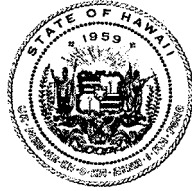


GM 690

EDT



SHAN S. TSUTSUI
PRESIDENT
DONNA MERCADO KIM
VICE PRESIDENT

SAM SLOM
MINORITY LEADER

The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 4, 2011

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MALAMA SOLOMON

SECOND DISTRICT
GILBERT KAHELE

THIRD DISTRICT
JOSH GREEN, M.D.

FOURTH DISTRICT
SHAN S. TSUTSUI

FIFTH DISTRICT
ROSALYN H. BAKER

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NINTH DISTRICT
LES IHARA, JR.

TENTH DISTRICT
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI

ELEVENTH DISTRICT
CAROL FUKUNAGA

TWELFTH DISTRICT
BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT
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TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT
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TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT
CLAYTON HEE

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT
JILL N. TOKUDA

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT
POHAI RYAN

CHIEF CLERK
CAROL TANIGUCHI

Mr. Robert K. Iopa

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Iopa:

Re: Nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board GM 690

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. To assist the Senate with its confirmation process, I would like to request that the following information be submitted to my office by **Monday, April 11, 2011**:

- (1) A resume with a list of references
- (2) A written statement that addresses the following questions:
 - (a) Why do you wish to be a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
 - (b) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
 - (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.
 - (d) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?
 - (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
 - (f) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?
 - (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Page 2

April 4, 2011

Your prompt response in providing the above information will ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol Fukunaga". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carol" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Fukunaga".

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senate Economic Development Committee



Submit a written statement that addresses the following questions:

- (a) Why do you wish to be a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?

I am interested in being a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board so I can continue to contribute toward the preservation of our State's historic and cultural places and environments.

- (b) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?

I perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board are to protect the public's interest in regard to the preservation of the historic and cultural places and environments that make Hawai'i special.

- (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

I believe I am qualified for a position on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board for several reasons.

First and foremost, I am a native Hawaiian, born and raised in Hawai'i. It is where I have chosen to raise my family, it is where I will live for the rest of my life and where I hope my children, and my children's children, will chose to call home for generations to come. Because of this, I am committed to doing my part in making our islands and its communities the best place it can be. Protection and preservation of our built and natural resources is an important part of keeping our home special.

Secondly, my professional expertise in the field of architecture provides me a unique and appropriate perspective in understanding historic places and a working knowledge of the necessary requirements toward eligibility for the State Historic Register.

Lastly, having served for the past 5 years on the board of the Historic Hawai'i Foundation, and as the President-elect, I have been exposed to and participated in many of the most important discussions regarding historic preservation of our historic places and cultural resources.

- (d) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I hope to list increased awareness and preservation of many more Hawaiian cultural places and sites as an accomplishment of my term of service.

- (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?

Three qualities that make me stand out are tenacity, reliability and humility. I will look to my tenacity to initiate efforts, my reliability to make sure the efforts are completed and my humility to make sure the success are for the benefit of the whole and not an individual. These are ways I believe these qualities will benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board

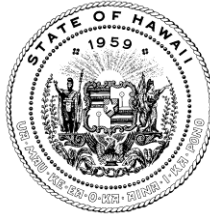
- (f) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board?

One previous experience that makes me stand out was my participation as the architect for the recent renovation to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. My participation allowed me to interact and develop ideas and solutions that addressed the cultural significance of the land known as Helumoa, while being respectful to the historic significance of the "Pink Lady of the Pacific". I believe that this experience allowed me to better understand the balance necessary between preservation and contemporary influences – a balance that I assume will be raised as a topic of conversation during my term on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. I trust that my experience will benefit the board.

