the community as well as bringing together all the divisions of DLNR working as a team.

Please consider Mr. Aila as the next chair of DLNR.

Thank you.

Maydeen Lu  
Email: [mluoahu@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:mluoahu@hawaiiintel.net)  
Phone: 247-1913

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dshideler@culturalsurveys.com](mailto:dshideler@culturalsurveys.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 2:24:47 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: David W. Shideler  
Organization: Individual  
Address: P.O. Box 1114 Kailua Hawaii 96734  
Phone: 262-9972  
E-mail: [dshideler@culturalsurveys.com](mailto:dshideler@culturalsurveys.com)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2011

Comments:

Aloha Concerned Members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

As a private individual and as O'ahu Office Director of Cultural Surveys Hawai'i - a cultural resource management firm, I am writing to voice my support for the confirmation of William Aila as head of the Department of Land and Natural Resources and as State Historic Preservation Officer. I have known Mr. Aila for well over a decade and although we have often been on opposite sides of the issue at hand I have consistently found him to be fair and judicious and to act in the best interests of the land, resources, and people of Hawaii as he understood them. I believe that the confirmation of Mr. Aila will well serve the people of Hawai'i in the present, and for generations to come.

Mahalo for your consideration of this brief testimony in favor of the confirmation of Mr. William Aila as head of DLNR.

Aloha.

David W. Shideler



2/2/2011

**TO** : Committee on Water, Land and Housing (WLH)

**FROM** : John Silberstein  
Conservation & Resources Enforcement Officer IV – Field Supervisor

**SUBJECT** : TESTIMONY on measure GM 15. Confirmation of William J. Aila Jr. to the  
Chairperson of the Department of Land & Natural Resources

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

I'd like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly express my support in favor of confirming the appointment of William J. Aila Jr. as the Chairperson for the State of Hawai'i, Department of Land & Natural Resources. I offer this support as an individual citizen and not as a direct function of my oath or office as a DLNR employee.

I have however served as a sworn Law enforcement Officer with DLNR since 1997. During my tenure I have worked under the purview of at least a half dozen Chairs. I have known and worked with William on a professional level for as many years.

I believe William possesses the practical knowledge, skill and ability to guide the direction of our Department toward a successful and Pono future. I believe William brings an invaluable inside perspective of the Department's strengths and weaknesses that only a 20 year veteran employee can bring. I also believe he represents a deviation from the status quo political appointee we've experienced in the past. William has buy-in at DLNR that few if any Chair has had prior.

Some may call to question Will's history of cultural, community and environmental activism as a potential detraction from the impartial decision making process that is critical in the Chair position. I call upon this as a testament to his strong potential for fair-minded leadership. It has been my experience and witness that William has consistently shown a high level of decorum and respect to ALL parties engaged in debate, opposition and even quarrel on issues that are charged, controversial and highly emotional. The sign of a true leader is one who can bring people to the table and get them focus on their common ground as apposed to their conflict and William has proven to be highly adept at this.

Mahalo for hearing my testimony in SUPPORT of WILLIAM J. AILA's confirmation as Chairperson of the Department of Land & Natural Resources

Mark B. Glick

Statement of  
**MARK B. GLICK**  
before the  
**COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of  
**GM 517**

**Confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire  
December 31, 2014.**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Members of the Committee.  
My name is Mark Glick and I am testifying before you as a Hawai'i resident.

I strongly support Governor Abercrombie's Nominee for Chairperson of the  
Board of Land and Natural Resources, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to  
expire December 31, 2014.

William Aila has the vision, experience and good judgment to set and carry out  
the agenda of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have had the privilege to  
work with Mr. Aila as a fellow board member of the Sierra Club, where I am currently in  
my third term as Chairman of the Executive Committee, and as a co-advocate for  
protecting our environmental and cultural assets. In my experience, Mr. Aila has  
consistently demonstrated the willingness to seek policies and practices that are mutually  
beneficial to all parties involved, while seeking to preserve the cultural integrity and  
quality of life that makes Hawai'i unique. He understands the steps necessary to properly  
safeguard our lands and waters and has the leadership skills and resolve to turn good  
policy into action.

Thank you for permitting me the opportunity to offer these comments.

**From:** Ron Agor  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** GM 517 Willian Aila, Jr Confirmation Hearing  
**Date:** Friday, February 04, 2011 7:04:39 PM

---

RE: GM 517 Confirmation Hearing, Feb 12, 2011, 1:15 PM.  
Willian Aila, Jr

To the Chair and Committee Members of WLH,

I support the confirmation of William Aila, Jr for the Chairmanship of DLNR. While past Chairpersons came with high administrative experience, none had the experience working extensively with the Hawaiian Community as Mr. Aila has.

I ask you to confirem Mr. Aila for the Chairmanship of DLNR.

***Ron Agor, Architect***

***Kauai Member of BLNR***

3501 Rice Street  
Suite 200A  
Lilhue, Hi 96766  
808-651-5764

TO:

THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15 pm  
State Capitol - Conference Room 225  
415 South Beretania Street

REGARDING:

GM 517: Gov. Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

I support the appointment of Mr. Aila as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). I have worked with Mr. Aila for the last 9 years on issues that affect the Conservation District and the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) Waianae Small Boat Harbor. With regards to boating, ocean laws and regulations, and ocean resources Mr. Aila has always been professional and courteous to work with. I look forward to working with him as the Director.

From:  
Dawn Hegger, Senior Planner  
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

Support GM 517

Aloha Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing,

I support the confirmation of William Aila, Jr., as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. In his personal and professional life, he has shown a passion for protecting the native Hawaiian culture and natural resources that perpetuate that culture. I admire his tireless leadership in the Waianae community and trust that he will work equally as hard to further the mission of the DLNR to protect the irreplaceable natural resources of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Emma Kaimiola Yuen  
1350 Ala Moana Blvd. Apt 1209  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
February 8, 2011

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [marilynmick@pobox.com](mailto:marilynmick@pobox.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 11:25:31 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Marilyn Mick  
Organization: Individual  
Address: PO Box 15158 Honolulu, HI 96830  
Phone: 808.479.7764  
E-mail: [marilynmick@pobox.com](mailto:marilynmick@pobox.com)  
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

Comments:

To: COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair and committee members.

I wish to offer my fullest support for the confirmation of William Aila as Chairperson of DLNR. I have worked in Hawaii for over 25 years in the film industry as both a location manager and production manager. In this time I have had many opportunities to work with Mr. Aila in his position as Waianae Harbormaster. I have the upmost respect for Mr. Aila. I feel that he has complete understanding of our industry and always fairly balances our needs with the rights of the public. We, in the industry, were excited by his nomination and I do not feel there could be any better choice. I am looking forward to working with him in his new capacity.

**From:** Diane Zachary  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** Support for Confirmation of William J. Aila Jr. as Chair of BLNR  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 11:50:40 AM

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REFERENCE: Committee of Water, Land and Housing Public Hearing  
DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 225

Aloha Senator Dela Cruz, Committee Chair, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Kauai Planning & Action Alliance, I am writing in support of the Governor's nomination of Mr. William J. Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. Aila has demonstrated his respect for and love of the 'aina over the years in both his professional and personal activities. He brings his experience as an employee of DLNR to the position as well as the benefits of his broad networks of friends and colleagues he can call upon to provide input on issues and to help support DLNR policies and programs.

We ask that you confirm Mr. Aila's nomination for this important position.

Diane Zachary  
President & CEO

Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance  
2959 Umi Street, Suite 201  
Lihu'e, HI 96766  
Tel: 808.632.2005  
Fax: 808.632.2018  
Website: [www.kauainetwork.org](http://www.kauainetwork.org)

*Bringing people together to create a better future for Kaua'i*

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:43:32 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Andrea I. Jepson  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 1111 Kooahoo Place Kailua, HI 96734  
Phone: 808 263-8202  
E-mail: [jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

**Comments:**

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve. mahalo



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tsuneyos@lycos.com](mailto:tsuneyos@lycos.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 9:51:48 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Amy Tsuneyoshi  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [tsuneyos@lycos.com](mailto:tsuneyos@lycos.com)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:  
Please favorably consider the confirmation of William Aila Jr to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.  
Thank you

**From:** [Jan Becket](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* Comments on GM 517  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 10:11:57 PM

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Dear Sirs:

This is in regard to the confirmation hearing for William J. Aila Jr., Interim Chairman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, scheduled for 1:15 p.m. Saturday Feb. 12.

I wish to submit a statement strongly in support of the confirmation of Mr. Aila. I have had the privilege of meeting him a number of times and know him to be a person of exceptional professionalism, fairness and intelligence.

More to the point, I have also had occasion over the past decade to work with the State Office of Historic Preservation in connection with several issues and projects on Oahu. It pains me to say this, but that office has been utterly dysfunctional for as long as I have dealt with it. In more cynical moments, I have thought that it is kept in in this state to facilitate development projects that might be held up by entirely professional but inconvenient questions. However, as ex-governor Ceyetano has just pointed out, this dysfunctional approach to historic preservation ended up costing the state and all of us a great deal of money in the construction of the H3 Freeway through Halawa Valley. As you must be aware, the freeway was allowed to go forward because of a flawed archaeological survey, conducted by graduate students but accepted by SHPO, stating that there are only eight historic structures in the valley, all post-contact. In reality, there are hundreds of pre-contact features in the valley. Their subsequent "discovery" forced the realignment of the freeway and resulted in huge cost overruns. I suspect we may all be still paying the interest on these cost overruns today.

The point is that development decisions are not dice throws at a crap table in Los Vegas. There are no quick endruns around decisions that must be grounded in professional standards. Ultimately, we all benefit from the appointment of competent administrators with integrity to key positions, so that the groundwork leading up to major decisions remains sound, even under close subsequent scrutiny. The position of Chairman of the DLNR is such a position and William Aila is the best choice Governor Abercrombie could have made to fill it.

Sincerely,  
Jan Becket

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kamuela\\_vance@yahoo.com](mailto:kamuela_vance@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 12:49:01 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: kamuela\_vance  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [kamuela\\_vance@yahoo.com](mailto:kamuela_vance@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

**From:** [Peter Ehrhorn](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Confirmation of William Aila, Jr as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:21:06 AM

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To: COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

From: Erick Peter Ehrhorn  
254 Kaha St.  
Kailua, Hawaii, 96734

Dear Senators,

Please be advised that I support the appointment of Bill Aila as chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I met with him during his run for Governor and he answered my questions well on his qualification for governor. He pointed out that in his present position as Harbor Master, he has to work with many people both within and outside of state government. This gives him a wide perspective on things and he is not trapped within a bubble like many politicians tend to be. He also has a very pleasant personality.

The main reason I support Bill however is that he will be one of the few if not the only head of the department of land and natural resources to actually have extensive experience with it. The Harbor division is part of this department so Bill has years if not decades of experience in working with this department. His first hand knowledge of the strengths and shortcomings of this department will be vital in dealing with its problems. As I understand it this department is seriously in need of new direction and help. It needs someone like Bill to lead the way. In addition this department needs to be funded. This department I believe is always the first to be cut and as a result its staff is overworked and underpaid. This needs to change. Bill is the best person to do this and one who I would trust in making the right decisions.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope that Bill gets promptly confirmed with an adequate budget.

Best Regards,

Erick Peter Ehrhorn  
254 Kaha St.  
Kailua, HI96734

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lkashinsky@gmail.com](mailto:lkashinsky@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 8:16:28 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lizabeth Kashinsky  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [lkashinsky@gmail.com](mailto:lkashinsky@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [imua-hawaii@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:imua-hawaii@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 9:19:32 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Isaac Harp  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 64-217 Wailani Place Kamuela, Hawaii  
Phone: 808-885-8540  
E-mail: [imua-hawaii@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:imua-hawaii@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:

I have known and worked with Mr. Aila/Bill on various marine resource related issues for the past 20-years. We may not always agree but I do know Bill to be a fair, consciencious, and objective person when it comes to decision-making. Bill has served in numerous efforts that benefit local communities as well as the greater Hawaii. I feel fortunate to have known and worked with Bill and his lovely wife Melva, both outstanding individuals who place the welfare of Hawaii ahead of themselves. Bill has proven his dedication to the wellbeing of Hawaii and I ask that you support him now and more importantly in the future.

Mahalo, Isaac Harp

**COMMITTEE ON WATER LAND AND HOUSING****Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Voice Chair**Saturday, February 12, 2011 1:15 PM  
Conference Room 225**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 517**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

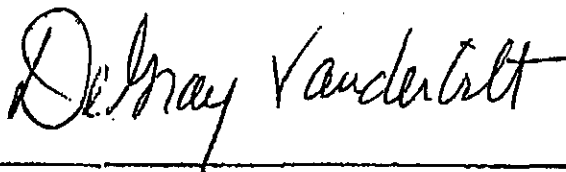
My name is DeGray Vanderbilt, a 30-year resident of Molokai. I offer my testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of William Aila's confirmation as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR).

Besides Mr. Aila being highly qualified with hands on experience and community involvement with many issues BLNR oversees (i.e. water management, fishing resource management, boating, agriculture and land management, state park lands, etc.), it would be only right to have a highly regarded member of our State's host culture, such as Mr. Aila, overseeing the State Department that regulates so many of the cultural and natural resources important to perpetuating the Hawaiian culture.

I first met Mr. Aila at this year's Office of Hawaiian Affairs investiture ceremony in Honolulu. A few weeks later, I was fortunate to attend a meeting with him, along with several others, regarding a complex issue important to the Hawaiian community. I was truly impressed with his ability to listen, to quickly understand and qualify the issues and then to be able to offer thoughtful alternatives to consider for resolving issues that needed to be resolved.

Your support for Mr. Aila's confirmation will be greatly appreciated

Sincerely



DeGray Vanderbilt

(808) 283-8171

Email: DeGray Vanderbilt &lt;pauhanamolokai@yahoo.com

**Valerie Monson  
175 Kealaloa Avenue  
Makawao, Hawaii 96768**

**To the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Saturday, February 12, 2011 – 1:15 p.m. – Room 225**

**Testimony in support of GM 517 – appointment of William Aila Jr. as Chairman of  
the Department of Land and Natural Resources**

**Aloha Committee Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:**

**I am writing on my own behalf in support of William Aila Jr. to be confirmed as  
Chairman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.**

**Mr. Aila has already served Hawaii well through his many years of work as the  
Wainae Harbormaster and his long list of community volunteer efforts at  
preserving lands and waters that make these islands the special place that they  
are. Mr. Aila has the kind of personality that enables him to find collaboration and  
common ground on sensitive issues that can often divide the community. He is  
also willing to take on this high-profile position where he will undoubtedly be  
approached by members of the community at every public event he attends – or  
even when he's at the grocery store. It takes a special person of even  
temperament to deal with the public on almost constant basis.**

**I met Mr. Aila for the first time about two months ago at a ceremony on Oahu  
where I went up to him and asked if we could discuss an issue of importance to  
me. He could have easily handed me his card and said to contact his office, but  
he listened thoughtfully and encouraged me to follow up with him. When I  
followed up, he was again receptive to listening and offering possible solutions.**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources is one of the most important  
agencies in Hawaii and we all know it faces a host of challenges with staffing and  
funding shortages.**

**I believe that William Aila can turn things in the right direction at DLNR.**

**Please confirm him so he can go to work for the people of Hawaii.**

**Mahalo.**

**With respect,**



**Valerie Monson**



Gege Kawelo  
Community Resident

87-155 La`iku Street  
Wai`anae, HI 96792

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February 8, 2011

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
and Members  
Senate Committee on Water, Land & Housing  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM517 - APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM AILA, JR - DLNR CHAIRPERSON

Aloha mai kakou:

As a Wai`anae community resident, I speak in favor of approving the appointment of William Aila, Jr., as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and to forward his name to the full Senate for confirmation.

