

GM730

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, CANEN HOOKANO, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND HOUSING

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

April 5, 2012

Testimony in SUPPORT of Gubernatorial Nominees:

Jose Bulatao, Jr.-GM 728

Mary Buza-Sims-GM 729

Canen Hookano- GM 730

Val Tsuchiya-GM 732

Koke'e State Park Advisory Council

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

It is with great pride that I submit my support for confirmation of all of the Kaua'i nominees to serve as members of the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council.

As a former member of the Kauai County Council, I have had the privilege of working with these individuals who possess vast knowledge of our treasured Koke'e and their deep passion to preserve the legacy of our native rain forest. Each individual offers unique contributions to the mix of the advisory council that their synergy will have a lasting impact for generations to experience the wonders of Koke'e.

My family and I are so grateful and appreciative of the many, many individuals that keep Koke'e in its pristine state for all to enjoy. These gubernatorial nominees are the backbone of this network who serves in many capacities usually not in the public view. It is time to recognize their work as they continue to contribute their talents and skills for our mountain forest.

I ask for your favorable consideration for confirmation of these individuals to serve on the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council.

Sincerely yours,

Derek S. K. Kawakami
State Representative

District 14, East and North Kauai
Vice Chair, Energy & Environmental Protection Committee
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NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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

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WILLIAM M. TAM
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AQUATIC RESOURCES
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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
WATER, LAND and HOUSING**

**Thursday, April 5, 2012
1:25 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 730
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
KŌKE'E STATE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE
CANEN HO'OKANO FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) fully supports Governor's Message 730 on the nomination of Canen Ho'okano to the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council.

Mr. Ho'okano was born and raised in Kapa'a, Kaua'i and is an alumnus of Kapa'a High School. He has spent many volunteer hours on behalf of the Nāpali Coast 'Ohana doing archaeological surveying of cultural sites on the Nāpali Coast, eradicating invasive plants in Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks with Na Ki'ai o Kōke'e, and as a Board member for the community group Hui Malama Kaneioulouma restoring cultural sites in Poipu under a stewardship agreement with the County of Kaua'i.

A summary of his professional experience includes being a Business Developer for Pacific Light and Power with several projects in the works for developing alternate sources of energy for the island of Kaua'i. Additionally, he serves on the Kaua'i Workforce Investment Board for the County, a Water Resource Management Consultant to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and is active with the Kōke'e Leaseholders' Association.

Mr. Ho'okano was elected Chair of the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council in 2008 and if confirmed by the Senate, will be serving his second term. As Chair, he is familiar with the issues and concerns that have been raised about the management and operations of the State Park.

Since 2002, he has been involved with the planning process for the development of a Master Plan and EIS for Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks.

He sees his role as an advocate for the public and is committed and dedicated to the preservation of the cultural resources. The knowledge and experience he has gained as Chair of the Advisory Council will serve him well as he works with the new council members to better understand the public process in public service. The Department is confident that Mr. Ho'okano will continue to make significant contributions as a member of the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council and requests the Senate to confirm his appointment to a second 3-year term.