- (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I can foresee possible conflicts of interest that could arise during my service on the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. Being that we live in a small island State, I can imagine that from time to time I could have either personal or professional relationship of such significance that a conflict could be raised. The simple solution for these instances would be identifying the potential conflict to the members of the board for discussion and/or recusing myself should the conflict be one that could be deemed as influential.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
KAHUIHEWA BUILDING
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, KAPOLEI HI 96706

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
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
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Monday, April 18, 2011
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 690 -
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII
HISTORIC PLACES REVIEW BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
ROBERT K. IOPA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the gubernatorial appointment of Robert K. Iopa to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

The Hawaii Historic Places Review Board was established under Section 6E-5.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to: (1) Order and enter historic properties into the Hawaii Register of Historic Places on the basis of their value to Hawaii's heritage; (2) Evaluate and, when appropriate, recommend the nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places; (3) Review the state survey of historic properties; (4) Review the content of the State Historic Preservation Plan; and (5) Maintain the Hawaii Register of Historic Places (including all those listed on the National Register of Historic Places).

Section 6E-5.5, HRS, also requires that the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board include at least one professionally qualified member of each of the following disciplines: Archaeology, Architecture, History, and Sociology. In addition, there shall be on person knowledgeable in traditional Hawaiian society and culture.

Mr. Iopa graduated from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California, with a Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1994. He has since worked at three architectural firms: Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo (1994-1999), Architects Hawaii (1999-2000), and WCIT Architecture (2000-present). He has served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Hawaii

School of Architecture from 2000-present. He also contributes to Mea Makamae LLC – A Portal to Hawaiian Art & Culture and Makalii LLC – Environmental Resource Management.

Mr. Iopa has been involved with development projects throughout Asia, South America, the South Pacific, and all the major islands of Hawaii. He was named one of Hawaii's young leaders by *Pacific Business News* and one of the state's most influential leaders for the next twenty-five years by *Hawaii Business Magazine*.

The Department supports Governor's Message 690 and looks forward to having Mr. Iopa serve as a member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

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

To: Sen. Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Sen. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Committee on Economic Development and Technology

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

Committee Date: Monday, April 18, 2011
1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 423

Subject: **Support for Confirmation of Robert K. Iopa
to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board (GM 690)**

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing in **support of confirmation of Robert K. Iopa** as a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

Since 1974, Historic Hawai'i Foundation has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. HHF's 850 members and numerous additional supporters work to preserve Hawaii's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believe that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, economic viability and environmental sustainability of the state.

Robert K. Iopa is Architect and Principal with his own firm of WCIT Architecture. He has served on HHF's board of trustees since 2006 as both a director and officer. In his work with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, Mr. Iopa has helped develop training materials and professional development seminars related to historic preservation and design. He has also chaired the annual Preservation Honor Awards committee, which reviews and recognizes exemplary projects for consistency with standards, guidelines and best practices for preservation. His own design work on the Royal Hawaiian Hotel's recent rehabilitation was found to comply with best preservation practices and has been award winning.

Mr. Iopa's design practice is focused on providing culturally appropriate and socially responsible design solutions for the Islands. His research and design work is rooted in Hawaiian culture and history, with knowledge of and sensitivity to the history, culture, traditions and practices unique to the people and places in which he works, especially from a native Hawaiian perspective and tradition, but with respect for the uniqueness and value of all people of Hawai'i.

Historic Hawai'i Foundation

680 Iwilei Road, Suite 690 • Honolulu, HI 96817 • Tel: 808-523-2900 • FAX: 808-523-0800 • 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.

Mr. Iopa will also bring a thoughtful and collaborative demeanor to the Review Board. His conduct is respectful of the input and opinions of others, and he works diligently to understand and follow the standards that are to guide decisions, offering fairness to all participants in a process.

These professional qualifications, experiences and personal characteristics will enhance and support the Review Board and the State Historic Preservation Division.

The Historic Places Review Board is responsible for maintaining and adding historic properties to the Hawai'i State Register of Historic Places, nominating historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and also reviewing the state's inventory of historic properties and the content of the statewide preservation plan.

The composition of the Review Board is required to include professionally qualified members in the fields of archaeology, architecture, history and sociology, as well as knowledge of traditional Hawaiian society and culture. The state board is also required to meet the qualifications in federal law (see HRS §6E-5.5) and to conduct its meetings and hearings in compliance with open government and fundamental fairness procedures.

