

# GM 692

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTOPHER BAKER, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Report Title: Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: WTL

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		<b>Status Text</b>
3/1/2013	S	Received.
3/1/2013	S	Referred to WTL.
3/20/2013	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 03-28-13 1:15PM in conference room 225.



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

## KAHO'OLAWÉ ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793  
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885  
Website: <http://kahooolawe.hawaii.gov>

### COMMISSION MEMBERS

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*Chairperson*  
AMBER NĀMAKA WHITEHEAD  
*Vice-Chair*

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N. EMMETT ALULU, M.D.  
C. KALIKO BAKER, Ph.D.  
COLETTE Y. MACHADO

Michael K. Nāho'opi'i  
*Executive Director*

### TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL NAHO'OPI'I, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE KAHO'OLAWÉ ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

On GM 692, For Consideration and Confirmation of **CHRISTOPHER KALIKO BAKER** as  
Gubernatorial Nominee to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

Before the  
**SENATE WATER AND LAND COMMITTEE**

Thursday, March 28, 2013, 1:15pm. Room 225

Aloha Chairperson Solomon, Vice-Chairperson Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee. Governor's Message No. 692 nominates Christopher Kaliko Baker to serve on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in the seat reserved for a representative of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO). On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express our **strong support for Commissioner Baker and recommend his confirmation to a term with the KIRC** that will expire in June 2017.

A graduate of Castle High School and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), Commissioner Baker is a PhD candidate in Linguistics and an instructor of Hawaiian at UHM's Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language. As a long-time member of the PKO, Kaliko has been part of Kaho'olawe's history from the Navy's return of the island to its transition to State management of its natural and cultural resources. In addition, he brings to the commission his expertise in Hawaiian language and Hawaiian cultural traditions as a noted Hawaiian language playwright and lead cultural practitioner for the *makahiki* ceremony on Kaho'olawe.

Commissioner Baker has been serving as a member of the KIRC since his initial appointment on May 13, 2011. Since that time, Commissioner Baker has taken a guiding role in expanding the cultural use of the Reserve.

Commissioner Baker's dedication to perpetuating the native Hawaiian language and culture is in alignment with the KIRC's vision for Kaho'olawe; "where the people of Hawai'i cares for the land in a manner which recognizes the island and ocean of *Kanaloa* (an ancient name for Kaho'olawe) as a living spiritual entity. *Kanaloa* is a *pu'uhonua* (place of safety) and *wahi pana* (storied place) where Native Hawaiian cultural practices flourish."



**PROTECT KAHO'OLAWE 'OHANA**  
**P.O. Box 39**  
**Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748**

**Senate Committee on Water and Land**  
**March 28, 2013 at 1:15 pm**  
**Conference Room 225**

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM 692  
Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTOPHER BAKER,  
to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

Aloha Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land. My name is Joshua Kaakua of Waimanalo, Oahu and I am presenting official testimony of behalf of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('Ohana) in SUPPORT of GM 692 Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTOPHER KALIKO BAKER, to serve on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

Pursuant to HRS 6K-5(a)(2) that states, "Two members shall be appointed by the governor from a list provided by the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana," the 'Ohana completed a process to develop a list of qualified individuals, from which Governor Abercrombie appointed Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker. Dr. Baker has been serving on the KIRC since June 2011.

Dr. Baker will continue to be a strong asset to the KIRC especially with regards to managing the reserve through a Native Hawaiian cultural lens. Throughout these past 21 years, he has demonstrated a sincere dedication to heal and restore the resources of Kaho'olawe. Dr. Baker is a Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana kua (group leader) and mo'olono, a trained group of men who have kuleana to conduct sacred Lono ceremonies and rituals in annual Makahiki cultural practices on Kaho'olawe. Dr. Baker is an expert in Linguistics, has been kumu of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa Kawaihuelani since 2002 and, with his wife, are leaders in the movement to revive our 'ōlelo makuahine through education and also in their capacity as talented Native Hawaiian-medium playwrights. In addition, he is a loving father of two children both graduates of Native Hawaiian language youth immersion education. He is very active in the Hawaiian language community and will bring valuable skills and perspective to the KIRC. I will add that he has a great sense of humor and is committed to working in partnership with the other commissioners to continue their good work.