As one community resident to another, I speak of the "man", Mr. Aila, who has over the last few decades protected the aina (land) and kai (ocean) of the Wai`anae Coast. I have personally witnessed and participated in his steadfast attempts (and successes) to the preservation and protection of the *Iwi* (of kupuna); makua valley; watershed restoration; community economic development and social capitol; fishery rights; banning of shark finning; traditional navigational sailing, and the mo`olelo of the coast's ahupua`a and moku, to name a few. A man of his conviction(s), dedicated to his community (and others), and driven by his passion of cultural practices, lends credence to the protection of traditional and cultural resources.

Mr. Aila's exceptional leadership and integrity has stood up to many challenges in the past, and no doubt will continue in the future; his solid strengths solidifies his ability to bring about a unity that all will benefit from.

I ask for your approval and confirmation of his appointment. Mahalo for this opportunity to offer my point of view.

Sincerely,

*Gege Kawelo*

**From:** [Bruce Lenkeit](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** William Aila,  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 3:11:48 PM

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My name is Bruce Lenkeit, I am been a resident of the Ala Wai Boat Harbor off and on since 1965.

I support the appointment of William Aila as Chairperson for DLNR.

As a boat owner and Ala Wai Harbor resident, we have suffered through several years of Chairperson Theilan and Director Ed Underwood of DLNR.

Aila's past experience as Harbor Master for the Waianae Boat Harbor being an efficient and people oriented administrator makes him the perfect candidate to restore trust in DLNR from the general public. I have attended many Land Board meetings, and the first meeting which Aila presided I witnessed happy faces and positive attitudes of the Board members. This is what Aila brings to the table. A positive attitude willing to work with all persons involved to get the job done correctly.

Thank you

Bruce Lenkeit

808 384 4550

[blenkeit@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:blenkeit@hawaii.rr.com)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rick.ck.barboza@gmail.com](mailto:rick.ck.barboza@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 3:26:47 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Rick Barboza  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 46-403 Haiku Rd HI  
Phone: 808 295-7777  
E-mail: [rick.ck.barboza@gmail.com](mailto:rick.ck.barboza@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [victorialyman@hotmail.com](mailto:victorialyman@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 11:45:07 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Victoria Lyman  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [victorialyman@hotmail.com](mailto:victorialyman@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

Comments:

**From:** [Michael Golojuch](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Support of William Johnson Aila, Jr as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 3:02:07 PM

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My testimony is below and attached.

**Michael Golojuch, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)**  
**92-954 Makakilo Drive #71**  
**Kapolei, Hawaii 96707-1340**

**February 3, 2011**

**Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair**  
**Senator Malama Solomon, Vice-Chair**  
**Committee on Water, Land, and Housing**  
Hearing on February 12, 2011 at 1:15 PM – GM517  
[WLHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WLHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

RE: Testimony in Strong Support of William Johnson Aila, Jr as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

I have had the opportunity to work with William Aila on a variety of Leeward Oahu community projects over the past 20 years. I strongly support his nomination to take positive charge of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

William Aila is a person of trust, honesty and reliability. He lets you know where he stands on issues and works for what is best for the people and the land, air or water. He is also respectful of other's opinions even when they may disagree with his opinion.

His work as the Harbor Agent for the Wai`anae Boat Harbor for over 24 years attests to his knowledge needed to lead the Board.

I urge the committee to vote to confirm William Aila. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mike Golojuch, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

**From:** [Thomas Brayton](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Please confirm William Aila  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 2:51:25 PM

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*Aloha,*

*This email is to express our support for William Aila Jr.*

*We think he would be an effective advocate for preserving Hawai'i's marine resources as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.*

*Tom and Chris Brayton*

---

Tom & Chris Brayton  
450 Front Street  
Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii 96761  
Phone: (808) 667-2762  
Cell: (808) 276-0292  
E-Fax: (206) 222-2866

---

**From:** [barrybws@aol.com](mailto:barrybws@aol.com)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Supporting Testimony, GM 517 William Aila for Chairperson BLNR, Saturday, Feb. 12, 2011, 1:15 pm, Conference Rm. 225  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 2:18:52 PM

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Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

Dear Chair Dela Cruz:

It is my honor to submit supporting testimony for the confirmation of Mr. William Aila as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have worked in water resources for the last 25 years and had the opportunity to work with Mr. Aila on watershed and natural resource management initiatives and partnerships in Waianae. I find Mr. Aila to be a dedicated public servant and a strong advocate for natural resource management and traditional and cultural practices. He exhibits collaborative skills in bringing together groups toward common objectives. He is a natural leader and is passionate about the resource, friendly and firm when needed.

On a partnership hike into Makaha valley, his knowledge tying natural resources and culture were enlightening. His strong sense of responsibility toward wai and aina was evident when we found the remains of a hunted pig. The hunter apparently took the meat but left everything else. Mr. Aila gathered the bones and entrails into a plastic bag and hand carried it out of the valley for proper disposal! No one else would have done that.

I believe Mr. Aila's strong sense of kuleana toward natural resources and to do what's right for Hawaii will be beneficial in moving BLNR forward.

Aloha,

Barry Usagawa  
46-450 Kuneki St.  
Kaneohe, Hawaii, 96744

**From:** [Lance](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Susan.N.Richey@hawaii.gov](mailto:Susan.N.Richey@hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** GM 517 Testimony In Support of William Aila  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 5:24:11 PM

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Testimony in Support of William Aila for DLNR Chairman,

My name is Lance Holter, I am the Chairman of the Maui Democratic party. I have know Mr. Aila personally and thru several volunteer organizations for 6 years. Recently, in my capacity as the Chairman for the Hawaii Sierra Club-Maui Group, I attended a Natural Area Reserve meeting on Maui regarding the Ahihi Kinau Natural Reserve. The meeting was well attended with possibly 75 concerned individuals and scientists and resource users. What was most striking was how much respect Mr. Aila was shown by those in attendance, especially four native Hawaiian Kupuna from the area around the Ahupua'a of Ahihi Kinau/Makena. Further, this is the kind of person William is, a listener that receives respect because he respects individuals and what they share with others.

What I especially like about Governor Abercrombie's appointment of William Aila is that William understands Resources and our unique Hawaii State Constitutions mandate that we protect, preserve and restore those resources for future generations. William is a traditional resource user, a fisherman and as a result realizes the principals of sustainability and what it takes to Malama ka Aina. I am a lifetime hunter and fisherman, I grow my own food and I have raised my three children, for the last 30 years on Maui, trying to teach them these principals that William Aila inherently understands and likewise practices with his family.

It is imperative that the next Chairman of the Department of Land and Natural resources come from within the DLNR department because he will understand the issues and problems therein. I know William will have the support of the Divisions within the DLNR and he will make the next 8 years a shining light to those in Hawaii that live on and love Hawaii's incredible iconic beauty, abundant resources and truly believe that to love the Aina and Wai, Mauka and Makai is Pono.

Aloha Puameha,

Lance W. Holter  
PO Box 790656  
Paia, Hi 96779

808-579-9442



Testimony in Support  
Of Nomination of  
William Aila, Jr.

Aloha Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination William Aila, Jr. to the position of the Chairperson of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

I come to this recommendation based upon my familiarity with Mr. Aila, with his deep relationship with the `āina and the kai of Hawai`i, with his sense of kuleana or responsibility to his natural environment, and his sense of responsibility to his community and the people of Hawai`i.

I also come to this recommendation mindful of the awesome responsibility of managing the lands and natural resources of these islands, to oversee the appropriate and timely recordation and preservation of public records respecting these lands and resources, the proper uses of these lands and natural resources under control of this particular department, the relationship with and need for cooperation with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and especially the additional responsibility brought about by Mr. Obama's recent adoption of the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the particular moral obligation the State now has to make appropriate consultation with the native Hawaiian people over much of the lands under the DLNR.

I believe Mr. Aila has the appropriate sensitivity and sensibility to properly discharge the obligations of the Chairperson of the DLNR.

I don't think Mr. Aila will be able to simply step into the position of Chairperson, knowing all that there is to know of the job. Like many of the other heads of departments, like many new legislators now serving, or recently appointed judges, or any other public office holder, everyone new to a position will have to undergo a learning curve. But Mr. Aila begins in this new position with good foundations in that he has the right "feel" of his responsibility for the natural resources of Hawai`i, a sense of responsibility to all of the people of Hawai`i and especially to the native people of this land, he knows history and responsibility to that history of Hawai`i, and he has a natural intelligence and open mindedness to be able to learn quickly, discern wisely, and act in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Poka Laenui

**From:** [mike.buden](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support William Aila  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 11:07:01 AM

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I support and nominate William Aila as Chairperson for the Board of Land and Natural Resources. His hearing is 2/12/2011@ 1:15pm, State Capitol, Honolulu. Bills knowledge and help with DLNR is crucial for the State of Hawaii, he will make a difference being on the board and will go forward with many issues that have been neglected in the past... Mahalo, Michael Buden(Hawaii Sailing Canoe Activities, Maui) (808)268-9061

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [leilani2777@gmail.com](mailto:leilani2777@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 3:32:07 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Tiffany Nerveza  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [leilani2777@gmail.com](mailto:leilani2777@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

I support GM 517, Gov. Abercrombie's appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rob@surfbeyond.com](mailto:rob@surfbeyond.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 6:30:15 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Barreca  
Organization: Surfrider Foundation  
Address: 3535 Maluhia St Honolulu  
Phone: 8082241905  
E-mail: [rob@surfbeyond.com](mailto:rob@surfbeyond.com)  
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

Comments:

I support the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources because he has the experience, skills, and proven dedication to the resource to be an effective director of this challenging department. I am confident he will serve with integrity, provide much-needed leadership, and bring people together to solve the challenges we face protecting our sacred sites, cultural practices, ocean, freshwater, ceded lands, forests, watersheds, harbors, recreation areas, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.

Mahalo nui loa!

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dduffy@hawaii.edu](mailto:dduffy@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:53:57 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: David Duffy  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone: 808-956-8218  
E-mail: [dduffy@hawaii.edu](mailto:dduffy@hawaii.edu)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

**Comments:**

I have interacted with Mr Aila on a number of occasions and, while I have not always agreed with him, I have always been struck by his sense of decency and his belief that we should do what is right for the aina. He knows a great deal about our environment and about DLNR and about the the various citizens who use our resources. This is a very tough, perhaps thankless job. I am glad he has agreed to take it and we should accept and confirm him in it.

Respectfully submitted,

David Duffy

To: Chair Dela Cruz, WLH Committee

From: Darrell Tanaka, fisherman

Re: GM517

Confirmation of William Aila interim Chair of DLNR,

The committee(s) on WLH has scheduled a public hearing on 02-12-11 1:15PM in conference room 225.

Testimony in **SUPPORT**

Mr. Aila's expertise in Boating, Historic Preservation and Aquatic Resources will be a much needed resource for DLNR. On paper, he might not seem like the best candidate, but in reality, he may be able to get things done that previous chairs could not and that is fixing our harbors and ending the constant fighting over reef fish.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darrell Tanaka  
Fisherman

SUBMITTING E-MAIL TESTIMONY FOR WILLIAM AILA JR. 2-8-2011

By Landis W. Ornellas, 86-002 Pokai Bay Street,  
Waianae, HI 96792 - Phone: (808) 216-6391

TO: THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011 COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

GM 517 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to WLH  
Testimony the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
Status Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON  
AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

My name is Landis W. Ornellas, born and raised in the islands,  
registered voter, as well as sole proprietor of my own business.

I've been associated with Mr. William Aila, Jr. for over 20  
years and I am confident that he has the experience, ability,  
integrity, and the professionalism to carry out this task that  
we face for our future of our state, relating to and not limited  
to issues of the land and natural resources. I know that Mr.  
Aila to be trustworthy and non-prejudicial in all of his  
endeavors.

Please submit my testimony for Mr. William Aila Jr., in favor of  
being the best choice for such an important position.

Sincerely,

Landis Ornellas

## **TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE, COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Regular Session of 2011

Submitted for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of the Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

**Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice Chairman Solomon, and members of the committee, aloha ahiahi, good afternoon. My name is Wilbur Vernon Luna, and I live in Kapolei. I submit this testimony in support of the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Junior as Director of the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources. I do this because I believe Mr. Aila is truly committed to Hawai'i and its motto, *Ua Mau Ke Ea Oka A'ina I Kaponu*, The Life of the Land is Preserved In Righteousness. For Bill is a righteous man or as we say in Hawaiian, *he kanaka keia*.**

**I say this because Bill has demonstrated a commitment to the land and its natural resources the past fourteen years as Harbor Agent for the Wai'anae Boat Harbor where he has done a commendable job. He is uniquely qualified for the position of Director because he has been instrumental in managing, operating, and maintaining 31 acres of fast and submerged lands. He has managed the state waters from the western end of Reef Runway to Kaena Point out to a distance of three miles. He has been a diver in charge of the Boating Division's Dive team which is responsible for the removal of navigation hazards and maintaining aids to Navigation within his state jurisdiction. He is qualified for the position for which he has been appointed to by the Governor because he has proven he can work with and collaborate with other State and Federal agencies on joint issues. This is an important ability when carrying out the responsibilities commensurate with the office of the Director.**

**Moreover, Bill has demonstrated that he can work with and influence people in his past work experience. Besides he has demonstrated managerial and supervisory capacity that results in positive work production and environment. Indicative of this kind of skill and ability is his work with Liberty House, the Honolulu Police Department and the Dole Wahiawa Plantation of Castle and Cooke, Inc. He demonstrated determination, adaptability, skill and promotability in these work capacities.**

**Bill, in addition, has demonstrated similar abilities that impact the kinds of activities, problems and programs of the Department of Land and Natural Resources with his active involvement and leadership with Community Service Organizations. His work with the O'ahu Game and Fish Club, Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center,**



**Wai'anae Coast Neighborhood Board #24, Hawai'i Fisherman's Foundation, Pelagic Advisory Sub-Panel to the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council (WESPAC), Ukani Po Advisory Council, Wai'anae Coast Neighborhood Board, Parks and Recreation Committee, are indicative and examples of his many interests and involvement in land and natural resource matters. These also indicate his ability to work with people at all levels and to collaborate with them to get things done. He is widely respected for his conscientious efforts to preserve Hawai'i's land and natural resources.**

**Bill is of, and for the people of Hawai'i. He has shown quiet, yet effective leadership; a man with ideas and communicative skill; a leader who demonstrates empathy and humbleness; and a leader who solicits and invites dialogue and participatory decision-making. Bill is a man of integrity.**

**For these reasons, I urge you to confirm William (Bill) Johnson Aila, Junior as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.**

**Respectfully,**

**Wilbur Vernon Luna**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [leiahi@me.com](mailto:leiahi@me.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 5:14:05 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Linda Wong E  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 3071 Pualei Circle Honolulu, HI  
Phone: (808) 923-7484  
E-mail: [leiahi@me.com](mailto:leiahi@me.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:  
Bill Aila is the perfect man for this position.

