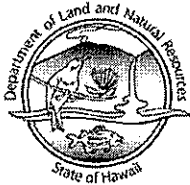


GM 729

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Tuesday, April 19, 2011
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 729 –
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL ISLAND OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
EDWIN L.P. MIRANDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the gubernatorial appointment of Edwin L.P. Miranda to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawaii, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.

The Island Burial Councils were established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to determine the preservation in place or relocation of previously identified native Hawaiian burial sites and to determine Hawaiian cultural and lineal descendent claims for specific burials. State law requires that Island Burial Councils be established for Hawai'i, Maui/Lanai, Molokai, O'ahu and Kaua'i/Ni'ihau islands, and be comprised of representatives from specific geographic regions and representatives of developer/large property owners. Regional representatives are to be selected from the Hawaiian community on the basis of their understanding of the culture, history, burial beliefs, customs and practices of Native Hawaiians. Mr. Miranda will be serving as a representative of the Hilo region on the Hawaii Island Burial Council.

Mr. Miranda is a graduate of Castle High School who received his Bachelor of Science in General Agriculture from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1988. Upon his graduation from college, Mr. Miranda worked briefly as a Cooperative Extension Service Agent for the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources - Cooperative Extension Service on Molokai serving the Hawaiian Homesteaders of Hoolehua on Molokai. Mr. Miranda then moved as a Soil Conservationist with the United States Department of Agriculture at its Conservation Service Hilo Field Office where he participated in numerous coordinated soil and water programs on that island.

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

Apart from work, Mr. Miranda has served on the Natural Resources Conservation Service Civil Rights Commission, and is currently is a member of the Keaukaha Community Association and is a member in good standing in his community. He has extensive experience in the Hawaiian community through his work with farmers on Molokai and the Big Island. He also coached at Nawahi o Kalaniopu'u, a Hawaiian immersion school. His extensive people skills in his years of working in the Hawaiian community will surely serve as an asset. The Department supports Governor's Message 729 on the appointment of Edwin LP Miranda to the Island Burial Council.

galuteria1 - Ikaika

From: Pat Kahawaiolaa [kcaiprez@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2011 7:56 PM
To: HWN Testimony
Cc: Robert Lindsey; Albert Nahalea
Subject: consideration for selection to the burial committee for Hawaii island ref: Edwin Miranda, Keaukaha

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Aloha Chair Galuteria, Vice Chair Pohai Ryan and members of the committee,

I am Patrick L. Kahawaiola'a a native Hawaiian as defined under the HHCA, 1920 as amended July 9, 1921 and currently serving as the President of the Keaukaha Community Association, Hawaiian Home lands East Hawaii. We have been asked and are prepared to support for consideration by this body for Edwin Miranda as a member to the burial committee representing Hawaii island.

Mr. Miranda has recently been the co-chair for the Keaukaha Community Association (KCA) in addressing our concerns with the fisheries and issues surrounding the North Western Hawaiian Island namely Papahanaumokuakea. He is a resident of the Keaukaha Community and cares for his elderly Mom and two(2) sons. We have discussed the many issues concerning our iwi kupuna and the constant disinterment for the sake of development without concern for the mana and the kaona the iwi may carry. As a native Hawaiian community we cherish our kupuna well they are with us but have an even greater respect for them when they leave us in our world. We continue to seek guidance from our kupuna even though society 's preception of them as being dead and they will be rendered to dust, however in our culture the iwi of our kupuna are cherished and given a place of highest honor within our individule family structure and protected with fervor.

We think because he i a native Hawaiian he is a capable representative to care for the iwi kupuna and will made decisions of the iwi based upon sound and competent reasons and laws in this State made to protect the iwi of those that have gone before us.

We humbly ask for a favorable recommendation for the selection of Mr. Edwin Miranda to represent Hawaii island on the burial council.

If more infomation is necessary I can be reached at (808) 937-8217

'Owau me ka ha'aha'a (I humbly remain)

Patrick L. Kahawaiola'a, President KCA