

GM 589

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, Gubernatorial Nominee, MAUNA KEA HIGUERA TRASK, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Report Title: Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: THA

Introducer(s):

Sort by Date		Status Text
1/22/2013	S	Received.
1/22/2013	S	Referred to THA.
2/19/2013	S	The committee(s) on THA has scheduled a public hearing on 03-04-13 2:45PM in conference room 224.

TESTIMONY LIST

Representative Derek Kawakami		SUPPORT
Ihilani Laureta		SUPPORT



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
March 4, 2013
2:45 PM

Testimony in SUPPORT of Gubernatorial Nominee:

Mauna Kea Trask-GM 589

Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau

Chair Galuteria, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs:

It is with great pride and honor that I submit my support for confirmation of Mauna Kea Higuera Trask to the Island Burial Council, Kaua'i and Ni'ihau.

Through his years of active legal experience and research collectively with a strong family legacy of kuleana; Mauna Kea possesses a vast knowledge base of ancestral Native Hawaiian remains and the extraordinary responsibility to care for the *iwi* of na kupuna.

As a member of the Island Burial Council, Mauna Kea will be a true asset as he brings to the discussion a critical understanding of the necessity to safeguard burial ancestral sites as well as to find appropriate re-internment of remains for the continued care by living descendants. Furthermore, as a fourth generation Native Hawaiian attorney, he will contribute to the Island Council a dialogue that is crucial to balance the protection of burial sites and the adherence to state and federal laws regarding cultural and historical preservation.

Mahalo for your time and consideration and please call my office at 586-8435 if I can be of any further assistance.

Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami

District 14, East and North Kauai
Vice Chair, Consumer Protection and Commerce
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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM589
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MAUNA KEA HIGUERA TRASK
ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NI'IHOU
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2017

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs

Monday, March 4, 2013
2:45 p.m., Room 224

Honorable Chair Galuteria, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs, I am writing in support of the confirmation for Gubernatorial Nominee, Mauna Kea Higuera Trask, to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, term to expire 6/30/2017.

I've had the privilege of working with Mr. Trask on the County Fire Commission while I was employed at the Office of Boards and Commissions, County of Kaua'i.

During that time, Mr. Trask demonstrated the values and strong work ethic that I believe are important attributes to serve on the Island Burial Council - honest, dependable, collaborative, punctual, resourceful, and efficient. He is always well prepared as it pertains to his work whether he is presenting to the County Council, a Commission, or to the community. In addition, Mr. Trask has an exceptional ability to interpret and clearly convey pertinent research and information as it relates to critical community issues and concerns.

I was born and raised in Wailua, Kaua'i and am always looking towards our homegrown leaders, people who live and breathe Kaua'i, to be the voice this island so desperately needs in preserving not only the Hawaiian culture but the artifacts and landmarks of what is left behind of our ancestors.

I believe Mr. Trask would serve and represent Kaua'i well, and would be an asset to the Council as he would not only bring his legal background and experience into the mix, but his passion toward preserving and sustaining that of which is "Old Hawai'i".

For these reasons, I strongly support and ask for your support in confirming Mr. Trask to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Mahalo nui loa,



Ihilani C. J. Laureta