SUBMITTING E-MAIL TESTIMONY FOR WILLIAM AILA JR> 2-7-2011  
By Waianae Boat Fishing Club President and chairman for Ahi Fever in Waianae,  
Norman Swift 85-1137 Waianae Valley Rd Waianae Hi. 96792 phone (808) 330-8385

TO:

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011 COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING  
DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**GM 517** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014. WLH  
Testimony  
Status

My Name is Norman Swift and I live in Waianae and run the largest fishing tournament in the state of Hawaii called Ahi Fever put on by the Waianae Boat Fishing Club for 14 years. I would like to contribute this success to volunteers and unique ideas all the people involved have contributed including William Aila Jr. William worked as a Harbor Master and did not need to help our fishing tournament at all but every year he spent 18 hours a day un paid time to make our tournament successful every year. He has gone above and beyond his normal work tour to help us in so many ways . This shows the type of character he has and how respected he is and the reason why so many respect him. He is always trying to help in so many committees and with his education and down to earth attitude gets along and works in so many ways,with the public. This will bring a welcome change compared to the strong arm of the last Chairperson who continually made the public angry and ready to confront the government because of her actions. Our Club and Committee are so proud to have someone we can work and talk to in the DLNR office that will spend the time to listen to our needs as well as discuss the needs we need to adhere to. Please submit my Testimony for William Johnson Aila Jr. in favor of being the best choice for such and important position

Norman Swift

President Waianae Boat Fishing Club

Ahi Fever Chairman

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [williamsw011@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:williamsw011@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 07, 2011 7:11:09 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Waimea Williams  
Organization: Ahahui Malama i ka Lokahi  
Address: 146 Hekili St., Suite 204A Kailua, HI 96734  
Phone:  
E-mail: [williamsw011@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:williamsw011@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/7/2011

**Comments:**

As a 13-year volunteer at Kawainui Marsh, with lots of experience in working with DLNR personnel, as well as 5 years of Sierra Club/HSTP work, I wish to support the appointment of William Aila to be the Chairperson of DLNR. Mahalo

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [cloudia.charters@gmail.com](mailto:cloudia.charters@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 8:20:13 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Rev. Cloudia Charters  
Organization: SAFE Hawaii  
Address: 1741 ALA-MOANA BLVD Honolulu  
Phone: 8089462668  
E-mail: [cloudia.charters@gmail.com](mailto:cloudia.charters@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

**Comments:**

Our family has lived in the Ala Wai Harbor for 19 years and WE SUPPORT WILLIAM AILA as a much needed resource to the boating community and to the Aina of Hawaii. He was an inspired choice and we are all excited about working with this visionary, humble leader. IMUA!

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jdefeo@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jdefeo@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 10:35:18 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Jack De Feo  
Organization: Na Hoa Loa  
Address: 84-740 Kili Dr. #1321 Hawaii  
Phone: (808) 723-9002  
E-mail: [jdefeo@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jdefeo@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

**Comments:**

There is no one else who will do a better job than the honorable William Aila for DLNR. He brings with him among his many other gifts the wisdom required for the position and a genuine sense of what Living ALOHA really means.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dexter@magicislandpro.com](mailto:dexter@magicislandpro.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 08, 2011 12:52:46 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Dexter Gomes  
Organization: Magic Island Productions  
Address: 2239 Waikolu Way #201 Honolulu, Hi 96815  
Phone: 808-923-5959  
E-mail: [dexter@magicislandpro.com](mailto:dexter@magicislandpro.com)  
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

**Comments:**

Our production company has benefitted from the guidance of Mr.Aila. His passion and knowledge of our natural resources are second to none. He is also one of the hardest working people I ever met. Finally, someone who cares!!!

**From:** [Bixby Ho](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony before the Water, Land, and Housing Committee In Support of Governor's Message 517 to be heard on Saturday February 12, 2011 at 1:15 p.m.  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 10:13:30 PM

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Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice Chairwoman Solomon, Members of the Water, Land, and Housing Committee,

Aloha, my name is Bixby Ho. I am a private citizen who offers his testimony in full support of Governor's Message 517 (five one seven), the confirmation of William Aila, Jr. as the next Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Mr. Aila has shown countless advocacy and support for the aina he so loves. He has the experience we need now for the post of Director of the DLNR by serving as Harbormaster of the Waianae Boat Harbor and not only to mention that Mr. Aila's nomination shows that this Governor, Governor Abercrombie is committed to his promise of diversity bringing us together and not dividing this state.

Again, this testimony is in full support of Governor's Message 517 (five one seven).

Mahalo for your time.

Aloha,

Bixby Ho



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jadamsesq@aol.com](mailto:jadamsesq@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 10:23:32 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Jo-Ann M. Adams, Esq.  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [jadamsesq@aol.com](mailto:jadamsesq@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

I met William Aila, Jr. when he was a candidate for Governor in 2006.

I find him to be a kind, intelligent, thoughtful and decent man.

Why are those personal characteristics important in this appointment? Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono: the life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.

The person who chairs the Board of Land and Natural Resources should have "righteousness" - a reverence for the 'aina. His role is not just to guide development, but to assure that the 'aina is respected in the process.

Having served as the Harbor Master at Waianae Boat Harbor, William Aila is a person with "hands-on" experience who will get things done -- like so many of Governor Abercrombie's appointments.

As a member of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board, I am deeply concerned about any proposed changes to the Ala Wai Harbor. I believe William Aila, Jr., will make compassionate and appropriate decisions about revitalizing the Ala Wai Boat Harbor. I believe that his decisions will balance the needs of the residents with the needs of business.

I would love to have more people like William Aila, Jr. in positions of power. He listens attentively; he speaks thoughtfully; he acts compassionately. He has the requisite "righteousness" to do this job.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [hoonanea@aol.com](mailto:hoonanea@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 10:34:12 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Regina Gregory  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [hoonanea@aol.com](mailto:hoonanea@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [haaheok@hawaii.edu](mailto:haaheok@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 11:27:20 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Haaheo Kahoohalahala  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [haaheok@hawaii.edu](mailto:haaheok@hawaii.edu)  
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

**Comments:**

I know Bill will provide a pivotal leadership role in the administration and management the Department of Land and Natural Resources moving forward. This department is in need of reorganization, good leadership from someone who truly knows and cares about the future of Hawaii's natural resources. His gubernatorial selection and appointment is timely, seasoned and crucial to the work and responsibility of the department. Please affirm his appointment.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jim@jttiming.com](mailto:jim@jttiming.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 5:09:01 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jim Lovell  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [jim@jttiming.com](mailto:jim@jttiming.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in support of the nomination of William Aila for the Chairmanship of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I believe that Mr. Aila is well qualified and suited to head up this department and would be a great asset to the people of Hawaii in this capacity. I urge you to support his confirmation.

Thanks you for your time!

Written Testimony of  
Amber Nāmaka Whitehead  
Pāpā, South Kona, Hawai'i Island

Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND and HOUSING

Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE 517  
WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR.

I **support** the confirmation of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. He has the experience, skills, integrity, and proven dedication to the resource to be an effective director of this challenging department.

As a botanist, a natural resources manager, and a Hawaiian cultural practitioner, I am pleased to offer my support for Mr. Aila's confirmation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**From:** Jennifer  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** Measure (GMS17), Date (2/12/11) and Time (1:15 PM)  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 7:40:50 AM

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Support for appointment of William Aila:

I wish it to be known that I thoroughly and completely support Mr. William Aila for this position, based on my personal experiences with him, the experiences of people that know him better than I, and also on his long-time community involvement.

Jennifer Olson  
Ewa Beach

**From:** John Muir  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** E-mail testimony GM 517  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 7:43:51 AM

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COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING GM 517

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011

TIME: 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 225 State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

I recommend approval of William Aila as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have had a close working relationship with William for over five years and have found him to be the complete gentleman; thoughtful, hard working, organized and dedicated.

He is exceptionally well qualified for the position by education with his degree in agriculture from UH and his work as a board member with local farms. He is highly respected in his experience after years with the harbors of Hawaii and his selection to work with both NOAA and the UN on marine sanctuaries world wide. He is without equal in his understanding and appreciation of the unique cultural challenges facing the State with his work on several Hawaiian groups.

William has often been described in the media as a "Hawaiian Activist." Frankly I take exception with negative connotation that often accompanies that characterization. William values what the past can teach us. He has a deep love and appreciation for what his Hawaiian ancestors accomplished. He shares that love of the Hawaiian culture with the youth along the Waianae coast and works hard to preserve many of the old traditions and practices.

I worked with him on both a volunteer committee and on a public works project. In both cases he was well prepared. On the volunteer committee, William had thought out his position and expressed his ideas in a logical presentation but he wasn't interested in selling his ideas. He sought out the opinions of every member of the committee, listening and asking questions. It was obvious to me he was more interested in getting it right than getting his way. On the public works project he showed up early, took the lead and worked hard until the job was done. It was a classic study in how a volunteer project should be run.

Of course confirmation of this appointment would be a great career opportunity for William but it is a wonderful chance for the State to gain from the talents, experience and skill-set of this truly gifted and highly qualified leader.

I am currently traveling on the mainland. Should you have any questions, feel free to call 808-227-4874

John J. Muir, Col(ret) USAF

**From:** [Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz](#)  
**To:** [Dane Wicker](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: William Aila Jr's confirmation hearing on 2/12/2011  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 1:27:08 AM

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Sent from myTouch 4G

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Jack Schweigert" <jackschweigert@hotmail.com>  
To: "Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz" <sendelacruz@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
Subject: William Aila Jr's confirmation hearing on 2/12/2011  
Date: Thu, Feb 10, 2011 3:09 pm

Dear Senator Dela Cruz,

Please sign me up to speak in favor of William Aila Jr.'s confirmation hearing  
Saturday 2/12/2011 at 1:15pm in the conference room #225 at the State Capitol.

Aloha ,

Jack Schweigert



February 10, 2011

Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz  
Chair – Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee  
Hawaii State Legislature

Dear Senator Dela Cruz:

I support the appointment of William J. Aila, Jr., as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources because he has the experience and skills and proven dedication to the resource which makes him a capable and effective leader for this challenging department. I have known him for the last 15 years and respect him very much. In the short time that he has been the interim Chairperson, there has been a sense of renewal and hope within the department despite the austere fiscal climate that we are experiencing.

I know that he will serve the department with integrity and will provide much-needed leadership in a style that brings people together to solve the challenges faced by DLNR in protecting and managing our precious island resources. William is honest, fair, respectful, intelligent and very hard working and these characteristics will serve him well as he leads the department that he loves and has worked for over two decades.

Besides working for DLNR, William has worked on his own time to protect native Hawaiian plants and animals in the Wai'anae mountains and along the Wai'anae coast. He brings a cultural sensitivity to his new position that will serve DLNR well in meeting its challenges and forging new partnerships within our island community and abroad to preserve our resources.

Your committee has the unique opportunity of approving for the first time an employee of the Department of Land and Natural Resources who is both experienced and knowledgeable of the programs within the department to head the department. He is well aware of the changes needed to have DLNR become the jewel of this Administration and I know he will work very hard to make this department the best that it can be. Therefore I respectfully request that you and the Senate Committee of Water, Land and Housing approve the nomination of William J. Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I also request that you recommend that he be confirmed by the full Senate as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this request.

Mahalo and aloha,

*Susan N. Richey*  
Susan N. Richey

TESTIMONY OF EDWARD AND MAHEALANI WENDT  
IN SUPPORT OF G.M. 517

APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM AILA  
AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES  
February 12, 2010

We support the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources because he has the experience, skills, and proven dedication to the resource to be an effective director of this challenging department. We are confident he will serve with integrity, provide much-needed leadership, and bring people together to solve the challenges we face protecting our sacred sites, cultural practices, ocean, freshwater, ceded lands, forests, watersheds, harbors, recreation areas, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species.

We have known Mr. Aila for over 20 years working to protect native Hawaiian plants and animals in the Wai'anae mountains and along the Wai'anae coast. He is honest, fair, respectful, intelligent, and hard-working. Over many years and by many actions, Mr. Aila has demonstrated his commitment to protecting our land and resources. He has worked with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials.

Mr. Aila's personal and professional background will serve him well as Director of the DLNR. As harbormaster for Wai'anae and working at other state harbors as well, Mr. Aila is already familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise between ocean users.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.

We are impressed with Mr. Aila's courage in standing firm for principle, yet being fair and keeping an open mind in the best interest of community. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of Mr. Aila's nomination.

Edward and Mahealani Wendt  
185 Wailua Road  
Haiku, Hawai'i 96708  
808-248-7730  
ed.wendt@hawaiiantel.net

TESTIMONY OF DENNIS YAMAGUCHI  
IN SUPPORT OF GM 517  
TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA JR  
AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2011  
HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Committee Members,

My name is Dennis Yamaguchi and I am writing in strong support for the confirmation of William J Aila Jr for Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known William Aila for over twenty years as the Harbor Master of the Waianae Small Boat Harbor. During his tenure, it was one of the cleanest, safest, most efficiently run harbor on Oahu.

Mr Aila is also very knowledgeable about Hawaii's varied and often complex land and ocean resource problems. He is fair, open minded, tough when need be, and uses a common sense approach to resolve issues.

While sometimes serving as an advocate for fishermen, William Aila also has ties to conservation groups and shares their views. His balanced perspective will be very helpful and important when heading a department responsible for future of Hawaii's precious natural resources.

Please support the confirmation of William J Aila Jr. as Chair of the DLNR.

Thank you,

Dennis Yamaguchi  
1024 Noelani St  
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

Keola Lindsey  
335 Kaimake Loop  
Kailua, HI 96734  
[keolalindsey@live.com](mailto:keolalindsey@live.com)

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

**CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF WILLIAM AILA, JR.  
TO CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

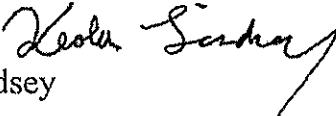
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
February 12, 2011                      1:15 pm                      Room 225

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

I write to you today to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** for the consideration and confirmation of William Aila, Jr. to Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

In the years I have known Mr. Aila, I truly believe that he has proven himself time and time again to be a leader- a person who does not care who gets the credit as long as the job gets done. I can recall certain emotional and potentially contentious situations where Mr. Aila would quietly and confidently move front and center to share his thoughts on the situation and encourage others to do the same, regardless of whether they were in agreement or not. It is this type of leadership that gives direction in a situation towards identifying reasonable solutions.

Mr. Aila's many years and countless hours of dedicated service to the community speak for themselves. He leads by example and is the type of person who can listen to all thoughts and perspectives related to a given situation and then carefully assess and comprehensively review the situation to make a decision. This is the type of person I believe should lead the Board and Department of Land and Natural Resources in the years to come. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,   
Keola Lindsey

Testimony in Support Of Nomination of William Aila, Jr.

Aloha Members of the Committee:

I support the nomination William Aila, Jr. to the position of the Chairperson of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

I have produced Mr. Aila's weekly Olelo program for several years and have come to know his dedication to the environment. He has encouraged natural resources to be sustained and improved for future generations. His amazing resume reflects his untiring effort to improve Hawaii and its inhabitants through his participation in environmental, cultural, and civil organizations.

He comes to this position with excellent communication and organization skills. He has the gift of encouraging people to do their utmost at whatever task presented to get the best results.

Respectfully yours,

Donald W. Hutton, P.E.

**From:** Polly Grace  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** William J.Aila Jr. / Chairperson OF DLNR  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 2:50:20 PM

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**DATE:** Saturday, February 12,2011  
**TIME:** 1:15 pm  
**PLACE:** Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

#### AGENDA

GM Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the chairperson of the  
WLH  
Testimony Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee  
WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31,  
Status 2014. .

I Polly "Granny" Grace, a 50 years resident of the beautiful Leeward Coast. . Yes  
I, full heartly support WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for the position of chairperson  
of DLNR. .

He has the qualifications, experience, understanding and especially the heart to  
fullfill that special position. .

Yes Ive seen him in action, working hard and sharing himself taking care of family  
and community.. He had great na Kupuna that molded, instilled and guided his  
directions. .

Yes he listen. . Yes now he is ready to share and give back. . .

Now I ask for your support and helping hand for WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR ., to  
be CHAIRPERSON OF DLNR. . So he can share his experiences with all our  
experiences, and incorporate with all of your experiences, to perpetuate ALOHA to  
better our lives in HAWAII. .. A HUI HOU. .

**ALOHA KE AKUA AME**

**MALAMA PONO** 

Polly "Granny" Grace  
Phone: (808) 478-8521  
Address: PO Box 299 Waianae, HI 96792

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TV dinner still cooling?  
Check out "Tonight's Picks" on Yahoo! TV.

*Jeffrey S. Walters, Ph.D.  
47-724 Hui Kelu St., #3  
Kaneohe, HI 96744*

**GM 517**

Confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee,  
**WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR.**, for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

**COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair and Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 225

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION OF WILLIAM AILA**

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and Members of the Committee:

This is to express my strong and unqualified support for William Ailā to serve as the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Drawing on my experience working directly with Mr. Ailā on several natural resources management issues and my experience working for 10 years as a State of Hawai'i, DLNR employee, I am very confident that Mr. Ailā will perform exceptionally well as the BLNR Chair and Director of DLNR.

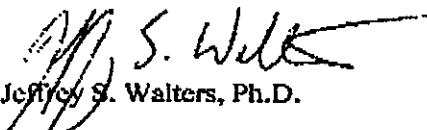
Mr. Ailā has the practical experience solving complex problems and the vision to guide the overall management and stewardship of Hawai'i's land and natural resources. I directly observed Mr. Ailā bring diverse stakeholders together to solve complex problems. For example, Mr. Ailā solved a major conflict between local akule fishers and ocean eco-tour operators along the Waianae coast. With Mr. Ailā's leadership, a resource use conflict that had escalated to near violence was resolved to the maximum satisfaction for all involved. Mr. Ailā used his calm and firm leadership skills to bring the parties together, help them understand their respective concerns and needs, and arrive at an agreement that was acceptable for all concerned.

Based on my 20 years of experience working for various government natural resources management agencies, including 10 years at DLNR, I can tell you unequivocally that William Ailā has all the qualities necessary to be an effective leader of a large and diverse organization like DLNR. At this point in the history of our State's land and natural resources, more than ever, we need Mr. Ailā's vision, wisdom, leadership, and problem solving skills.

In closing, I can testify that William Ailā has the rare and invaluable gift of bringing out all of our "better angels." He will undoubtedly serve as an inspirational leader for the 700+ DLNR staff, as well as serve as a fair and wise public servant overseeing the use and conservation of our precious land and natural resources.

Thank you for considering this testimony in support of Mr. Ailā. I can be reached at the contact information above should any additional information be desired.

Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey S. Walters, Ph.D.

Please note: Although I am currently an employee of NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, I am providing my testimony solely as private citizen and 21-year resident of the State of Hawai'i.

**Testimony** in support of **GM-517**, consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014. **Submitted to** COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING; Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

I have known William Aila on an increasingly personal basis for over 20 years and can wholeheartedly testify to his honesty, fairness, and gentle humility. I must confess that our years together have resulted in a treasured friendship between two very different people. We have spent many hours and often many days together involved in harbor business transactions; artificial reef projects; recreational SCUBA diving; and social gatherings. We have had many extended discussions of social, economic, and political topics. I would often take a position opposite of that which I assumed William supported. His position was always stated plainly, gently, and consistently. While he would acknowledge the positive points of opposing views and fine tune his knowledge, he consistently remained true to his basic beliefs. He was always a great listener. One had the feeling that William had drawn out of you all that you had to contribute on the subject being discussed.

William Aila is a gentle giant. I have seen the firmness of his harbor administration, the immediacy of his reaction to water emergencies, the tenderness of his reaction to a friend's misfortunes, the joy of his enjoyment of the aquatic environment, and the consistency of his dedication to the protection of our beautiful state.

Lucius M. (Luke) Spence, Jr.  
98-1376 D Nola, Street  
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782-3126  
(808) 285-8600



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [lesveehoy@yahoo.com](mailto:lesveehoy@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB23 on 2/12/2011 10:00:00 AM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 10:14:52 AM

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Testimony for WLH/HWN 2/12/2011 10:00:00 AM SB23

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Leslie Yee Hoy  
Organization: Individual  
Address: Kailua, Hawaii  
Phone:  
E-mail: [lesyeehoy@yahoo.com](mailto:lesyeehoy@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:  
Aloha Chairs Galuteria, Dela Cruz and committee members:  
Please support this process.  
Mahalo piha  
Les Yee Hoy  
Taro farmer

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [hokulani@kauahea.org](mailto:hokulani@kauahea.org)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 10:20:04 AM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Hokulani Holt-Padilla  
Organization: Kauahea Inc.  
Address: 659 Pohala St. Wailuku, HI  
Phone: 808-243-4269  
E-mail: [hokulani@kauahea.org](mailto:hokulani@kauahea.org)  
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

**Comments:**

I have known William Aila for at least 8 years and have known him to be extremely concerned with natural resource and cultural protection. I support his appointment as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The Law Office of  
**JACK SCHWEIGERT**  
A Professional Law Corporation

550 Halekauwila Street, Room 309  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
jackschweigert@hotmail.com

Phone: (808) 533-7491  
Fax: (808) 533-7490  
www.JackSchweigert.com

To: Senator Donovan Dela-Cruz  
from: Jack Schweigert

2/11/11  
@855 AM

Re: William Aila, Jr. Confirmation

DEAR Senator Dela-Cruz:

I totally support the confirmation of William Aila, Jr. for Chairman / Director of DLNR. During the 1990's thru about 2005 there were many legal battles with DOBOR (a division of DLNR) and through it all, everyone I represented or knew because of that representation found Mr. Aila to be compassionate and fair. Therefore in my mind he's met the test of time and worthy of the job.

ALM

February 10, 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

GM 517

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol

Aloha Honorable Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Solomon,

My name is Sol Kaho'ohalahala and I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation of William Aila, Jr., to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have had the privilege of serving and working with William on the Papahānaumokuākea Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group for the past several years. His leadership style is decisive and respectful no matter what the issues. His wise counsel is a direct result of his seasoned involvement and commitment to serve the broader community of issues and concerns throughout Hawai'i nei. I believe his appointment is timely, appropriate and necessary for the department. His deep rooted perspectives will provide the needed attention to the broad scope of responsibilities that our land and natural resources require.

I ask for your favorable support and consideration in confirming William Johnson Aila, Jr. as our next Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

O wau no me ka ha'a ha'a,

Sol P. Kaho'ohalahala  
POB 630044  
Lana'i City, HI 96763  
pili\_sol@yahoo.com

Testimony  
In Support of GM 517, Confirmation of William Johnson Aila, Jr  
As Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
February 12, 2011, 1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Room 225

Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Solomon

My name is Michael Hamnett. I am Executive Director of the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii and a Researcher in the Social Science Research Institute of the University of Hawaii. However, I am testifying as an individual and not in any official capacity.

I am writing in support of William Aila's appointment as the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known William since 1990 when he participated in the development of the first Ocean Resources Management Plan for which I served on the planning team. I also worked with William in development of the draft Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan for the Hawaii Humpback Whale Sanctuary established in 1994. We have participated in numerous environmental and resource management activities since that time.

William Aila has an outstanding career of public service and resource and environmental management. He has served on several important boards and commission including Hawai'i Community Development Authority, Wai'anae Coast Weed and Seed Steering Committee, Makaha Elementary School Community Management Board, Wai'anae Coast Neighborhood Board, Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center Board, and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Council.

William has also worked closely a broad range of stakeholders including fishermen, farmers, recreational and commercial boaters, environmental organizations, the Hawaiian community, educators, social service and health care professionals, and neighborhood board members. He is widely respected for the depth and breadth of his knowledge and understanding of land, water, and natural resource issues. He is also known as a very thoughtful and considerate person and an excellent manager and a strong leader.

As Principal Investigator of the Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative Research Program for the past 13 years, I have had a very close working relationship with staff in the Division of Aquatic Resources. That Division has had a very tumultuous couple of years and desperately needs the kind of leadership that William Aila can provide as head of DLNR. He understands the importance of science and stakeholder involvement in resource management and the need for careful but decisive decision making in regulation and enforcement. He also understands that new sources of revenue will be required for DLNR to meet its constitutional responsibilities as the steward of Hawaii's natural resources.

In sum, I strongly recommend confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. And, Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

**From:** [Clara](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517 Testimony for William Aila Jr Hearing Saturday February 12, 2011 Time 1:15 PM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 9:08:03 AM

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COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING (Senator Donovan Dela Cruz Ch) (Senator Malama Solomon, V Ch)

My name is Clarentia Batongbacal, a resident of Waianae for over 20 years. I have been blessed to have known William Johnson Aila (Jr), who I believe will be an excellent choice for the office of DIRECTOR OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCE.

He is a visionary capable of looking into the future and making the necessary changes now that will not only improve the present situation but also problematic situations in the future. He is a man of great integrity, a righteous individual who will not deter from the law of the land and will uphold the statute of Hawaii Law to the best of his abilities.

William Aila is articulate, he possess powerful communication skills and is an effective organizer. He is able to clearly define his many ideas to others and is able to organize others as to how they will participate. He speaks softly with warmth and much aloha.

His past and present experiences and education proves him to be a very capable and responsible person, who will definitely be an invaluable asset to this position. He has throughout his life taken responsibilities and assignments and have proven over and over again to be capable and responsible. He is a leader who has helped many organizations with his abilities. He has excelled many challenges and have proven himself to be a winner. I believe that this position will be his biggest challenge and I have no doubt that he will find ways to resolve and improve situations that will help this department.

I recommend William Johnson Aila (JR) to the office of DIRECTOR OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES and hope that you will thoughtfully consider and confirm him to this office of great responsibility.

Mahalo,  
Clarentia Batongbacal

## Dot Fujinaga

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**From:** Lisa Cates [lisacates@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 9:14 AM  
**To:** Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz  
**Subject:** William Aila Jr.

To the Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz,

William Aila Jr. has been a friend of our ohana for about 10 years now. My personal knowledge of William make me certain that he will be a great fit as the new Director of the Department of Land & Natural Resources because of his strong sense of responsibility to our great State, and his ability to make the right choices, even if they are the most difficult ones.

William is a natural leader with a welcoming, composed demeanor combined with determination and good work ethic. In addition to innovative thinking and fresh ideas, I believe that William will make the best decisions for the State of Hawaii and our natural and cultural resources because he has a deep understanding and connection to our islands. During the short time has has served as the Interim Chairperson, his accomplishment of successfully negotiating an appropriate settlement with the Navy on behalf of the State of Hawaii speaks volumes of his qualifications for this position. William is a man of integrity, common sense and practicality, and I think his respect and aloha for Hawaii make him an outstanding choice for the Director's position and a great asset to the new Administration.

Mahalo for allowing me to share my thoughts,

Lisa Lonokapu Cates  
Kailua, Hawaii

Testimony of Kehaulani Lum **in support of GM 517**: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Hearing date: Saturday, February 12, 2011

Time: 1:15 pm in Room 225

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Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and members of the Committee on Water, Land and Housing.

I am writing in strong support of GM 517, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Mr. Aila is an honorable and fine nominee, and I support his appointment as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, because I believe that he has the aloha, experience, skills, and proven dedication to the resource to be an effective director of this challenging department. I am confident that he will serve with fairness, integrity, wisdom, respect, and a commitment to collaboration to solve the myriad challenges we face in protecting our sacred sites, cultural practices, ocean, freshwater, ceded lands, forests, watersheds, harbors, recreation areas, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species

Mr. Aila's track record of working with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials is commendable and sorely-needed in these difficult economic times.


His work over the past decade and a half to protect native Hawaiian plants and animals in the Wai'anae Mountains and along the Wai'anae coast is noteworthy and ahead-of-its time.

Furthermore, Mr. Aila's personal and professional background prepares him to "hit the ground running" as Director of the DLNR. As harbormaster for Wai'anae and other state harbors, Mr. Aila is intimately familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise between ocean users.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered



To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Water, Land and Housing

From:   
Momi Kamahahele, Assistant Professor Hawaiian History and Hawaiian Studies  
Leeward Community College,  
Kumu Hula

Subj: Consideration of William Johnson Aila, Jr. for Chairperson  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

Date: February 11, 2011

Hearing: Measure: GM 517  
Date: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Time: 1:15 Conference Room 225

Dear Committee Members,

This testimony strongly supports William Johnson Aila, Jr. to be the head of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the following reasons.

I have known Mr. Aila for over ten years and he has been instrumental in improving the quality of life for our community in general and our Native Hawaiian community in particular. I have had the opportunity to work closely with Mr. Aila on several projects. As a board member of Ka Papa O Kakuhihewa—an organization formed to fund educational projects relating to resource conservation in the area from Kapolei to Ka'ena—I have witnessed his considerate and attentive leadership as we collectively discussed awarding funding to worthy organizations whose mission aligned with Ka Papa O Kakuhihewa. Currently, I also work with Mr. Aila on Hawaiian cultural protocol for the annual Makahiki Celebration in Mākua since 2001. We are part of a community group called Hui Mālama O Mākua comprised of Native Hawaiian practitioners and supporters. And, lastly, we have worked together to provide testimony and guidance in support of our community on issues of environmental, cultural and ideological concerns.

He is tireless. He is thoughtful, caring and genuine when he speaks to "kings" or "paupers", to those in agreement and to those who disagree as well as to the seeming intractable soul who just can't be moved. Yet, his willingness to take the time, to convince, to talk, to mull-it-over and then make a decision is the mark of a leader.

I believe he will do honor to this position as head of DLNR and most importantly actually be a leader with vision and the will to implementation.

In closing, from my perspective, the DLNR is actually the body that protects the 'Āina, "that which feeds" our bodies, minds and spirit, and all that spring from "Her"—the natural resources we rely on for our well-being. "She" requires a "konohiki" who will lead us and steward 'Āina to benefit all who make Hawai'i their home. William Johnson Aila, Jr. is the perfect person for this monumental task and he will wear the mantle of leadership with dignity, integrity and honor.

Again, I strongly support and highly recommend William Johnson Aila, Jr. for the position of Chairperson for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you.

**From:** [Michael Kelly](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I vote for William Alla to be head of DLNR  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 8:46:52 AM

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**Testimony in Support of the Confirmation of William Johnson Aila, Jr.  
as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources**

Hearing Scheduled for Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Conference Room 225, Hawai'i State Capitol

To: The Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

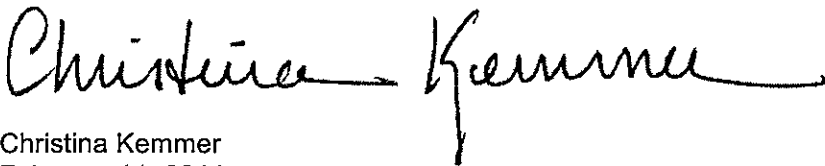
Aloha, my name is Christina Kemmer and I am submitting testimony in support of the nomination of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

In my work over three decades in community building in both the public and private sectors statewide, including eight years in an appointment as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for the State of Hawai'i, I have worked with William Aila, Jr. on issues tied to Na Iwi Kupuna, cultural access, cultural monitors, environmental stewardship, the use of Army training lands, in particular Makua Valley, and implementing community building through community "talk story" and fora on points of view.

We have not always been on the same side of the issues as we searched for solutions, but we have always been respectful and considerate of each other's point of view. What mattered most was arriving at a solution that was just, fair and appropriate for all sides. William was always firm, logical, honest and transparent in his position and point of view. He researched, reflected and prepared for every decision or position. He also exhibited the tenacity and drive to see a position through to a successful outcome. William has always been a natural leader, mentor and spokesperson, never afraid of his responsibilities and commitments. Always integrating stewardship into his commitment to family, community, his caring for the land and sea, and for his culture.

It is the mission of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to "*Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawai'i's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of visitors and the people of Hawai'i nei in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.*" There is no one more capable in spirit, passion, culturally and in personality to take the history, culture and values of our heritage and take us through the changes needed to ensure our unique physical and cultural resources are protected and used wisely for current and future generations.

Members of the committee, I ask that you confirm William Johnson Aila, Jr. as our next Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I thank you for your consideration.



Christina Kemmer  
February 11, 2011

**TESTIMONY** in support of **GM517**, consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the BLNR gubernatorial nominee WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014. **Submitted to** COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING; Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair.

I have known Mr. Aila as both a cultural practitioner and an administrator for the last 10 years. We have served on the cultural advisory board for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Monument together. I had the good fortune to participate with Mr. Aila on the UNESCO workshop that helped to solidify the designation of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands as a National Marine Monument. His strong concise voice of reason and articulation of thoughts were some of the qualities admirable of Mr. Aila during some of the heated debates.

As a cultural practitioner, Mr. Aila has been a great supporter and facilitator of pertinent protocols and community involvement with the Hui Malama o Makua raising environmental awareness regarding the degradation of sacred sites and land in the Makua Valley . I have also known Mr. Aila as the president of the Hui Malama I Na Kupuna O Hawai'i Nei. Mr. Aila has always been able to navigate his way through challenging and emotionally heated debates regarding the iwi kupuna. Mr. Aila has a keen ability to listen intently to opposing views and address the concerns in a manner which satisfies all interested parties.

I believe Mr. Aila to be the best person qualified for this position and also know that Mr. Aila would be an incredible asset to the State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui,

Ann Kaleilokelani Nu'uhiwa  
RR1 Kahakuloa Valley Road  
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793  
(808)268-0600

GM517 - Testimony in support of confirmation

In consideration of GM 517

Senate Committee of Water, Land and Housing

Saturday February 12, 2011

1:15 pm - Senate conference room #225

Consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Testimony **in support** of the nominee: William Aila

I am submitting testimony in support of the nomination of William Aila for the Chairmanship of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I believe that Mr. Aila is well qualified and suited to head up this department and would be a great asset to the people of Hawaii in this capacity.

After many years as the harbormaster at Waianae, I feel that he has a solid reputation with various types of fisherman & other stakeholders. This is critical in developing sound fishery management. For the longest time there has been a communication breakdown between stakeholders and management and everyone suffers because of it. Here we have an opportunity to bridge that gap.

I urge you to support his confirmation.

Mahalo,

Eric Koch 2/8/2011

Commercial Fishermen

Kona, Hawaii

**From:** [Janice Palma-Glennie](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support Wm Aila for Director of DLNR  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 9:42:46 AM

---

Aloha,

I am writing in support of extending current interim DLNR Director William Aila's appointment to that post.  
Please vote in favor of this extension.

Mahalo and sincerely,  
Janice palma-glennie  
PO Box 4849  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745

## **WHY I SUPPORT MR. AILA AS DIRECTOR OF THE DLNR:**

- I support the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources because he has the experience, skills, and proven dedication to the resource to be an effective director of this challenging department. I am confident he will serve with integrity, provide much-needed leadership, and bring people together to solve the challenges we face protecting our sacred sites, cultural practices, ocean, freshwater, ceded lands, forests, watersheds, harbors, recreation areas, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species.
- I know that Mr. Aila has worked to protect native Hawaiian plants and animals in the Wai'anae mountains and along the Wai'anae coast. He is honest, fair, respectful, intelligent, and hard-working.
- Over many years and by many actions, Mr. Aila has demonstrated his commitment to protecting our land and resources. He has worked with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials.
- Mr. Aila's personal and professional background will serve him well as Director of the DLNR. As harbormaster for Wai'anae and working at other state harbors as well, Mr. Aila is already familiar with our state harbors, boating, ocean laws and regulations, protecting ocean resources, and addressing conflicts that sometimes arise between ocean users.
- As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner, fisher, hunter, and gatherer, Mr. Aila will also bring an important perspective to the director's office. He has worked on protecting Native Hawaiian burials, iwi, and traditions, protecting water quality and marine resources that feed people and sustain businesses, and preserving sacred and other important cultural sites. For example, he worked with state and federal agencies, and the public to formulate policies to accommodate traditional and customary practices for the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. He also worked to protect essential watersheds, native ecosystems, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species, including the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, Laysan albatross, and wedge-tailed shearwaters in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve.
- Mr. Aila has been honored with this most prestigious appointment, while being given the tremendous responsibility of leading the DLNR in difficult times. I look forward to working with him and the department. Please support GM 517 and Mr. Aila. Mahalo nui loa.

Jarrett Keohokalole

45-447 Kaneohe Bay Dr. Kaneohe, HI 96744



Good afternoon Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and members of the committee,

My name is David Lane Henkin, and I am testifying in my individual capacity. I appreciate the opportunity to offer this testimony in strong support of the appointment of William Johnson Aila, Jr., as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Aila for over a decade on a variety of efforts to protect Hawai'i's fragile native ecosystems and to perpetuate its host culture. Mr. Aila has consistently demonstrated his commitment to promoting the public interest and has worked tirelessly to secure a better future for the people of our state.

Mr. Aila brings together a rare combination of idealism and pragmatism. He understands that, to achieve positive change, one must find workable solutions that are acceptable to a wide spectrum of stakeholders.

DLNR faces enormous - one might say near impossible - challenges to manage, protect and preserve Hawai'i's precious biological and cultural treasures on a very modest budget. Mr. Aila is hard working, fair, intelligent, and principled, and approaches each challenge with the spirit of aloha.

In sum, I cannot think of a better person to lead DLNR and urge the committee to support Mr. Aila's appointment. Mahalo again for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

**From:** [Les Parsons](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [cascadesunrise@hotmail.com](mailto:cascadesunrise@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** GM 517  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 10:43:16 AM

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**To:** Respected members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
**Subject:** GM 517 Gubernatorial Appointment Hearing Saturday Feb. 12 at 1:15PM Conference Rm. 225

**From:** Les Parsons, citizen

I strongly urge you to approve the appointment of Mr. William Aila to head our important Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Governor Abercrombie has chosen both thoughtfully and wisely in naming Mr. Aila to this demanding position. The nominee's varied and appropriate experience; his deep knowledge of pertinent issues of concern to all Hawaiian citizens; his committed, years-long activism; his well-known integrity and intellect will be a great asset to our people and the state.

As a boater I have had direct contact and conversations (though limited) with Mr. Aila - notably when we were both in legislative hearing rooms to give testimony regarding boating-related, or the so-called "Renaissance" measures.

Mr. Aila candidly speaks both his mind and his heart and I deem that to be a substantive measure of the man's integrity, and so he has my full support in urging his Senate confirmation.

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225, State Capitol

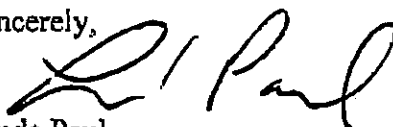
GM 517 Consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr.

My name is Linda Paul and I am testifying in favor of the confirmation of William Aila as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known and worked with William Aila for over fifteen years. The Department of Land and Natural Resources is tasked with many responsibilities and its Divisions sometimes have conflicting mandates. William has long experience both inside and outside government working with many people holding differing view points who may be tasked with fulfilling competing mandates and is able to tease out common areas of agreement that ultimately lead to mutually satisfactory resolutions of the problems at hand.

In 1998 we started working together on the Pacific Fisheries Coalition project, a unique collaboration of conservationists and fishermen who found common ground in their desire to promote the conservation and responsible use of living marine resources in Hawaii and the Central Pacific. William has been critical to the success of this project. Among other things, the Coalition sponsored five biannual Hawaii Aquatics Conference held on four islands which explored how aquatics resource management based on traditional Hawaiian management approaches can be meshed with western-style management methods to restore and sustainably manage Hawaii's aquatic resources.

William is a person I trust completely to get the job done. He has the experience, wisdom, intelligence, and patience this position needs and he would make an outstanding Chair of BLNR and Director of DLNR. I urge you to confirm him.

Sincerely,



Linda Paul  
Kailua  
262-6859

Maria Lucia L. Pascual  
91-1069 Hoomaliu St.  
Kapolei, HI 96707  
(808)230-0018

February 11, 2011

Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Senator Donovan M. de la Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
The Senate  
The Twenty Sixth Legislature

Regular Session of 2011  
Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Date: February 12, 2011**

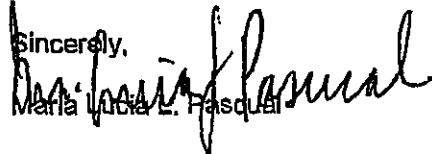
**Time: 1:15pm**

**Re: GM 517 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr. for a term to expire December 31, 2014**

My name is Lucy Pascual. I've known William Aila for over 15 years. I worked with him for 12 years with the Department of Land and Natural Resources Boating Division. I would say that he is a very hardworking staff, a staff full of brilliant ideas that can implement ideas through the collaborative/cooperative effort of the Division staff and other outside agencies involved. I remember working with him in our Boating Accounts Receivable System. Sometime in 1995-1996, Boating Division had no Accounting/Billing System in place. William Aila, representing the Harbor Management area, two staff from the Data Processing Division, our Fiscal Officer and yours truly worked on a quick and simple method using Lotus 123 and R & R database to come up with a semi-mechanized/computerized billing statement/ accounting system that would generate bills to over 1,200 boaters with regular mooring slips. We did this for about 2-3 years and within this period, we were already preparing for a new and a fully mechanized Accounts Receivable FoxPro System. William was very instrumental in the design, planning and implementation of the new System. He looked at all angles of the System, not just the harbor management side but he took into consideration the Accounting, Customer Service, Registration, maintenance, etc of the system. When there were issues that he though he could not agree with, he would handle them in a very tactful way and would always come up with solutions that eventually everyone can agree and be happy about. Outside of the working environment, I know William as a very active community leader and is always on the watch of the welfare of the community, in general.

With these said, I humbly recommend him to be considered and confirmed to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, for a term to expire Dec 2014.

Sincerely,

  
Maria Lucia L. Pascual

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

GM 517: Testimony in Support of Mr. William Johnson Aila Jr. as Director of DLNR

Aloha Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing, I am writing to express strong support of Mr. William Johnson Aila Jr. as Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). I know Mr. Aila through his work as a member of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council and I am writing today as a personal friend and supporter.

Mr. Aila is the right person to lead the DLNR. He is extremely well-rounded in his professional and personal experience as Wai‘anae Harbormaster and advocate for the proper management and preservation of natural and cultural resources including Papahānaumokuākea, Mākua, and Ka‘ena to name a few. Mr. Aila is a responsible fisherman, cultural practitioner, and inspiration to younger members of both the Native Hawaiian and conservation community. I am confident he will serve with integrity, provide much-needed leadership, and bring people together to solve the challenges we face protecting our sacred sites, cultural practices, ocean, freshwater, ceded lands, forests, watersheds, harbors, recreation areas, and habitat for unique Hawaiian species.

The DLNR is arguably the most complex department in Hawaii state government, housing numerous divisions that deal intimately with Hawaii’s precious and revered natural and cultural resources. Mr. Aila’s professional background will serve him well as Director of DLNR as his experience as a Wai‘anae Harbormaster (and work within other harbors across the state), has given him first-hand knowledge of user conflicts and conservation challenges within our oceans, coasts and forests. Mr. Aila’s background includes: Working to improve our harbors that have fallen into disrepair; managing conflicts between fisherman, recreational boaters, and commercial tour operators; serving as a guardian and advocate for continued public and cultural access to Mākua valley; and working to ensure that Wai‘anae boat harbor is a safe place for families, fishermen and other users to enjoy.

Mr. Aila is the right person to lead the much needed overhaul of the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD). As a member of Hui Mālama I Na Kūpuna O Hawai‘i Nei, he has extensive experience with the proper care and treatment of ‘iwi kūpuna (ancestral remains). In 2009 he led a trip to Sweden to recover ‘iwi kūpuna for repatriation to the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. Aila is well versed in repatriation protocols and proper handling and care of ‘iwi kūpuna, he fully understands the challenges faced by the SHPD and is prepared to bring the SHPD to full functionality.

Mr. Aila truly “walks the talk” and always honors the concept of mālama ‘aina in regard to natural and cultural resource conservation in Hawai‘i. He harvests from the land and the sea with respect; mindful of future generations. He always brings a cultural perspective to natural resource management. In the conservation community, the Native Hawaiian cultural “lense” is often lost when dealing with issues affecting our oceans and forests, but Mr. Aila always applies a cultural perspective to these issues and is always the first person to remind people that Hawaii’s natural resources *are* important cultural resources and should be treated with respect, care, and reverence.

11 February 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

In addition, his guidance and mana'o is always well thought out, straightforward, honest, clear and from the heart. With over 15 years experience working with hundreds of Native Hawaiian practitioners, community leaders, active citizens, landowners, businesses, citizen organizations, agency representatives, and elected officials, Mr. Aila truly possesses the leadership qualities the DLNR needs.

Mr. Aila has been honored with this most prestigious appointment, while being given the tremendous responsibility of leading the DLNR in difficult times. He is the best person for this position. Please support GM 517 and Mr. Aila.

Respectfully,



Hokuala Johnson  
247 Paiko Drive  
Honolulu HI 96821

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 225, State Capitol

GM 517 Consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr.

My name is Linda Paul and I am testifying in favor of the confirmation of William Aila as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known and worked with William Aila for over fifteen years. The Department of Land and Natural Resources is tasked with many responsibilities and its Divisions sometimes have conflicting mandates. William has long experience both inside and outside government working with many people holding differing view points who may be tasked with fulfilling competing mandates and is able to tease out common areas of agreement that ultimately lead to mutually satisfactory resolutions of the problems at hand.

In 1998 we started working together on the Pacific Fisheries Coalition project, a unique collaboration of conservationists and fishermen who found common ground in their desire to promote the conservation and responsible use of living marine resources in Hawaii and the Central Pacific. William has been critical to the success of this project. Among other things, the Coalition sponsored five biannual Hawaii Aquatics Conference held on four islands which explored how aquatics resource management based on traditional Hawaiian management approaches can be meshed with western-style management methods to restore and sustainably manage Hawaii's aquatic resources.

William is a person I trust completely to get the job done. He has the experience, wisdom, intelligence, and patience this position needs and he would make an outstanding Chair of BLNR and Director of DLNR. I urge you to confirm him.