These responsibilities are vital to the protection and perpetuation of historic and cultural properties across the state. These functions are also necessary for the State's historic preservation division to remain a federally-recognized program. Last year, the federal agency responsible for certifying state programs for compliance with federal law directed the historic preservation to complete corrective actions in five areas, including the National Register program, the statewide preservation plan, and the statewide inventory and survey (see National Park Service. Report on Hawai'i State Historic Preservation Division Operations. March 19, 2010).

We look forward to seeing the successful turnaround of the Division and completion of the corrective action plan. We believe that Mr. Iopa's appointment to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board will help move the State forward in a positive and beneficial way.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation recommends approval of the appointment of Robert K. Iopa as a member of the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

Historic Hawai'i Foundation

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April 15, 2011

Hawai'i State Legislature, Committee on Economic Development and Technology

Re: Robert K. Iopa Nomination to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board
GM 690, April 18th, 2011, Hearing, 1:15 pm

Aloha Chair Carol Fukunaga and members,

I write in strong support of Rob Iopa's appointment to the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board. Rob is a native Hawaiian, born and raised in Hilo, and an accomplished and internationally acclaimed architect. As the Principal of his own firm of WCIT Architecture, he has already contributed toward the preservation of our State's historic and cultural places and environments in many ways. His participation as principal architect in the recent renovation to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel stands out as an award winning success story. Over the years Rob Iopa has developed into one of the most sought after designers in the islands and he will bring all of his experiences and insights to the deliberations and decisions of the Review Board.

Despite his busy schedule as a Principal of his own firm, husband and father, Rob gives generously of his time and leadership skills serving as the Chair of Historic Hawai'i Foundation's Preservation Awards, the Kama'aina of the Year annual benefit and next year he will lead Historic Hawai'i Foundation as President, helping to further encourage preservation activities statewide.

Rob has a genuine appreciation and passion for culture and he truly represents the public's interest with regards to the preservation of the historic and cultural places that make Hawai'i special. I strongly urge your favorable consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lani Ma'a Lapilio'.

Lani Ma'a Lapilio
Hawaii Advisor, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Director, Hawaii Council for the Humanities
Director, Hawaii Heritage Center

From: hoomaikai2@hawaii.rr.com
To: [EDTestimony](#)
Subject: Rob Iopa"s appointment to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board Confirmation Hearing, Monday, April 18, 1:15
Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 10:11:42 PM

Welina mai nei, greetings to the members of the Economic Development and Technology Committee,

I am writing in strong support Mr. Rob Iopa's appointment to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board.

I have worked with Rob on many projects over the past few years and have always found him to be a champion for historic preservation. As an innovative architect and community planner, he has been able to blend many disparate interests to create outcomes that a wide range of constituents can support. This is a special skill set, finding common ground by walking around complex issues, and making sure everyone feels represented. This is one of Rob's gifts.

As a true facilitator and convener, as well as an exceptional designer and architect, he will be a true asset on this important committee.

I am grateful to have this opportunity to whole heartedly endorse his nomination.

me ka mahalo,

Maile Meyer
Native Books
Na Mea Hawaii
808.783.2786

April 13, 2011

Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Hawaii State Legislature

Re: Rob Iopa Appointment
Hawaii Historic Places Review Board
GM 390, April 18th Hearing, 1:15 pm

Aloha Chair Carol Fukunaga and members of the Economic Development and Technology Committee;

I write in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** of Rob Iopa's appointment to the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. In addition to being one of the preeminent architects in Hawaii, he is already one of leading voices in the preservation of historic buildings and places.

For many years, Rob has been the Chairman of Historic Hawaii Foundation's Awards Committee, leading the detailed review and discussion around preservation work worthy of HHF's notice. This coming year, Rob will rise to the leadership of HHF as its President. A seat on the Review Board extends his reach and allows the rest of us to make maximum use of his unique contribution.

Born and raised in Hilo, Rob is keiki o ka aina and well aware of his roots and the importance of keeping the places that help tell the stories of our heritage.

I strong urge your favorable consideration of his nomination.

Sincerely



Ray Soon
Past President, Historic Hawaii Foundation
Past Member, President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation