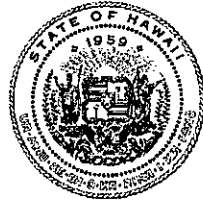


**GM 891**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GUY H. KAULIKUKUI**  
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  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012  
2:45PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In Consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 891  
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND  
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MARY  
KAHAULELIO, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2015**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports the gubernatorial appointment of Ms. Mary Kahalelio to the Island Burial Council for the Island of Hawaii, to expire 6-30-2015. Ms. Kahalelio will represent the Waimea Moku.

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. With regard to previously known burials, the councils determine whether to leave the burial in place or remove it, recognize lineal and cultural descendants and provide counsel and advice to the Department. Regional representatives must be members of the Hawaiian community and possess an understanding of Native Hawaiian culture, history and practices, especially as they relate to burials (Section 13-300-22, Hawaii Administrative Rules).

Ms. Kahalelio is a long time resident of the Waimea Moku and an active member of the community. She has served on the Waimea Hawaiian Homestead Association as well as Kipuupuu O Puukapu Hawaiian Homestead. Ms. Kahalelio has served on the Island Burial Council in an interim capacity since September 2011. In this role, she is able to help ensure the protection and proper treatment of the iwi kupuna. Senate confirmation will ensure this important member's term is extended until 6-30-2015.

1. Why do you wish to be a member of Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i?  
'a'ole, wish—It is my Kau I Ka hano (position of Honor) and Pili I (with respect)  
To Malama (preserve) all our Ancestors resting place (Iwi). As Kanaka Maoli I am  
Very proud to serve on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council

2. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Island Burial  
Council

Island of Hawai'i

Ho'oloho to (listen), to be Pono (humble), try very hard to digest in my Na'au, all the  
Important issues that are presented to the Burial Council from the Land/owner's Manual  
Pertaining to their Land on which our Iwi's are buried. This question leaves a far and  
Open space for me to determine my role and responsibilities when these Land/Owners  
Mail to the Council these Informational Manuals 2 days before the meeting. These  
Manuals includes lots of maps, maps of easements, etc., etc., etc, Not enough time to  
Be convinced of my direct intuition. Very hard to Maka'ala.

3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Island  
Burial

Council, Island of Hawai'i, 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 Island Burial Council, Island of  
Hawai'i

Born & raised up in Pauoa. Graveyards were our backyards where I played, right behind  
Pauoa School. I use to read the writings of the Tombstones and was amazed to read  
About our people who came from here and far away. Many different cultures, many  
Different stories that we were told by the care-takers of the graves. Hawaiians, Chinese,  
Lots of Chinese graves. Kawaiha'o grave-site was History laid right before our eyes.  
These are my skills about learning what Death really meant to me as a youngster and  
How grateful I was to learn to respect their Iwi's. Today I can say that my expertise  
began

When I was a child seeing the hard work that was done by these devoted people who  
Took good care of the many grave-sites no matter what nationalities were buried there.  
I truly can say that I can share my knowledge of what I have learned about our graves  
To make people understand that one day they will be laid to rest and there will always  
Be someone else to Malama their Iwi's. The most beautiful part of my story, was there  
Was always "ACCESS" FREEDOM to sit and talk story with our loved ones.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

"ACCESS" Access to our Iwi's, no time limits, no calls to, so called LAND/OWNERS  
To give us permission to walk down the trail to show our Love & Aloha to our Kupuna's  
To our Ancestor's. From Mauka to Makai, near our river-beds, under our keawe trees,  
from

Our Hawaiian Islands, Island of Hawai'i, Mau'i, Lana'i, Kahoolawe, Moloka'i, Oahu, Kaua'i

Even our littlest Island of Nehoa's surrounding waters and our precious Island of Ni'ihau.  
Our

Kanaka Maoli should never, never be denied Access to their Kupuna's, Makuahine & Makuakane, "A'ole'!! At the beginning of time on our Hawaiian Lands, we buried our Kupuna's. Land was vast. It is their Land, their right to be buried in dignity and not to be Hauled away like bag of "Opala". Then comes the Land/Owners, some from here and others

