

LATE TESTIMONY

February 26, 2013

Terry Lee Poaipuni
PO Box 189
Hana, Maui, HI 96713

TO: Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
RE: William Clay Park for Consideration and Confirmation

My name is Terry Lee Poaipuni and I reside in Hana, Maui. I am employed at Maui's Native Hawaiian Healthcare System, Hui No Ke Ola Pono, as a Senior Healthcare Worker. I am also a spouse of a Viet Nam Veteran. My job is to advocate for Veterans to get their benefits. This letter is in support of William "Clay" Park to be considered to serve on the State Advisory Board of Veteran Services. He has been instrumental in assisting Veterans in Hana and I know he will be a great asset to your Committee.

Respectfully,



Terry Lee Poaipuni
Hana

GM 574

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Aloha Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Kawika Riley, and I am pleased and honored to have the opportunity to testify in support of the nomination of William Clay Park to the Governor's Advisory Board on Veterans Services.

In addition to being a veteran himself, Mr. Park is a committed public servant who has done great things for his fellow warriors both on and off the battlefield. I first met Clay during my time as Committee Staff at the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, during the Chairmanship of Senator Daniel Akaka.

Clay was identified by Senator Akaka for his commitment to reaching veterans wherever they were. Sometimes, this meant approaching a tent community in rural Oahu to provide food and benefits application forms to homeless veterans. Other times it meant using his hunting and tracking skills to find veterans who had disappeared into the mountains of Hawaii, and help them come back to society. Still other times, it simply meant meeting fellow veterans at Zippy's for coffee at any hour of the day or night, to implore them to take better care of themselves.

Clay taught me many things that helped me serve Senator Akaka on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, as he informed me about what he was seeing at the ground level in the veteran community. I also saw the benefits of the "Aunties and Uncles" program he developed and grew at Helping Hands Hawaii and Papa Ola Lokahi. That program, as you may know, is now being replaced in Native communities like those in Alaska. In other words, the good work he is doing for Hawaii's veterans is spreading across the nation.

I hope that you will support Clay Park's nomination.

Malama Pono,

Kawika Riley