Mahalo for your attention to the 'Ohana testimony in support of CHRISTOPHER BAKER's consideration and confirmation.

Aloha 'Āina

Joshua Kaakua  
Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana

Digitally signed by JOSHUA KAAKUA  
Date: 2013.03.22 13:31:29 -10'00'



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII  
MĀNOA

MEMORANDUM

Re.: Support for C.M. Kaliko Baker, Ph.D. for Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve  
Commission

Aloha mai kākou!

This brief memo provides Hawaiʻinuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge support for Kaliko Baker as a member of the Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission. As an instructor of Hawaiian Language in the Department of Hawaiian Language (Kawaihuelani), Dr. Baker provides students, faculty, staff, and community members with valuable ʻāina based and language/culture rich learning experiences on Kahoʻolawe. This work is essential to ensuring the vitality of our living language and enriching our kuleana. Additionally, Dr. Baker works with scholars across the UH Mānoa campus to engage them in conversation, learning, and work for and on Kahoʻolawe.

I wholeheartedly support Dr. C.M. Kaliko Baker's participation.

E mālama pono!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maenette K.P. Ah Nee-Benham".

Maenette K.P. Ah Nee-Benham, Dean

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER AND LAND

BY  
Kelvin Ho

IN SUPPORT OF GM 692 CONFIRMATION OF DR. CHRISTOPHER  
KALIKO BAKER TO THE KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE  
COMMISSION (KIRC)

Aloha Chairperson Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on  
Water and Land.

My name is Kelvin Ho and I am submitting testimony in support of GM 692  
Confirmation of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the KIRC.

I have known Kaliko since he became a member of PKO in the early 1993. I  
am sure you are aware of his numerous qualifications that give him the skills  
and insight to serve as a conscious steward of Kaho`olawe. As a mo`olono  
his commitment and unwavering focus on the cultural practices that sustain  
the island spiritually has allowed him to grow into a highly respected leader.  
His dedication to his family and community is a role model that many look  
up to. In his term as commissioner he displayed great communication skills  
as befits a linguist and offered clear perspective and insight from his solid  
base in the native community. He has balanced an excellence in academics  
with being firmly rooted to the land and stewardship. From the island of  
Kaua`i we offer full support for his appointment.

Mahalo for your consideration,  
Kelvin Ho

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
BY  
ANELA M.K. EVANS  
IN SUPPORT OF GM 692 CONFIRMATION OF DR. CHRISTOPHER KALIKO BAKER TO THE  
KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Aloha Chairperson Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My name is Anela Evans and I am submitting testimony in support of GM 692 Confirmation of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

I have known Dr. Baker for a number of years, as I was a haumana (student) of his Papa 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian Language class) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 2005. I have since participated in many huaka'i (trips) to the island of Kaho'olawe and served as a volunteer Kua (leader) for the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana along side Dr. Baker.

Dr. Baker has been a member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana since 1993. He is dedicated to the restoration of Kaho'olawe and has been leading the Makahiki ceremonies on Kaho'olawe for a number of years. He is spiritually grounded in our traditional cultural practices of Lonoikamakahiki and committed to the revival and flourishing of diverse Native Hawaiian cultural and spiritual practices on Kaho'olawe. Dr. Baker is committed to managing the island as a Native Hawaiian cultural reserve for the transition to the sovereign Native Hawaiian governing entity.

Dr. Baker holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics and is avidly involved in the Native Hawaiian community as a champion for Hawaiian language initiatives in education. He holds a strong position that projecting Hawaiian identity is key to survival of Hawaiians in modernity. As a Hawaiian language speaker and teacher, Baker has an expertise that is valuable to the management of Kaho'olawe as a cultural reserve and trust for the Native Hawaiian people.