From across the Ocean buying up the Beach/Front Land, (where our ancestors are buried) So they can see the whales, etc, to build their KA'APEHA, (impressively large) Hale's. This would be my fervent prayer to have "Access" given back to our Ohana as long as I can serve

On the Hawaii Island Burial Council

5. Name 3 qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How Would these qualities benefit the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i
  1. Mother w/5children, all graduates of Kahuku Hi, 2sons to college, 1/son Tech school 1/son, Heavy-equipment operator in C.A., daughter worked in a Bakery in Hauula, expertise in cake/décor, now working T.A D.O.E Dad Passed in 1975. Tough job— Tough Love
  2. Worked for the D.O.E/30yrs cafeteria Windward schools. Volunteer in our Kaaawa/Hauula community,PTSA, SCBM, Koolauloa Welfare Rights, Founder Pre-School,3/4yrs old, site  
@ QLCC HaleAha,Punaluu Oahu, Hawaiian Civic Club,Koolauloa, Drug Program, working w/Kaneohe/Kahuku HPD. In the 1970's I became an Activist for our H awaiian opio and in 1977 went to Kahoolawe to stop the bombing. Mission accomplished, the aina is back to the people of Hawaii.
  3. Retired, living here in Kamuela on my Hawaiian homestead Land. I have been volunteering  
For the Queen Lili U 'okalani's orphan group from 1975 in Punaluu Oahu, continuing my  
Volunteer time here in Kamuela.

The benefit would be mine to serve on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council. Only I would know in my Puuwai how much I have done for my children and my communities.

6. Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Island Burial council, Island of Hawai'i?

It all started 2yrs. ago. A very dear friend of mine and her Ohana, who lives on Hawaiian hmstd land here in Waimea, desperately needed a new Hale. All women, sisters, daughter, aunty. Malia

And I got together to see if we could help. At first it was hard, very personal for them, but we both made a trusting and loving agreement with my friend and her Ohana. Today the hale is built,

Mahalo to Habitat for Humanity in which Malia did all the paper work with them, people from the Catholic Church here in Waimea, who graciously gives their time and prayers, each taking their turn to feed all the carpenters, painters, dry/wallers, washers who washes all the paint brushes, many more people. For me, I don't stand out, we all do. The electricians and the plumbers are now coming in. In couple more months the Ohana will be ready to move in.

How would this be an inspiration to the HIBCouncil?, We cannot be afraid of something that is

Pono, If the HIBCouncil can see that doing the right thing for our Hawaiian People, how strong our minds and our Kino can become, especially our Hearts. Ke Akua said, "when you do for my people, you do for me". I will always believe that My Wealth, is My Health, Now My dearest family will always live healthy in her new hale.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of Interest?

There will always be Conflict of Interest in such a group that determines who has the most monies, land, power or rights. Many time our Laws are made to be broken, but the question is who can break the Law. There are too many HB&SB sections in the rules and regulations that the government tends to throw out there among the Tombstones. They call this "BALANCE" when pertaining to the HIBC. 3bigland/owners/developers and 7 residents. The developer's visions are extremely long and huge and with cost, residents visions are what they are satisfied with, maybe I'm speaking for myself, my mana'o. Maybe heading of Conflict of Interest really needs to come under the title of GOOD ETHICS. I do believe tho, under the new Testament, we out-number the Big-Guys thru a strong faith and understanding of the Hawaii Island Burial Council and what this Council stands for, Protecting all our "IWT"S and ACCESS. I can overcome some of their Conflict of Interest.

E kau I ka hano ia'u ia ke ka'a malalo ma ka mokupuni 'o Hawai'i aha Kanu  
I am honored to serve on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council

Mahalo Nui ia kou Manawa a mea hoomanawanui

Thank you for your time and patience!

Mary Maxine Kahaulelio