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Senate Committee on Tourism & Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Senator Gilbert Agaran, Vice Chair

Hearing Notice
Wednesday, February 13, 2013
2:45PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol

Testimony Supporting SB 407 (Relating to Burial Councils) w/ Amendments

Aloha Chair Galuteria and Committee Members,
I'm a lifetime resident of Mokule'ia with lineage spanning several generations in Waialua Moku. Although I'm a current member of the North Shore Neighborhood Board (Mokule'ia to Ka'ena Point) along with other cultural and community participation, I'm presenting testimony as an individual. I support SB 407 with the following amendments:

1. The candidate and representative (when selected) **BE PHYSICALLY A CURRENT RESIDENT OF THAT SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHICAL AREA.** Since the Island Burial Council is a **STATE BOARD/COMMISSION**, it be consistent to legislators representing a specific geographical area.
2. The candidate and representative (when selected) should be an **ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN CULTURAL & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS OF THAT SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHICAL AREA.** Many projects that may impact burials are presented at the localized level at such entities as the Neighborhood Board(s) here on Oahu. Here on the North Shore Neighborhood we have such projects as the Turtle Bay expansion regarding their Supplement Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Board of Water Supply upgrading of repairs of sub surface lines.
3. Ensured preservation of a **RECOGNIZED LINEAL DESCENDANT** regarding burial treatment of a previously identified or inadvertently disturbed burial as contained in Chapter 6E (State) and NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection Act-Chapter 106) at the Federal Level.
4. If quorum requirements are not met, the meeting can still proceed as an **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** and therefore **NO ACTION TAKEN REGARDING IT.** This is currently done during Public Hearings and at the C & C of Honolulu's Neighborhood Board Program.
5. Lastly, the candidate should have a **COMMITMENT TO ATTEND BURIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.**

Having served on the Oahu Island Burial Council (OIBC) it's important these amendments are included in the selection criteria for specific geographical area

representation and current awareness of projects that may encounter previously identified or inadvertently disturbed burials. Malama Iwi Kupuna.

Thomas T Shirai Jr

Mokule'ia, Waialua