I humbly ask you to confirm Governor Abercrombie's appointment of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I believe that Dr. Baker's appointment will aid in providing for a transition of leadership to the next generation of leaders for Kaho'olawe and our Lāhui.

Mahalo for your consideration. Aloha 'Āina.

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER  
AND LAND

By  
Ka'iulani Murphy

IN SUPPORT OF GM 692 CONFIRMATION OF DR. CHRISTOPHER KALIKO  
BAKER TO THE KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION (KIRC)

Aloha Chairperson Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My name is Ka'iulani Murphy and I am submitting testimony in strong support of GM 692 Confirmation of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the KIRC.

I have known Kaliko for over ten years, first meeting him when he brought his Hawaiian language students to the 'āina of my 'ohana for a weekend of immersion in the language. His dedication to perpetuating our living language and cultural knowledge and practices was immediately evident and I have had the privilege to observe and benefit from many of Kaliko's as well as his families' important hana since that time. Kaliko is an engaging instructor who was integral to the development of the Masters of Hawaiian degree at UH Mānoa.

I have also had the great honor to serve alongside Kaliko on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for a short time, he was appointed in the last year of my two-year term. Kaliko's understanding of the importance of policies and procedures combined with his extensive cultural knowledge and years of experience with Kanaloa Kaho'olawe more than qualify him to serve on the Commission. A long time member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, Kaliko earned the great kuleana to lead the makahiki ceremonies on the island, a kuleana that he fulfills with great care and pride. He is a great role model for young kāne and humbly serves as a respectable leader within our lāhui. Kaliko is committed to further the healing of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe, managing the island as a cultural reserve and trust for the transition to the sovereign Native Hawaiian governing entity and fulfilling the mission of the KIRC.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share my strong support of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker in his reappointment to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

BY  
KASHA HO'OKILI HO

IN SUPPORT OF GM 692 CONFIRMATION OF DR. CHRISTOPHER KALIKO BAKER TO THE  
KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION (KIRC)

Aloha Chairperson Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My name is Kasha Ho'okili Ho, and I am submitting testimony in support of GM 692 Confirmation of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the KIRC. I have been a member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana for the past 11 years, and wholeheartedly support Kaliko Baker's nomination to serve on the KIRC. Dr. Baker has been a primary guiding support, and inspiration to myself and others through his role in the 'Ohana and as a KIRC Commissioner since June 2011.

Kaliko Baker holds a strong position that projecting Hawaiian identity is key to the survival of Hawaiians in modernity. As an instructor of Hawaiian language at the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, Dr. Baker is affiliated with the Native Hawaiian language schools and initiatives in the broader community. Baker is committed to managing the island as a Native Hawaiian cultural reserve for the transition to the sovereign Native Hawaiian governing entity.

Dr. Baker is spiritually grounded in our traditional cultural practices of Lonoikamakahiki and committed to the revival and flourishing of diverse Native Hawaiian cultural and spiritual practices on Kaho'olawe. As a Hawaiian language speaker and teacher, Baker has an expertise that is valuable to the management of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe as a cultural reserve and trust for the Native Hawaiian people.

Baker's renewed nomination to the KIRC will provide for a transition of leadership to the next generation of leaders for Kaho'olawe and our Lāhui. I humbly ask for your support to confirm Kaliko Baker as a Commissioner for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.



TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

BY

Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D.

IN SUPPORT OF GM 692 CONFIRMATION OF DR. CHRISTOPHER KALIKO BAKER TO THE  
KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION (KIRC)

Aloha Chairperson Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My name is Dr. Noa Emmett Aluli. As a member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and a commissioner on the KIRC, I am submitting testimony in support of GM 692 for the confirmation of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the KIRC.

I met Dr. Baker in November 1993 when he first came to Kanaloa-Kaho'olawe for an opening *makahiki* ceremony. He has been a committed member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('Ohana) ever since.

As a proficient Hawaiian language speaker, Dr. Baker brings a better understanding to the *'olelo* that we use on Kanaloa-Kaho'olawe. As a proficient Hawaiian practitioner, he brings important insights into the ongoing management of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe as a special cultural trust for the Native Hawaiian people.

