

GM 593

Koke'e State Park Advisory Council

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, **WAYNE SOUZA**, for a term to expire 6-30-2016

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P. O. Box 3390
Lihue, Hawai'i 96766
February 28, 2013

Senator Malama Solomon, Ph.D.
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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Dear Senator Solomon,

Re: Nomination to the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council

In response to your letter of February 20, 2013, I am providing you with the requested information:

- (1) I wish to be a member of the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council so that I would be able to assist in the protection and perpetuation of the values of the Koke'e area while providing for appropriate public usage.
- (2) I perceive the role of a member of the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council as being advisory and providing assistance while the responsibilities include reviewing and assisting in updating and revising the Koke'e state park master plan; advising and assisting in the management of the Koke'e recreational cabin leases; enhancing community education and cultural awareness of Koke'e state park; participating in the protection and preservation of Koke'e state park's natural and cultural resources; and advising and assisting in the overall implementation of the overall implementation of the Koke'e state park master plan.
- (3) I believe that I am qualified for the position based on the knowledge and experience I have gained from my being born and raised in West Kaua'i; being an outdoors person who frequents the Koke'e area; having earned a bachelor of science degree in outdoor recreation; and having been employed for 34 years with the Department of Land and Natural Resources as a park planner and the Kaua'i parks district superintendent. As such, I am very familiar with the natural, cultural, historical, and outdoor recreation resources of the Koke'e area; its stakeholders, usage, opportunities, and management and planning issues; and the park management and park master planning of the area.
- (4) What I hope to accomplish during my term of service, if confirmed, is to improve on the management of Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks through significant increases in the funding, staffing, and public-private partnerships for these two stellar state parks.

- (5) Three qualities that best describe me and that would make me stand out are my knowledge of the Koke'e area, my experience in park planning and park management, and my love of the outdoors. These qualities would benefit the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council with my in-depth knowledge of the Koke'e area, the workings of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and my passion for the protection of this special place,
- (6) One previous experience that would make me stand out is my 34-year employment with the Department of Land and Natural Resource as a park planner and the Kaua'i parks district superintendent. The Koke'e State Park Advisory Council would benefit from my knowledge of the management practices; park master plan process; and the institutional history of the Koke'e area; as well as the laws, rules, policies, standards, and guidelines that applies to Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks.
- (7) I do not foresee any possible conflict of interest during my service, if confirmed, on the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council.

Sincerely,



Wayne H. Souza

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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 AND LAND**

**Thursday, March 7, 2013
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 593
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
KŌKE'E STATE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
WAYNE H. SOUZA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2015**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) is in support of Governor's Message 593, on the nomination of Wayne H. Souza to the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Mr. Souza served in the United States Army Security Agency, after graduation from Waimea High School. With the G.I. bill, he studied at Utah State University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Outdoor Recreation. He started his career as a State Parks Planner and moved up to become Kaua'i District Parks Superintendent, retiring in 2009. His interests are in conservation biology, natural and local history and he volunteers his time with Hui o Laka, State Parks, West Kaua'i Business and Professional Association and Waimea High School Junior ROTC. Having spent many days of his youth in Kōke'e, he developed a passion for the many precious features and resources within and zealously pursued learning about them.

Please accept the Department's total support for Senate confirmation of Mr. Souza to the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council because the Department is confident his contributions to it will provide the guidance that is needed to ensure that the parks' resources are properly cared for and maintained for many generations to come.

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

ESTHER KIA'AINA
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



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 5, 2013

The Honorable Malama Solomon
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Capitol
451 South Beretania Street, Rm. 210
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Re: Gubernatorial Nominee: Wayne Souza
Koke'e State Park Advisory Council

Dear Senator ~~Solomon~~ *Malama*:

I am informed that Wayne Souza has been nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie for a position on the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council. I am in strong support of Mr. Souza's nomination and I am sure that he will do an exemplary job as a member of the council if approved by your committee.

It is my firm belief that if confirmed, Mr. Souza will become a valuable asset to the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration and if there are any questions with regard to the foregoing, please do not hesitate to communicate with me.

Sincerely,

RONALD D. KOUCHI
Senator - 8th Senatorial District

cc: Wayne Souza



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
March 5, 2013

Testimony in SUPPORT of Gubernatorial Nominees:

Charles Wichman, Jr.-GM 591
Kathryn Cassel-GM 592
Wayne Souza- GM 593

Koke'e State Park Advisory Council

Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro 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 serve 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.



Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, 14th District
East and North Kauai



HUI O LAKA

KŌKE'E

MUSEUM

Visitor and Activity Center

Waimea Canyon & Kōke'e State Parks

March 4, 2013

Senator Malama Solomon, PhD.

Via email only to SenSolomon@Capitol.Hawaii.Gov

Testimony in Support of Wayne H. Souza as
a member of the Kōke'e State Advisory Council

Anoai ke aloha e Senator Solmon,

As executive director of Hui o Laka, I worked directly with Wayne H. Souza from 1993 until his retirement as DLNR's Kaua'i State Parks Superintendent a few years ago. He attended every Hui o Laka Board of Trustees meeting (on his days off) during that period and dropped by our offices when he was working in Waimea Canyon and Kōke'e State Parks. We developed Hui o Laka's ongoing volunteer stewardship program, Kōkua ia Kōke'e, with his input and guidance. Because he helped us refine the program, Kōkua ia Kōke'e continues to grow in support of the Division's mandate to malama these precious parks.

I strongly support Wayne H. Souza's nomination to the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council as established by Act 223 of the 2008 Hawai'i State Legislature. He brings to the Council many years of park management experience on Kaua'i and a valuable inside view of DLNR/State Parks Division operations, constraints and opportunities. He is familiar with long-term planning efforts for the parks, and every aspect of management challenges here. His commitment to Waimea Canyon and Kōke'e State Parks is evident in his years of volunteering with his two children, now grown. He continues to volunteer when Hui o Laka sponsors community work days.

The Senate's confirmation of this nomination would balance the Council to include a retired Hawai'i State Parks professional whose interest in and concern for these mountain parks continues to this day. For the sake of the parks and the thousands who enjoy them each year, I hope the Senate will confirm his appointment to the Council.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Marsha Erickson

Marsha Erickson
Executive Director

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WTLTestimony](#)
Cc: kbvalier@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM593 on Mar 7, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 8:08:03 PM

GM593

Submitted on: 3/5/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 7, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Valier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am concerned about the possibility of Wayne Souza being appointed to the Kokee Advisory Council. During his time as State Parks Superintendent I found him to be obstructionist when it came to volunteer efforts in Na Pali Coast State Park and heard many stories of other people who found him difficult to work with. He seemed to need to control and micro manage to the point where it seemed that little got done as a result. I heard stories of what sounded like pettiness from people trying to deal with him and certainly people were discouraged by his attitude. It is my understanding that these difficulties were part of the reason he was moved out of the position of State Parks Superintendent. This seems important to investigate before pursuing his nomination further. I imagine that Mr. Souza does care about Kokee, but I am concerned that his style will be a liability on the advisory council.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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