Sincerely,

Linda Paul  
Kailua  
262-6859

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dkapua@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dkapua@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 1:25:40 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [dkapua@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dkapua@hawaii.rr.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

**Comments:**

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of GM-517 for William Johnson Aila, Jr., for Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha kakou,

Mahalo for this opportunity to rise in support of William Johnson Aila, Jr. as Chairperson of the BLNR. I have come to know William and have a great respect for him. He has demonstrated his love for the people, service to the community, honor for the land and commitment to the government. I am most confident that he will serve the people of Hawaii with integrity and perseverance.

I respectfully urge you to approve the nomination of William J. Aila, Jr. for Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Me ka ha'aha'a,  
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai



**From:** [Timothy E. Johns](mailto:Timothy E. Johns)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tim.johns@bishopmuseum.org](mailto:tim.johns@bishopmuseum.org)  
**Subject:** Testimony IN SUPPORT of the nomination of William Aila (GM 517)  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 1:42:19 PM

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**Timothy E. Johns**  
**5615 Poola Street**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96821**

February 11, 2011

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
Hawaii State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 225  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Testimony IN SUPPORT of the Nomination of WILLIAM  
JOHNSON AILA, JR., as the Chairperson, Department of Land  
and Natural Resources (GM 517)

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of the nomination of William Aila as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I first met Mr. Aila when I served as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources under the Cayetano Administration. Mr. Aila was then a Harbor Agent in the Department, and I worked closely with him on many departmental and legislative matters. After I left the department I continued to work with Mr. Aila during my eight years as a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. We also served together on the Advisory Council for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve for over ten years. Finally, I have worked with Mr. Aila on several issues in my current capacity as President and CEO of Bishop Museum. In short, I have had the opportunity to observe Mr. Aila in many settings over many years.

As you might imagine, Mr. Aila and I have not always agreed on all issues. Nonetheless, I have the deepest respect for Mr. Aila. I have found him to be a man of principles, wisdom and integrity.

Because of his strong commitment to advocating for various issues, some might question his objectivity. In my opinion, it would be absolutely incorrect to mistake his

passion for a lack of objectivity. Mr. Aila clearly understands and embraces the new role and responsibilities he has undertaken as the leader of one of the State's most important and challenging departments. And I have personally witnessed his calm demeanor, open-mindedness, and objectivity in many other settings. Because of his personal characteristics, his intimate knowledge of the Department and his unflagging commitment to improving our community, I believe Mr. Aila will make an excellent Chairperson.

Please support Mr. Aila's nomination as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Very truly yours,

Timothy E. Johns

Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Saturday, February 12, 1011 at 1:15 pm  
by  
Elmer Ka'ilikole Ka'ai

GM 507 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, William Johnson Aila, Jr., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and members of Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of William Aila as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I've known Mr. Aila since our today's as delegates on 'Aha 'Oiwī Hawai'i (Native Hawaiian Convention). Mr. Aila has always been a tremendous leader in our community. He is open and straight-forward individual.

One of the main reasons I support Mr. Aila is his approach to problems. If he sees a problem that need to be fixed, he will jump in and try to fix it. Recently, I've been fortunate to be on the receiving side of Mr. Aila's generosity. During our last election, I was criticized within my own political party for comments I made about then-candidate Neil Abercrombie. The comments was not a personal attack on the candidate; but, an observation from the constituents I represented, despite, the fact that I fully supported the candidate. These criticisms lead some to request for my resignation from the party. Mr. Aila also heard about these criticisms and knew of my frustration, called me immediately. Not to find out the problems; but to support my decision. As if it was yesterday, I still remember his words – "we all need to be oni pa'a." He went out of the way to fix it.

For this reason, I urge the committee's support for Mr. Aila confirmation as the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resource.

Heidi Kai Guth  
555 Hahaione Street, #14F  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
[heidikai@gmail.com](mailto:heidikai@gmail.com)

Legislative Testimony  
**GM 517 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE CHAIRPERSON  
OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILĀ, JR.,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2014**

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing  
February 12, 2011 1:15 pm Room: 225

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I enthusiastically SUPPORT the appointment of William J. Ailā, Jr., as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR).

Throughout his public and private life, Mr. Ailā has proven his commitment to Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources; his intent and ability to listen, learn and clearly communicate public trust beneficiary concerns and rights to and through his actions; his leadership talent; his honest outreach efforts; and his ability to make difficult decisions that carry the weight of balanced and thoughtful consideration.

I have worked with Mr. Ailā on a number of committees, on advisory and working groups, and in our respective professional and volunteer capacities for almost 10 years. Throughout this time, no matter the controversial nature of the situation or the depth of emotion that may lie below that situation, he has remained true to his ethics, his cultural and familial traditions, and his Native Hawaiian relationship to his homeland. His diplomatic and facilitation skills are much sought after, as is his ability to represent difficult issues in a respectful and thoughtful manner. He is a trustworthy man, who follows through on his promises, and who consistently does the right thing, at the right time, for the right reasons.

Hawai'i's natural, cultural and historic resources need a person of Mr. Ailā's character, incredible work ethic, and ability to be responsible for their perpetuation. All of his training, background and experience create an unparalleled résumé for the position of BLNR Chairperson. He has the ability to speak and act knowledgeably and honorably for the environment, indigenous culture and history of Hawai'i, and he provides the people of Hawai'i with confidence that the constitutionally intended mission of the BLNR and its statutory mandates will be upheld and not subjugated to political whims. Mr. Ailā has a deep understanding of his kuleana as a child of this land, for his kūpuna and his mo'opuna, and for the protections and respect that are owed to Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources, which can only help at a time when the state wrestles with budgetary concerns and unsustainable living conditions.

Mr. Ailā has practical and substantive expertise and experience in all of the elements of the BLNR's responsibilities, including such diverse issues as public lands, near shore and deep water fisheries, burials of iwi kūpuna, management and cultural respect for Papahānaumokuākea, ceded lands, archaeological preservation, permanent protection of significant cultural lands, cultural and subsistence gathering rights, and natural resources as cultural resources.

Because of all of the above, I support Mr. Ailā's appointment without reservation and urge the Committee to confirm his nomination. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Randy.K.Awo@Hawaii.gov](mailto:Randy.K.Awo@Hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 1:51:04 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Randy Awo  
Organization: DLNR/DOCARE  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [Randy.K.Awo@Hawaii.gov](mailto:Randy.K.Awo@Hawaii.gov)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

Comments:

**From:** [oceanwindows2@yahoo.com](mailto:oceanwindows2@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM517 - Testimony In support of confirmation  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 1:55:17 PM

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In consideration of GM 517

Senate Committee of Water, Land and Housing

Saturday February 12, 2011  
1:15 pm - Senate conference room #225

Consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Testimony in support of the nominee: William Aila

I am submitting testimony in support of the nomination of William Aila for the Chairmanship of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I believe that Mr. Aila is well qualified and suited to head up this department and would be a great asset to the people of Hawaii in this capacity. I urge you to support his confirmation.

Thank you you for your time!  
Luci Price

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TV dinner still cooling?  
Check out "Tonight's Picks" on Yahoo! TV.

Rachel Neville  
Honolulu, HI 96821  
rachel\_neville@yahoo.com

February 11, 2011

Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Hawai'i State Capitol

RE: Support for William J. Aila Jr. to be appointed to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I support the appointment of William J. Aila Jr. as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have seen him speak as part of the Ka'ena Point Action Group and admire his ability to explain complicated concepts ranging from ecology to Hawaiian belief systems in a way that everyone can easily understand. He has repeatedly demonstrated his commitment to Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage with his volunteer service and his passion for protecting what is unique and special about our state. DLNR and the resources it protects will benefit greatly from his leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Neville". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Rachel Neville

**From:** [Wally Akuna](#)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for William Johnson Aila Jr.  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 2:22:18 PM

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To whom this may concern,

Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Notice of Hearing

For William Johnson Aila Jr.  
Consideration and confirmation of the  
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

Date: Saturday, February 12, 2011  
Time: 1:15pm  
Place: Conference Room 225  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.

William J. Aila Jr. is well qualified, has the experience, and is well rooted in the Use and or Protection of our Land and Natural Resources. He will make a great Chairperson.

I graduated with William Aila in 1976 from Waianae High School. My family and I owned several businesses on the Waianae Coast (the Fogcutter Restaurant) and others. I have been in the Timeshare Sales business for over 30 years and currently in the Timeshare Resale business representing sellers from over 60 Timeshare Properties throughout the State of Hawaii since 2002. I trust that my entire business clientele, associates, family and friends will agree with the confirmation William J. Aila Jr. as the next Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Aloha,

Wally Akuna  
Real Estate Sales Agent  
Bay Realty Inc., DBA  
Timeshare Resales Hawaii  
3481 L. Honoapiilani Rd  
Lahaina, HI 96761  
877-388-2747 toll  
808-665-9000 direct  
[wakuna@TimeshareResalesHawaii.com](mailto:wakuna@TimeshareResalesHawaii.com)



**ROLAND D. SAGUM, III**  
**Post Office Box 958, Lawai, Kauai, Hawaii 96765 (808) 652-9811**

February 11, 2011

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz  
Chairman  
Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**SUBJECT: Letter of Support For William Aila**  
**Chairman, Department of Land & Natural Resources**

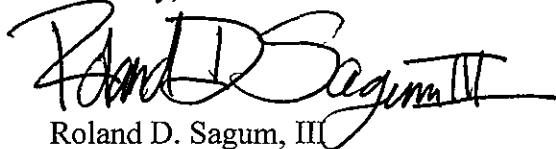
I am writing this "letter of Support" as endorsement for Mr. William Aila in his nomination as the Chairman, to the Department of Land and Natural Resources. As Kanaka, he understands the needs of the indigenous people, and understands how to care for our native environment. In addition, he has the skills and experience that is need to "heal" the Department. Mr. Aila understands the importance of finance, employee relations, and setting Department objectives. Additionally, he is well versed in business management and operations.

Personally, he possesses a strong desire to help people that are in need. Professionally, he has the knowledge and skills to manage and direct many people; he also possesses an innate business sense; and he has the passion to make any organization successful.

Mr. Aila is a highly respected leader in the Hawaiian community, is of the highest integrity, and he will be a positive addition to the Department of Land & Natural Resources, and the State of Hawaii. Imua!

I can be reached at (808) 652-9811 should you have any questions concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

  
Roland D. Sagum, III

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [buffaloaloha@yahoo.com](mailto:buffaloaloha@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for GM517 on 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 2:41:25 PM

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Testimony for WLH 2/12/2011 1:15:00 PM GM517

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: kevin killeen  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [buffaloaloha@yahoo.com](mailto:buffaloaloha@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/11/2011

**Comments:**

Aloha Chair and members of the committee, I have heard the term "fine Hawaiian" used as a joke by construction workers but no joke Mr. Aila is a fine Hawaiian. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony

Sterling Wong  
95-270 Waikalani Drive, Apt J202  
Mililani, HI 96789

GM 517  
Nomination of William Aila Jr as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing

February 12, 2010  
1:15 p.m.  
Room 225

Aloha mai kakou,

I submit this testimony in strong **SUPPORT** of the nomination of William Aila Jr for the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Uncle William has demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the many duties and responsibilities of the Board of Land and Natural Resources through his 24 years as a Department of Land and Natural Resources employee and his extensive community service, which includes serving as a volunteer on countless boards, commissions and advisory groups. Tireless, passionate and knowledgeable, few people are more qualified and deserving to lead the state agency responsible for managing and protecting Hawaii's precious natural and cultural resources.

Please confirm William Aila as Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Mahalo for this

**From:** Terry O'Halloran  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** William Aila 2/12 - SUPPORT  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 2:46:44 PM

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Senator Dela Cruz and fellow committee members:

I support the nomination of William Aila Jr. and strongly support his confirmation as Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known and worked with Mr. Aila for about 25 years on various issues regarding ocean conservation and ocean policy for Hawaii. My perspective comes from that of a business person in ocean commercial operations and from my long time participation in conservations efforts to protect Hawaii's marine resources. Throughout the years I have admired and respected Mr. Aila's ability to see both sides of an issue and listen to each party. He has demonstrated repeatedly his ability to bring conflicting groups together so that common ground could be found and reasonable solutions agreed upon.

DLNR is in need of his leadership at this critical time in our state's history. Much of our natural resources are threatened and many groups are deeply polarized about how to move forward. Mr. Aila will bring a common sense approach to the department and provide the leadership for staff that is badly needed. I firmly believe he has the willingness to see issues and potential solutions in a new light while not being afraid to do things differently. Maintaining the status quo has not solved the ever growing issues of how to balance conservation of our resources with increased use. Mr. Aila has the skills and leadership ability to help lead us toward common goals in which we share common values.

I urge you to confirm William Aila Jr. as Chair of DLNR and look forward to working with him.

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony.

Terry O'Halloran

## **TESTIMONY**

Committee of Water, Land and Housing  
Hearing for GM517  
Saturday, February 12, 2011  
1:15 PM  
Hawaii State Capitol Room 225

RE: GM 517

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee:

I write in support of William Aila's appointment by Governor Abercrombie as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

He is a compassionate man whose hands-on experience with boat harbors will enable him to make appropriate decisions about managing the Hawaii's Boat Harbors.

As a person of Hawaiian descent, he will bring an awareness to this Department that most appropriately applies to the cultural heritage of our Islands.

He also represents the under-represented West coast of Oahu in a very kind, intelligent, thoughtful way.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this testimony on his behalf as well as for the people of our islands.

Charles K. Torigoe

February 11, 2011

The Honorable «GreetingLine», Chair  
The Honorable Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture

RE: Confirmation for William Aila Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Gary Omori and I thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of the confirmation of the Gubernatorial Nominee Mr. William Johnson Aila Jr. to be Chairperson of the Board of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Mr. Aila of the span of approximately 20 years and was introduced to him by the late A. Frenchy DeSoto.

When people in the community hear his name they almost immediately associate him or describe him as an “activist.” I prefer to describe Mr. Aila as an advocate of the community. This casts Mr. Aila more accurately and takes the negativity of what he does as portrayed by our media.

He has over the years advocated for his community with his group, Friends of Makua. Mr. Aila demonstrated great deal of courage and commitment to protect the fauna and flora of Makua so future generations could enjoy the natural beauty of the area. Mr. Aila got the military to not use the Valley and to go elsewhere.

Mr. Aila is much more than an advocate and he is a person of unwavering principle and in my working with him on community issues he was fair and balanced in his actions. He does not over react and is an excellent strategist and can implement and handle complex tasks in an organized fashion.

One of Mr. Aila’s most sterling qualities is his caring for the people and he can relate to people from all walks of life. He does not make quick judgement and is highly perceptive and is greatly respected by people who have come to know him.

I am honored to write this letter of support for William Johnson Aila Jr. and ask that you favorably consider his nomination so we may all benefit from his efforts as Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for allowing me to present testimony in his behalf.

February 11, 2011

**The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair**  
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

**The Honorable Malama Solomon, Vice Chair**  
Committee on Water, Land and Housing

**Re: Support for GM 517: Appointment of William Aila, Jr. as DLNR Director**

Chairman and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of GM 517 and the appointment of William Aila, Jr. as the Department of Land and Natural Resources Director.

There is not a question in my mind... my na'au that William Aila, Jr. is the best candidate for the Directorship of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. His strong desire to serve the communities here in Hawaii is proven through his continued involvement and long-term support for numerous organizations and agencies. The extensive work he has contributed to addressing health, senior care, fisheries management and planning, ceded lands, watershed management, education, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (Papahānaumokuākea), etc. shows his dedication and commitment to the protection of the environment, the community, the culture, and the future of Hawaii.

