

GM901

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOAN CANFIELD, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

TESTIMONY
OF
JOAN E. CANFIELD
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WATER, LAND, & HOUSING
ON
April 17, 2012

G.M. 901

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, JOAN E. CANFIELD, for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I would like to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. I have been privileged to serve as a member of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission for the past 5 years.

I have been a resident of Hawai'i for a total of 26 years, first arriving in 1980 as a graduate student at UH Manoa. I received a Ph.D. in Botany, specializing in Plant Ecology. My career focused for 20 years on science-based management of Hawai'i's natural resources, particularly its unique and endangered species. I have worked for The Nature Conservancy, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the US

Geological Survey's Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center (where I was Deputy Director). I now work part-time for Hawaii Public Radio, but continue as Affiliate Graduate Faculty in UH Manoa's Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology Program.

I have served on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission (as a scientist from O`ahu) since your committee confirmed the initial set of members in 2007. I have been an active member, serving on the Subcommittee on Rules and Management Funds and helping to develop applicant evaluation criteria.

It has been a privilege to work with the other Commissioners and DLNR staff, and it is extremely gratifying to see the fruition of so many worthy projects that we have recommended for funding over the past 5 years. I would greatly enjoy contributing my experience and institutional memory for 3 more years.

My vision for the Legacy Land Conservation Commission is that it continue to review applications with thoroughness and integrity in an open atmosphere of fairness and honesty. I hope that funding levels will permit additional outreach for the program, so that potential applicants and landowners across these islands can take full advantage of this opportunity to preserve the `aina for future generations.

In closing, I would like to thank the Committee for giving me the opportunity to be here today, and for considering my nomination. I appreciate those who submitted testimony on my behalf.

At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

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
WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Tuesday, April 17, 2012
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 901 –
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE LEGACY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JOAN E. CANFIELD,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2016.**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message (G.M.) 901, nominating Joan E. Canfield, Ph.D., to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission (Commission) for a partial term to expire June 30, 2016. Pursuant to Section 173A-2.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Dr. Canfield fills the Commission composition requirement of being a person that possesses scientific qualifications evidenced by an academic degree, and is a resident of the City and County of Honolulu.

Joan E. Canfield, Ph.D., is Affiliate Graduate Faculty for the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Department of Botany & Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology Program. She possesses the required advanced science degree, a Doctorate in Botany (Plant Ecology) from the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. She has considerable experience in grant proposal review and broad knowledge of Hawaii's ecological resources. She has carried out research in the Alaka'i Swamp, on Big Island 'ohia forests and on endangered Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa silverswords. Dr. Canfield also has a particularly strong background in endangered species biology and management, having worked for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to prepare endangered species listing packages and responding to lawsuits on listing and designation of critical habitat for Hawaiian species. Dr. Canfield's broad conservation experience and specialized knowledge of Hawaii's ecological resources have greatly benefitted the Commission during her last five years of service on the Commission.

Dr. Canfield's current familiarity with the Legacy Land Conservation Program, as well as her contributions to the Commission's criteria and procedures, make her an invaluable asset to the Department. The Department strongly supports G.M. 901 on the appointment of Dr. Joan E.

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

Canfield to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission and is appreciative of her continued commitment and service.



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Pacific Biosciences Research Center
Center for Conservation Research and Training

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair, Water, Land, & Housing Committee
Senate District 22
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202
Honolulu, HI 96813

April 16, 2012

Re: Dr. Joan Canfield's nomination to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission

Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz:

I support the confirmation of nominee Dr. Joan E. Canfield to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission, without reservation.

I am a Researcher (equivalent to Full Professor) at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, and Chair of the UHM Graduate Program in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology (EECB). This is my personal testimony – I do not represent the University of Hawaii.

I have known Dr. Canfield for about 15 years as a major figure in the conservation of natural resources and biodiversity in Hawaii and the Pacific. In particular, I have worked closely with her for the last 12 years or so in the EECB program. She has been a member of and now chairs the Research and Travel Grants Committee of EECB. In this capacity I have developed immense respect for Dr. Canfield. She is extremely conscientious, logical and clear in her assessments of the grant applications, has the students' well-being and education at the forefront of her approach, and is truly enthused by the outstanding environmentally related research many of them are carrying out.