I have served with Dr. Baker on the KIRC since my re-appointment in 2012. His kuleana on the Commission is to serve on the cultural working group and the cultural stewardship committees. His cultural expertise has proven to be very valuable in fulfilling these responsibilities.

In my mind, his true value will be realized as the KIRC develops the strategic plan for the island through 2026, because he is of the next generation of young Hawaiian leaders who will carry out the plan that will be adopted. Moreover, he is linked to the broader community of Hawaiian language educators, parents and students who we hope to involve in giving input to the development of the plan for Kanaloa Kaho'olawe to become a cultural learning center for future generations.

I thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Dr. Baker and urge your committee to confirm his appointment which will allow him to continue his public service as a commissioner of the KIRC. Mahalo and Aloha . . . Aloha 'Āina.

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

BY  
Kevin K.J Chang

IN SUPPORT OF GM 692 CONFIRMATION OF DR. CHRISTOPHER KALIKO BAKER TO THE  
KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION (KIRC)

Aloha Chairperson Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My name is Kevin Chang and I am submitting testimony in support of GM 692: Confirmation of Dr. Christopher Kaliko Baker to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Professor Baker is a dear friend and classmate of mine in James B. Castle High School's Class of 1990. His growth into a highly compassionate, artist, teacher, advocate, father and member of our community is a source of pride and inspiration to myself and my classmates.

I believe many others will come before you citing Chris' scholarly, linguistic and culture contributions, authorities and accomplishments. These are all well and helpful in making your decision. Ultimately, I have seen Chris grow in these ways too and throughout that he has maintained the content of his virtuous character, something of which I feel is more important than politics or palapala. His contributions and informed 'ike now and into the future support renewal of the Hawaiian language, epistemology and our overall communal connection to ka pae'āina o Hawai'i. I urge you to confirm Chris so he may continue to invigorate the KIRC commission with the spirit necessary for our long term vision of who we want to become.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on behalf of my friend. It is something I am particularly proud to do,

Pūpūkahi I holomua e ho'okanaka.

Kevin

**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tagi qolouvaki	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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Sean Murphy	Individual	Support	No
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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	No

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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

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Nau'ilei'ilima Murphy	Individual	Support	No

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## Piikea Tomczyk

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### GM692

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

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Kawaiolimaikamapuna Hoe	Individual	Support	No

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**Piieka Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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Kawehi Murphy	Individual	Support	No
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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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Denise Murphy	Individual	Support	No
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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
atsushi sawada	Individual	Support	No

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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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John Boyden	Individual	Support	No
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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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Submitted on: 3/27/2013

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaiana Haili	Individual	Support	No

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**Piieka Tomczyk**

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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Lauren Shim	Individual	Support	No
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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
david debos	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 27, 2013 10:41 AM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** mariebro@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM692 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marie Alohalani Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support Christopher Kaliko Baker for this position.

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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 27, 2013 7:52 AM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** oopu\_5@yahoo.com  
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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/27/2013

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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Leimomi Wheeler	Individual	Support	No
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Comments:

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**Piikea Tomczyk**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 21, 2013 2:04 PM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** brutusluv@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM692 on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM

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**GM692**

Submitted on: 3/21/2013  
Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Blake Brutus La Benz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of Mr. Baker serving on the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission.

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## Piikea Tomczyk

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**From:** Faith Kahale Saito [kahale16@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2013 7:53 AM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Subject:** Support of KIRC Commissioners Namaka Whitehead and Kaliko Baker

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Aloha mai kakou,

I submitting a testimony in support of Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission Commissioners Namaka Whitehead and Kaliko Baker. They are highly respectable Hawaiians in the community, and are positively contributing to a better Hawai'i in their professional roles as a land manager and an educator. They have been dedicated to the restoration of Kahoolawe and have carried very important roles in facilitating ceremonies that take place on the island. Their expertise and input will definitely enhance the decision making and future planning for the island. Please support them in their efforts to continue as Commissioner for KIRC.

Aloha Aina,

Faith Kahale Saito