Mr. Aila is an ideal match for the position. As a Native Hawaiian born and raised here in Hawaii, he is aware of the dynamics, issues, and opportunities specific to this place. Mr. Aila has the resources, background, and the know-how to get the job done in a manner that will satisfy the needs of these islands.

I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Aila for over a year now and during this short time, I have grown a tremendous amount of respect, admiration, and awe for him and all the work he has accomplished... and I've only scratched the surface. Every conversation I have with or about him continues to add to my high regard of Mr. Aila. His honesty, fairness, intelligence, respectfulness, humility, and strength have been a great example of how and what I hope to grow into. He is a great role model for the younger generation.

I was very fortunate to be a member of a recent expedition to Nihoa, Moku Manamana, and Moku Papapa with Mr. Aila. Although each member left an impression on me, the impression left by Mr. Aila impacted me in a truly profound way. The manner, trust, and confidence he exhibits inspires me to continue to make a difference, to continue to participate, to continue to contribute.

I am confident in Mr. Aila's ability to fulfill the position of director for DLNR. There are few who truly understand and are capable of enhancing, protecting, and managing "Hawai'i's



unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources ... for current and future generations ... of Hawaii nei.”

Please accept my testimony in support of GM 517 and the appointment of William Aila, Jr. as the Department of Land and Natural Resources Director.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Pelika Bertelmann

**From:** Tammy Harp  
**To:** WLH Testimony  
**Subject:** PLEASE DISREGARD PREVIOUS SUBMITTAL - FORMAT WAS INCORRECT. Please submit this testimony. Mahalo  
**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2011 3:23:48 PM  
**Importance:** High

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GM517 WLH Committee Room 225 2/12/2011 1:15 p.m. (HST)

Re: Support for GM 517; having William Johnson Aila, Jr., as the Chairperson of the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Aloha Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair, and Senate WLH Committee Members Carol Fukunaga, Pohai Ryan, Maile Shimabukuru, and Sam Slom.

I have known William J. Aila, Jr. (Wiliama) and his wonderful supportive wife Melva over a span of twenty-plus years. Wiliama hapai with him a wealth of knowledge, experience, kuleana, and support of his kupuna and constituents in regards to malama sane management of Hawaii's natural resources.

I have been fortunate to serve as Wiliama's native Hawaiian alternate on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council (NWHI CRE RAC), also known as the RAC since 2001 of its inception. Presently, I am the Native Hawaiian member, filling Wiliama's vacated seat for the RAC and I have participated with Wiliama and Melva on the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' NWHI Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group (NHCWG).

Along with Wiliama, I served on the Native and Indigenous Rights advisory sub-panel (Native Rights advisory panel) to the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC) (Council) from 1997 to 1999. Then from 1999 to December 2000, the Native Rights advisory panel became the Fishery Rights of Indigenous People to be in accord with the Council's committee.

I extend a warm "mahalo" to the WLH committee for allowing me to be a part of this important decision making for the future of Hawaii's natural resource management through the confirmation of William J. Aila, Jr.; Wiliama, to the Chairperson position of BLNR.

Note\* For those of us who have been given one of nature's finest, Wiliama and Melva grow the most ono-licious mountain apples ('ōhi'a 'ai, *Eugenia malaccensis*).

O wau iho no,  
Tammy A. Harp  
P.O. Box 437347  
Kamuela, HI 96743  
February 11, 2011

Testimony of  
Glenn S. Shiroma

Senate Water, Land & Housing Committee  
Public Hearing, Saturday, February 12, 2011  
In Conference Room 225 at 1:15 pm

**Testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION**

**GM 517** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, gubernatorial nominee, WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR., for a term to expire December 31, 2014.

**I. William Aila, Jr. is foolishly ignoring the Office of Information Practice's Memorandum Opinion dated December 20, 2010, "Sufficiency of Agenda" violation of Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 92, Hawaii Sunshine Law, Governor's Administrative Directive 09-01 by approving Division of Boating & Ocean Recreation (DoBOR) to hold public hearings in February 2011.**

**A. Ed Underwood, DoBOR Administrator's agendas before the Board of Land & Natural Resources (BLNR) held on August 14, 2009 and December 1, 2010 FAILED to comply with Hawaii Sunshine Law.**

**DoBOR agenda for BLNR meeting on August 14, 2009:**

2. DOBOR

**e. Preliminary Approval to Amend Portions of DOBOR's Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 13, sub-title 11, Chapters 230 et. seq., Parts I, II, and III, and Conduct Public Hearings related to the Proposed Amendments to the Administrative Rules;**

<http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/chair/meeting/agendas/090814-agenda.pdf> on pdf page 1

**DoBOR agenda for BLNR meeting on December 1, 2010:**

J. BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

**1. Request for Approval to Initiate Rule-Making Proceedings Regarding Amendments to Title 13, Subtitle 11, Ocean Recreation and Coastal Areas, Parts I, II, and III, Hawaii Administrative Rules**

<http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/chair/meeting/agendas/101201-agenda.pdf> on pdf page 2

**The Office of Information Practices' Memorandum Opinion stated the following:**

## Informal Opinion Letter Summary

### Sunshine Memo 11-5 Sufficiency of Agenda

Requester asked whether the agenda for the August 14, 2009 meeting of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) met the notice requirements under the Sunshine Law.

**OIP found that the August 14 agenda was not sufficient under the Sunshine Law because it did not reasonably allow a member of the public to understand what rule amendments BLNR would be discussing.**

This agenda item provides notice that BLNR would be discussing amendment of certain portions of all of DOBOR's administrative rules. Given the breadth of this agenda item which encompassed possible amendment of every BLNR administrative rule regulating ocean recreation and coastal areas, OIP does not believe that the agenda item provided reasonable public notice of the actual proposed rule amendments to be considered at the meeting.

OIP advised that, at a minimum, the agenda should have provided the section numbers of the rules to be amended and a brief description of the subject matter of those rules and proposed amendments. **Without this minimum level of detail, OIP does not believe the members of the public would have enough information to allow meaningful participation in the BLNR meeting.**

<http://www.state.hi.us/oip/INFORMAL%20opinion%20summaries/S%20Memo%2011-5.htm>

## MEMORANDUM OPINION

December 20, 2010

Sufficiency of Agenda (S INVES-P 10-16)

### Statement of Reasons for Opinion

A notice of meeting must "include an agenda which lists all of the items to be considered at the forthcoming meeting, the date, time, and place of the meeting, and in the case of an executive meeting the purpose shall be stated." HRS § 92-7(a). OIP has opined that "the Sunshine Law requires an agenda for a public meeting to be sufficiently detailed so as to provide the public with reasonable notice of what the board intends to consider. The statute's notice requirement is intended to, among other things, give interested members of the public enough information so that they can decide whether to participate in the meeting." OIP Op. Ltr. No. 03-22 at 6. OIP has opined that general descriptions do not provide enough information and are contrary to the intent and the spirit of the Sunshine Law. General descriptions, thus, do not provide sufficient notice under the Sunshine Law to allow a board to discuss, deliberate and decide the matter. OIP Op. Ltr. No. 07-02. Further, OIP has opined that members of the public should not have to refer to sources outside of the agenda to understand what the board intends to discuss. Id. at 4-5 (agenda should allow member of the public to understand what will be discussed without specialized knowledge or reference to another source).

Footnote #1. After this file was opened, Requester also complained to OIP about agendas

for subsequent BLNR meetings with agenda items very similar to the one at issue here. Although this opinion addresses only the agenda that was the subject of the initial complaint, **OIP advises BLNR that similarly described items on subsequent agendas would fail to meet the Sunshine Law's requirements for the same reasons discussed here.**

The agenda item Requester complained of read as follows:

## 2. DOBOR

e. Preliminary Approval to Amend Portions of DOBOR's Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 13, sub-title 11, Chapters 230 et. seq., Parts I, II, and III, and Conduct Public Hearings related to the Proposed Amendments to the Administrative Rules;

This agenda item provides notice that BLNR would be discussing amendment of certain portions of all of DOBOR's administrative rules, which are set forth in Title 13, sub-title 11, Parts I, II and III. Part I comprises the rules for "Small Boat Harbors," which are contained in chapters 230 through 235. Part II comprises the rules for "Boating," which are contained in chapters 240 through 245. Part III comprises the rules for "Ocean Waters, Navigable Streams and Beaches," which are contained in chapters 240 through 245. Each chapter has multiple subsections and rules.

Given the breadth of this agenda item which encompassed possible amendment of every BLNR administrative rule regulating ocean recreation and coastal areas, OIP does not believe that the agenda item provided reasonable public notice of the actual proposed rule amendments to be considered at the meeting. An interested member of the public would not be able to understand in any meaningful way what rule amendment BLNR would be discussing so that he or she could determine whether to participate or could provide meaningful testimony.

Without this minimum level of detail, OIP does not believe the members of the public would have enough information to allow meaningful participation in the BLNR meeting. OIP is available to provide additional guidance to BLNR upon request regarding the drafting of its agendas for compliance with the Sunshine Law.

10:122215

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

December 20, 2010

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM  
INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR WATER

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

MEMORANDUM

To: Neil Abercrombie  
Governor of Hawaii

FROM: William J. Aila, Jr. *William J. Aila, Jr.*  
Chairperson, Board of Land and Natural Resources

Subject: Request for Approval to conduct Public Hearings on Proposed Changes to Chapters 13-230, 13-231, 13-233, and 13-256, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR).

Pursuant to Administrative Directive No. 09-01 dated October 29, 2009, we request your approval to authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to conduct statewide public hearings for the purpose of amending Title 13, HAR, Chapters 13-230, 13-231, 13-233, and 13-256 as they pertain to boating and ocean recreation.

The Administrative Directive states that whenever any department or agency requests executive approval for the proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule, the director of the department or agency shall ensure that the proposed changes conform to existing legal provisions, including Chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes. In requesting the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule, the director will explain or submit the following:

1. Explain the exact changes to be made and the purpose, reasons for the changes, and justification for the change. If applicable, cite the present rule and quote the proposed rule change in full without paraphrasing.

Response: This is the first phase of amending the aforementioned Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) as they pertain to boating and ocean recreation. The purpose of this rule amendment initiative is to ensure clarity, to correct longstanding management issues, and to facilitate management of harbors and waterways now and into the future. Changes are being pursued because there has been a significant increase in the volume and types of recreational and commercial activities taking place in State waters and facilities since the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) rules were written and last revised.

The proposed amendments encompass a wide variety of administrative rules that include, but are not limited to, commercial use permits, vehicle parking requirements, definitions, mooring requirements, ocean recreation management areas, etc. Among the amendments in this package are the proposed HARs regarding Kaneohe Bay that were developed by DLNR in conjunction with the Kaneohe Bay Regional Council as well as the amended HARs concerning recreational and commercial marine activities taking

place in Hanalei Bay, Kauai. Both of these amendments lay foundations for protecting and managing two prime natural resources for the benefit of future generations in a manner that is sustainable and equitable.

2. Describe the manner in which the proposal would affect the agency's internal and external responsibilities, programs, functions, operations, activities, and inter-relationships.

Response: Overall, the changes proposed in this rule package are expected to greatly improve DOBOR's effectiveness and ability to manage its properties and programs as well as help the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) improve its enforcement efforts.

3. Identify the final result expected by instituting the proposal (e.g. a program improvement/clarification of statute).

Response: Amending these rules will correct longstanding resource management issues that have been identified in DLNR's existing rules and will implement recommendations made by the Attorney General's office. These amendments will also finalize mandates issued by the Hawaii State Legislature as well as implement revised administrative rules that were deemed unconstitutional by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The proposed rules for Kaneohe Bay and Hanalei Bay provide a framework for sustainable use of these two resources and a management model that can be used for other high-value ocean recreation areas in Hawaii.

4. Identify any program and financial impacts on the State that will arise upon the implementation of the proposal to include:

- a. Long- and short-range program impacts, and
- b. Anticipated program funding required for the present biennium, including a statement as to whether funds are currently budgeted to permit the implementation and enforcement of the proposed adoption amendment, or repeal of the rule, and estimates for anticipated savings or funding shortfalls projected over the subsequent four-year planning period, and the assumptions used to arrive at the estimates.

Response: There are no identifiable adverse impacts to the program and no funding will be required to implement these proposed rules. In fact, the proposed amendments will establish new commercial opportunities that will provide income to DLNR and increase jobs in the ocean recreation industry.

5. Describe long and short-term impacts to the public or the economy of the State.

Response: The public will benefit from better-managed facilities and greater protection of our shared natural resources. The conflicts between recreational and commercial user groups is expected to be greatly reduced and designated areas where particular activities may take place will be established to minimize impact on the resource. As previously stated, these proposed rule amendments may create jobs in the ocean recreation industry and generate income that would help DLNR to attain its long-range goal of improved maintenance for its facilities.

6. Identify the alternatives explored in lieu of implementing the proposal.

Response: The HAR needs to be amended to implement these much needed revisions and protect the resource. This is based on advice received from the Attorney General's office. Without the finalization/implementation of the proposed rules, the resources they are designed to protect will be subject to overuse.

7. Provide an explanation of whether the proposal will affect small business. For purposes of this Directive, a proposal will affect small business if the proposal will impact a for-profit enterprise

consisting of fewer than 100 full-time or part-time employees and will cause a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business or is directly related to the formation, operation, or explanation of a small business.

Response: There is no anticipated adverse impact to small business. The proposed amendments implement the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan, which is currently in place and working successfully, as well as the proposed Hanalei Bay amendments, which accommodate the existing commercial operators and clarify the types of commercial operations that are permitted to take place. The remaining amendments primarily deal with harbor operations and do not affect small business. The proposed rule amendments may actually have a positive effect on small business, allowing for manageable growth in the eco-tour industry due to an increase in the available commercial use permits DLNR plans to have available.

If a proposal affects small business, the department or agency will describe:

- a. Whether it has considered the availability and practicability of less restrictive alternatives that could be implemented in lieu of adopting the proposal;

Response: Existing HAR needs to be amended in order to provide the department with the authority to implement the revisions.

- b. Whether it has considered creative, innovative, or flexible methods of compliance for small business in lieu of adopting the proposed rule; and

Response: Yes, but amendments are needed to give the department the authority to implement revisions and implement new operating procedures in order to accommodate small business.

- c. Whether it has prepared a "Small Business Impact Statement" that has been submitted to the Small Business Regulatory Review Board for consideration under HRS Chapter 201M.

Response: The statement will be submitted with the proposed rule amendments for review by the Small Business Regulatory Review Board.

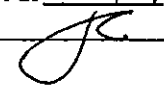
We respectfully request your approval to conduct statewide public hearings for the proposed rule amendments on the islands of Hawaii, Kauai, Maui and Oahu after due notice according to Chapter 91, HRS, Administrative Procedure.

APPROVED / DISAPPROVED

  
Neil Abercrombie, Governor

Department of Land & Natural Resources and Office of the Governor have not been able to verify when Governor Abercrombie the day this document was signed.