Not only is Dr. Canfield an accomplished scientist (PhD in Botany from UHM in 1986), but she has worked extensively with many of the Federal and non-governmental agencies involved in natural resource management in Hawaii, including the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Geological Survey and the Nature Conservancy, notably having been involved with sensitive species and habitats. In these various capacities she has collaborated with many other Federal, State and non-governmental organizations and has a deep understanding not only of Hawaiian ecosystems and their management but also of the numerous agencies involved, their responsibilities and constraints.

Dr. Canfield is strongly committed to community service – note her enthusiastic work for and support of Hawaii Public Radio. She is a serious, committed environmentalist with a practical, common sense approach to working with agencies and the community to achieve what is best for Hawaii. She will continue to be an asset to the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert H. Cowie".

Robert H. Cowie, Ph.D.

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Lloyd L. Loope

April 14, 2012

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Chairman, Water, Land, & Housing Committee
Senate District 22
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 202
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Dr. Joan Canfield's Nomination to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission

Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz:

I am writing to support the confirmation of Joan Canfield (GM901), a nominee for a third term on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. A research biologist with U.S. Geological Survey and resident of Maui since 1980, I served on Hawaii's Natural Area Reserves System Commission during 2000-2008.

I have known Dr. Canfield for nearly 30 years and worked with her closely during her days with USGS in the 1990s. Her contributions to conservation have been substantial. Her talents are first-rate, and I am pleased that she has been able to serve on the highly important Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Realizing the important mandate for state protection of lands at risk of development, I have followed the deliberations of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission over the years and am much impressed with their progress in selecting an outstanding mix of prime sites. I can imagine that the work has been and will continue to be intellectually challenging and even at times exhausting. There seems to be an excellent mix of dedicated Commissioners. Based on everything I know about Dr. Canfield, I'm confident that she is a key member of the team. Please keep her on the Commission to assure continued progress for Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lloyd L. Loope". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lloyd L. Loope
Makawao, HI

DALE B. BONAR, PH.D.

400 Auli'i Drive
Pukalani, Hawaii 96768

Phone: (808) 573-1960
Email: daleb@hawaii.rr.com

April 14, 2012

**Testimony in Support of Joan Canfield (GM 901) to the Legacy Lands
Commission**

Committee on Water, Land and Housing Hearing, Tuesday, April 17, 2:45 PM,
Conference Room 224

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz, Vice-Chairman Solomon, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

I enthusiastically support the confirmation of Dr. Joan Canfield to a second term on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. As current Chair of the LLCC, I have worked closely with Dr. Canfield on the Commission for the past four years and have found her to be an excellent colleague who brings fair, open and experienced judgments to the procedures we needed to develop and the projects which we subsequently reviewed and recommended for funding.

As a commission with the responsibility for recommending dispersal of the Legacy Lands Fund, we have all taken very seriously the charge of developing fair, effective, balanced policies for inviting, reviewing and prioritizing projects for recommendation to the BLNR for funding. This has involved reviewing, modifying and updating application materials, establishing criteria by which we evaluate the proposals and developing impartial procedures for prioritizing the projects in each round. Joan has voluntarily taken on the responsibility of collating the ideas and suggestions that have come from commission discussions and worked with staff to prepare refined application and evaluation procedures that have worked very well for the commission, but in addition have also been applauded by applicants as clear, fair and straightforward. This has been particularly important since we have wanted to be sure the process would not be onerous for smaller conservation or cultural organizations requesting funding.

Joan was also a strong proponent of having at least one, and preferably two, commissioners physically visit each proposed project before deliberations so that we could bring the best understanding of each to our colleagues. We have used this process for three years of proposal reviews and the whole commission agrees that it is invaluable in helping us make our best decisions which are always difficult because there are so many good projects but only limited funds.

Joan's training and life's work as an environmental scientist, which includes extensive experience on grant and funding panels, coupled with her thoughtful, thorough evaluation of all commission issues has made her a tremendously valuable asset both to the commission, and to the State of Hawaii.

I give Joan Canfield my strongest recommendation for re-confirmation. Please feel free to contact me for any further information.

Respectfully,

Dale B. Bonar, Ph.D.

Chair, Legacy Land Conservation Commission
Chair, Natural Areas Reserve System Commission
Executive Director, Hawaiian Islands Land Trust