

Frank O. Hay

L A T E

05. March 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 KOKE'E STATE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL**

I strongly support Wayne H. Souza as a Member of the Koke'e State Park Advisory Council. I have known and am pleased to have worked closely with Wayne since early 1993, both in his former capacity as Kauai Superintendent, State Parks, and as a volunteer, with his entire family, for Hui o Laka. Hui o Laka operates the Koke'e Natural History Museum, and Wayne served on our Board for almost twenty years as an Ex Officio Adviser to the Museum.

I have served both as a Director and now as President of Hui o Laka, and as President of the Koke'e Leaseholders Association. I was honored to work closely with Wayne in identifying areas of mutual interest within the Parks, where Hui o Laka and Leaseholders worked together with State Parks to renovate virtually all the public facilities in both the Waimea Canyon and Koke'e State Parks. We accomplished these important renovations at a time of declining budgets, in a true partnership with the State – Leaseholders and volunteers providing labor, the State – through Wayne – providing materials.

One significant measure of his commitment to Koke'e is his presence, generally with his entire family, at each and every Community Workday – one of the first to show up, and generally the last to leave. He exemplifies the commitment of State Parks to the crown jewel of Hawaii's park lands. His selfless efforts continue to be much appreciated by both the Leaseholders and Hui o Laka.

Wayne's leadership was instrumental in developing common ground and solutions for DLNR, the leaseholders and the Koke'e State Parks. This led to Act 223 of the 2008 Hawaii State Legislature, solving a long debate on the future of the leasehold recreation cabins and establishing the Advisory Council.

I respectfully suggest that the Senate confirm Wayne's nomination to the Koke'e State Park Advisory Committee.



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