As of February 11, 2011 at 11:24AM



- c. Department of Budget and Finance  
Department of Business and Economic Development

Attachment:

Proposed Rule Amendments



**Division of Boating & Ocean Recreation's website states the following:**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to Chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), State of Hawaii, will hold public hearings on proposed amendments and additions to TITLE 13, SUBTITLE 11, OCEAN RECREATION AND COASTAL AREAS, PARTS I and III, HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES. The following sections are being amended: 13-230-21(adds Personal Partner definition); 13-231-5(adds grace period provision for mooring permit renewals); 12-231-26 (adds Personal Partner definition); 13-231-28 (increases length of stay, includes Personal Partner); 13-231-29 (adds Personal Partner); 13-233-29 (adds Personal Partner and new parking permit category); 13-256-18 (incorporates water sledding activity); 13-256-33, 13-256-36,13-256-39 (pertains to vessel operations in Hanalei Bay and River); 13-256-71, 13-256-72, 13-256-73, 13-256-77 (implements the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan according to HRS §200-39). The following sections are being added to implement the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan according to HRS §200-39: 13-256-72.1, 13-256-73.1, 13-256-73.2, 13-256-73.3, 13-256-73.4, 13-256-73.5, 13-256-73.6, 13-256-73.7, 13-256-73.8, 13-256-73.9, 13-256-73.10, 13-256-73.11, 13-256-73.12).

These amendments to the Hawaii Administrative Rules are being proposed to allow DLNR to more effectively manage State small boat harbors and related facilities as well as ocean activities in State waters.

The meetings will be held as follows:

- **On Oahu in the Benjamin Parker Elementary School Cafeteria, 45-259 Waikalua Road, Kaneohe from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, February 22, 2011;**
- **On Maui in the Maui Waena Intermediate School Cafeteria, 795 Onchee Avenue, Kahului, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2011;**
- **On Hawaii Island in the clubhouse of the Hawaii Big Game Fishing Club, on the grounds of Honokohau Small Boat Harbor, 74-381 P4 Kealakehe Parkway, Kailua-Kona, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 24, 2011;**
- **On Kauai in the Chiefess Kamakahahei Middle School Cafeteria, 4431 Nuhou Street, Lihue, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Thursday, February 24, 2011;**
- **On Hawaii Island in the Aupuni Center Conference Room, 101 Pauahi Street, Hilo, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm on Friday, February 25, 2011.**

All interested parties are invited to attend and to present their views on the proposed amendments, either orally or in writing.

Written statements may be submitted at the public hearings or to the Chairperson at 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 130, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, up to one week following the last public hearing date. The proposed rule amendments can be reviewed on-line on the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) web site located at <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dbor/bordrafrules.htm> or can be reviewed in person at the following DOBOR district offices from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday, except on holidays and State furlough days.

- Hawaii District Office 74-380 Kealakehe Parkway, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740 Telephone: (808) 327-3690

- Kauai District Office 4370 Kukui Grove Street, Suite 109, Lihue, Hawaii 96766 Telephone: (808) 245-8028
- Maui District Office 101 Maalaea Boat Harbor Road, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 Telephone: (808) 243-5824
- Oahu District Office 4 Sand Island Access Road, #19, Honolulu, HI 96819 Phone: 832-3520

If unable to review the proposed rule change on-line or in person, a copy can be mailed at no charge upon receipt of verbal or written request to: the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, 333 Queen St., Suite 300, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, (808) 587-1972.

The meeting locations are disability accessible. If special needs are required, i.e., large print, taped materials, sign language interpreter, etc., call Clifford Inn on Oahu at (808) 587-1972 at least one week prior to the designated date and time of the public hearings.

**William J. Aila, Jr.**  
**Interim Chairperson Board of Land and Natural Resources**

Advertised:  
 Garden Isle  
 Hawaii Tribune Herald  
 Honolulu Star Advertiser  
 Maui News  
 West Hawaii Today

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**B. William Aila, Jr. foolishly ignoring Governor's Administrative Directive 09-01 which contains Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 91, Administrative Procedure, Section §91-4.1 Rulemaking actions; copies in Ramseyer format.**

Pam Matsukawa, Deputy AG was present during Board of Land & Natural Resources' meeting held on August 14, 2009 when DoBOR's agenda violated Hawaii Sunshine Law.

Pam Matsukawa approved DoBOR Hawaii Administrative Rules which was part of Preliminary Approval to Amend Portions of DOBOR's Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 13, sub-title 11, Chapters 230 et. seq., Parts I, II, and III, and Conduct Public Hearings related to the Proposed Amendments to the Administrative Rules; Sections §13-234-1 General statement, §13-234-3 Mooring rates, §13-234-5 Mooring fees for vessels assigned temporary moorings or occupying moorings without permission, §13-241-25 Fees and charges.

However, §13-241-25 Fees and charges failed to comply with Governor's Administrative Directive 09-01 by completely deleting the repeal [\$0.00] of fees and charges. See Exhibit A for verification.

**Exhibit A**

4. Section 13-241-25 Hawaii Administrative Rules, is amended to read as follows:

§13-241-25 Fees and charges. (a) The fees to be charged by the department for registration, annual renewal, transfers, and duplicate certificates and registration stickers [and penalty charges] shall be as follows: [in accordance with section 200-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes].

(1) Initial annual registration fee. For the issuance of an original certificate:

(A) For each vessel less than twenty feet in length, \$18;

(B) For each vessel twenty feet or more in length, \$30; and

(C) For each amphibious vehicle licensed as a motor vehicle, \$20;

(2) Annual certificate renewal fee. For the annual renewal of a certificate:

(A) For each vessel less than twenty feet in length, \$15;

(B) For each vessel twenty feet or more in length, \$20; and

(C) For each amphibious vehicle licensed as a motor vehicle, \$15;

(3) Reregistration fee. For the reregistration of a vessel, after a certificate has been canceled or voided, the appropriate amount provided in paragraph (1);

(4) Transfer fee. For the transfer of a certificate, \$10;

(5) Certificate and registration sticker replacement fee. For the issuance of a replacement certificate or a replacement set of vessel registration stickers, \$10; and

(6) Certificate modification fee. For modifying a certificate, \$10.

(b) For vessels owned by or operated under the custody or control of a boat manufacturer or boat dealer, the manufacturer or dealer shall pay, in lieu of the fees and charges provided for in subsection (a):

(1) Boat manufacturer and boat dealer annual certificate fee. For each certificate, a fee of \$25;

(2) Annual certificate renewal fee. For the annual renewal of a certificate, a fee of \$20;

(3) Certificate reissuance. For the reissuance of a certificate after a certificate has been canceled or voided, a fee of \$25; and

(4) Certificate and registration sticker replacement fee. For the replacement of a certificate or registration sticker, a fee of \$10.

[(b)](c) No fee shall be charged by the department for registration, transfer or annual renewal relating to a vessel whose owner is the United States, the State or a subdivision thereof.

[(c)](d) A nonprofit corporation whose purposes relate to promoting the ability of children to do things for themselves, to train them in boating, water safety, scout-craft and camping, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance and kindred virtues shall not be required to pay the fees provided in this section relating to vessels owned and used exclusively for the purposes of the organization.

[(d)] The fee for each duplicate certificate of number or for a duplicate registration sticker is as set forth in section 200-32(5), HRS.]

(e) Penalty fees.

(1) If the owner of a vessel fails to obtain a certificate of number as required by this chapter, the applicable fee plus a penalty equal to one tenth of such fee shall be collected from the owner for each month or fraction of a month the owner is late in registering.

**Exhibit A**

- (2) If a certificate of number is not renewed on or before the date on which it expires, the applicable annual renewal fee plus a penalty equal to one-tenth of such fee shall be collected from the owner for each month or fraction of a month the owner is late in renewing except where the vessel has not been on the waters of the State subsequent to the expiration date.
- (3) If the purchaser of any vessel fails to apply for transfer of the certificate of number relating to the vessel as required by section 13-241-12, the applicable fee plus a penalty of ten per cent for each month or fraction thereof the owner is late in applying for the transfer shall be collected from the owner except where the vessel has not been on the waters of the State subsequent to the purchase.
- (4) The penalty fees prescribed in this section are in addition to any penalties imposed by a court for violations of these rules.
- (f) Payment of fee required prior to processing. No application for a certificate of number, transfer or renewal of certificate, or for a duplicate certificate of number or duplicate registration stickers shall be processed until the prescribed fees are paid.
- (g) Fees for furnishing information. Individuals or firms requesting an alphabetical or numerical listing of boat owners and information concerning their boats shall be charged a fee as prescribed by the chairperson, board of land and natural resources. [Eff 2/24/94; am ]  
(Auth: HRS §§200-24, 200-32, 200-33) (Imp: HRS §§200-32, 200-33)

5. Material, except source notes, to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.

6. Additions to update source notes to reflect these amendments are not underscored.

7. These amendments to chapters 13-234 and 13-241, Hawaii Administrative Rules, shall take effect ten days after filing with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

I certify that the foregoing are copies of the rules, drafted in the Ramseyer format pursuant to the requirements of section 91-4.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which were adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura H. Thielen, Chairperson  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

APPROVED FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

  
Deputy Attorney General

completely deleting the repeal [\$0.00] of fees and charges. Bill Wynhoff, Deputy AG attended this meeting. See Exhibit B for verification.

Exhibit B

4. Section 13-241-25 Hawaii Administrative Rules, is amended to read as follows:

§13-241-25 Fees and charges. (a) The fees to be charged by the department for registration, annual renewal, transfers, and duplicate certificates and registration stickers [and penalty charges] shall be as follows: [in accordance with section 200-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes].

(1) Initial annual registration fee. For the issuance of an original certificate:

(A) For each vessel less than twenty feet in length, \$18;

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(2) Annual certificate renewal fee. For the annual renewal of a certificate:

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(B) For each vessel twenty feet or more in length, \$20; and

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(3) Reregistration fee. For the reregistration of a vessel, after a certificate has been canceled or voided, the appropriate amount provided in paragraph (1);

(4) Transfer fee. For the transfer of a certificate, \$10;

(5) Certificate and registration sticker replacement fee. For the issuance of a replacement certificate or a replacement set of vessel registration stickers, \$10; and

(6) Certificate modification fee. For modifying a certificate, \$10.

(b) For vessels owned by or operated under the custody or control of a boat manufacturer or boat dealer, the manufacturer or dealer shall pay, in lieu of the fees and charges provided for in subsection (a):

(1) Boat manufacturer and boat dealer annual certificate fee. For each certificate, a fee of \$25;

(2) Annual certificate renewal fee. For the annual renewal of a certificate, a fee of \$20;

(3) Certificate reissuance. For the reissuance of a certificate after a certificate has been canceled or voided, a fee of \$25; and

(4) Certificate and registration sticker replacement fee. For the replacement of a certificate or registration sticker, a fee of \$10.

[(b)](c) No fee shall be charged by the department for registration, transfer or annual renewal relating to a vessel whose owner is the United States, the State or a subdivision thereof.

[(c)](d) A nonprofit corporation whose purposes relate to promoting the ability of children to do things for themselves, to train them in boating, water safety, scout-craft and camping, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance and kindred virtues shall not be required to pay the fees provided in this section relating to vessels owned and used exclusively for the purposes of the organization:

[(d)] The fee for each duplicate certificate of number or for a duplicate registration sticker is as set forth in section 200-32(5), HRS.]

(e) Penalty fees.

(1) If the owner of a vessel fails to obtain a certificate of number as required by this chapter, the applicable fee plus a penalty equal to one tenth of such fee shall be collected from the owner for each month or fraction of a month the owner is late in registering.

Exhibit B

- (2) If a certificate of number is not renewed on or before the date on which it expires, the applicable annual renewal fee plus a penalty equal to one-tenth of such fee shall be collected from the owner for each month or fraction of a month the owner is late in renewing except where the vessel has not been on the waters of the State subsequent to the expiration date.
  - (3) If the purchaser of any vessel fails to apply for transfer of the certificate of number relating to the vessel as required by section 13-241-12, the applicable fee plus a penalty of ten per cent for each month or fraction thereof the owner is late in applying for the transfer shall be collected from the owner except where the vessel has not been on the waters of the State subsequent to the purchase.
  - (4) The penalty fees prescribed in this section are in addition to any penalties imposed by a court for violations of these rules.
  - (f) Payment of fee required prior to processing. No application for a certificate of number, transfer or renewal of certificate, or for a duplicate certificate of number or duplicate registration stickers shall be processed until the prescribed fees are paid.
  - (g) Fees for furnishing information. Individuals or firms requesting an alphabetical or numerical listing of boat owners and information concerning their boats shall be charged a fee as prescribed by the chairperson, board of land and natural resources. [Eff 2/24/94; am ]  
(Auth: HRS §§200-24, 200-32, 200-33) (Imp: HRS §§200-32, 200-33)
5. Material, except source notes, to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.
  6. Additions to update source notes to reflect these amendments are not underscored.
  7. These amendments to chapters 13-234 and 13-241, Hawaii Administrative Rules, shall take effect ten days after filing with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

I certify that the foregoing are copies of the rules, drafted in the Ramseyer format pursuant to the requirements of section 91-4.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which were adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura H. Thielen, Chairperson  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

APPROVED FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Attorney General

## II. Testimony Summary:

**I willing to withdraw my Testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION for GM517**  
based on the following based on Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 92 "Hawaii Sunshine Law", Governor's Administrative Directives 09-01 and concerns expressed in Testimony, HB1436 Honokohau SBH Private-Public Management.

1. William Aila, Jr. agrees to take DoBOR Hawaii Administrative Rules that was approved by the Board of Land & Natural Resources on August 14, 2009 in violation of Hawaii Sunshine Law by going back to Board of Land & Resources by "Re-Doing or Start All Over" by holding multiple public informational meetings statewide, revise DoBOR HARS after the public informational meetings, hold multiple public hearings, including DoBOR financial statement in format prior to August 1, 2006. DoBOR will appear before the Small Business Regulatory Review Board before and after public hearings statewide are held.

2. William Aila, Jr. agrees to cancel DoBOR Hawaii Administrative Rules which was approved by the Board of Land & Natural Resources on December 1, 2010, Public Hearing to held during the third week in February 2011.

William Aila, Jr. agrees to take DoBOR Hawaii Administrative Rules by going back to Board of Land & Resources on December 1, 2010 by "Re-Doing or Start All Over" by holding multiple public informational meetings statewide, revise DoBOR HARS after the public informational meetings, hold multiple public hearings and final back to Board of Land & Natural Resources. DoBOR will appear before the Small Business Regulatory Review Board before and after public hearings statewide are held.

3. William Aila, Jr. agrees to IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAW Ed Underwood's reclassification of DoBOR mooring rates known as "bow-stern to along catwalk."

Due to intervention of Candidate for Governor, Duke Aiona in August 2010, the existing permittee's or grandfather permittee's mooring rates known as "bow stern to along catwalk" was withdraw.

4. William Aila, Jr. agrees to conduct an internal investigation with assistance of DLNR Division of Conservation & Resource Enforcement of all complaints contain the Testimony, HB1436 Honokohau SBH Private-Public Management which is found at [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Testimony/HB1436\\_TESTIMONY\\_WLO\\_02-04-11\\_LATE.PDF](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/Testimony/HB1436_TESTIMONY_WLO_02-04-11_LATE.PDF)

William Aila, Jr. agrees to appear before Senate Water, Land & House committee with the findings of the internal investigation and how he will hold subject individuals accountable for their actions.

Thank you this opportunity to provide testimony.

**From:** [palea@aol.com](mailto:palea@aol.com)  
**To:** [WLH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM 517 WILLIAM JOHNSON AILA, JR  
**Date:** Thursday, February 03, 2011 4:20:28 PM

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I do not believe William Aila can run DLNR without some of his aggressive actions coming through.

You should ask him about the public and semi-public meetings where he has threatened others to "take the fight out doors" to settle a disagreement and aggressively moved toward his opponent. He was only stopped by others near him, holding him back.

The latest time he did this was only about three months ago.

Name Withheld For Safety