

# GM505

[GM505](#)



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**Measure Title:** Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AARON MAHI, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.

**Report Title:** Land Use Commission

**Description:**

**Companion:**

**Package:**

**Current Referral:** WTL

**Introducer(s):**

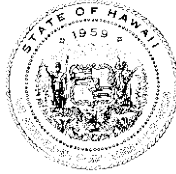
<a href="#">Sort by Date</a>		Status Text
1/23/2014	S	Received.
1/23/2014	S	Referred to WTL.
1/31/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 03-10-14 1:15PM in conference room 225.
3/6/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL has rescheduled its public hearing to 03-28-14 1:00PM in conference room 225.
3/27/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL deleted the measure from the public hearing scheduled on 03-28-14 1:00PM in conference room 225.
4/2/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 04-14-14 1:15PM in conference room 225.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

SHAN TSUTSUI

RICHARD LIM

MARY ALICE EVANS



DANIEL ORODENKER

BERT K. SARUWATARI

SCOTT A.K. DERRICKSON, AICP

RILEY K. HAKODA

FRED A. TALON

**LAND USE COMMISSION**

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
State of Hawai'i

Statement of

**Daniel E. Orodenker,**

Executive Director, State Land Use Commission

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Friday, March 28, 2014

1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of

**GM 504 & GM 505**

**CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION  
OF AARON MAHI**

To the Honorable Malama Solomon, Chair, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My name is Daniel Orodenker, and I am the Executive Officer of the Land Use Commission ("LUC"). I am here to respectfully request that this Committee favorably consider the nomination of Aaron Mahi to serve as commissioner for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2014 and for a four year term to expire on June 30, 2018. Mr. Mahi has been nominated to fill the role of commissioner having "substantial experience or expertise in traditional Hawaiian land usage and knowledge of cultural practices".

Mr. Mahi is well known for his past service as leader of the Royal Hawaiian Band and as an active member of the Hawaiian community. He has also served on the Burial Commission. Mr. Mahi's resume illustrates his contributions to the Hawaiian community and his knowledge of traditional Hawaiian cultural practices. Mr. Mahi is well regarded as a Hawaiian cultural resource.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of Mr. Mahi's nomination to serve as Commissioner on the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before this Committee.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM  
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
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Written Statement of  
**Mary Alice Evans**  
**Deputy Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Friday, March 28, 2014  
1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of

**GM 504 and GM 505**  
**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE LAND USE**  
**COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, AARON MAHI,**  
**FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014**  
**AND FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2018.**

Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land.

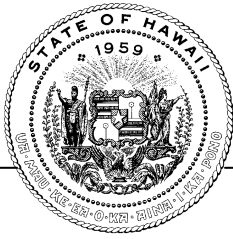
I respectfully urge your **strong support** for the confirmation of Aaron Mahi as a member of the State Land Use Commission.

Aaron Mahi is a respected cultural practitioner who will provide valuable advice as a member of the Land Use Commission on the protection for Hawaii's traditional and customary practices that may be impacted by decisions on petitions for redistricting land use boundaries.

Aaron Mahi has worked to preserve Native Hawaiian culture as a public servant for many years. His commitment to this mission is well known.

I respectfully urge your **favorable consideration** of the nomination of Aaron Mahi as a member of the Land Use Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR

**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
ACTING DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Telephone: (808) 587-2846  
Fax: (808) 587-2824  
Web: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
Acting Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Monday, April 14, 2014  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of  
**GM 504 & 505.**

Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

I support Governor Neil Abercrombie's nomination of Aaron Mahi to serve as a commissioner on the Land Use Commission. The Commission is comprised of one member from each of the counties, and the remainders are appointed at large. Hawaii Revised Statutes § 205-1, requires that at least one member have substantial experience or expertise in traditional Hawaiian land usage and knowledge of cultural land practices.

Mr. Mahi has worked as a cultural consultant for the Malama Aina Foundation, assistant cultural specialist for the Partners in Development Foundation, and chief manager of the Ka Waihona Mele Noeau (a division of the Abigail K.K. Kawananakoa Foundation). He is also a past district representative on the Oahu Island Burial Council and is first vice president of the Koolau-poko Hawaiian Civic Club board.

Thank you for considering my testimony in your deliberations.



*Ko`olau Foundation*

P. O. Box 4749  
Kane`ohe, HI 96744

March 26, 2014

To: Sen. Malama Solomon, Chair  
And Members  
Water & Land Committee

From: Mahealani Cypher  
Ko`olau Foundation Board Member

Re: G.M. 505 – Governor’s Appointment of Aaron Mahi  
to the State Land Use Commission, term ending 6-30-2018

Aloha Senator Solomon and Members of this Committee

The Ko`olau Foundation respectfully requests your support of the appointment of Aaron Mahi to serve on the State Land Use Commission for a term ending June 30, 2014.

As a member of our Board of Directors, Aaron has offered valuable insights and guidance to our members regarding work we are doing to preserve precious cultural resources here in Hawai`i. He shares his cultural knowledge but always balances his thinking by helping us to consider “big picture” issues as well.

Aaron Mahi is an excellent choice for the State of Hawai`i to serve on this important commission. He has high integrity and is valued and respected in our community.

Mahalo for your consideration of our recommendation. We urge your confirmation of his appointment.

Me kealoha pumehana

Handwritten signature of Mahealani Cypher.

MAHEALANI CYPHER



## **Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs**

P. O. Box 1135  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 505, AARON DAVID MAHI

Friday, March 28, 2014; 1:00 pm; Room 225

Aloha Madam Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and I am proud to support the confirmation of gubernatorial appointee Aaron David Mahi to the State Land Use Commission.

Well known to the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs as a member of Koolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, Aaron Mahi has always achieved with strength, dignity and a sense of cultural pride. His full range of skills is yet to be explored and becoming a member of such an important commission will offer new challenges and opportunities to serve. We have no doubt but that his contribution to the LUC will be lasting and meaningful.

We add our voice to the others that give praise to Aaron Mahi's excellence as a composer and musician, his compassionate understanding as a Kahu, his proven leadership ability and awesome knowledge of na mea Hawaii.

We urge the confirmation of Aaron David Mahi to the State Land Use Commission and mahalo for the opportunity to testify in his support.

Contact: [jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net)



# KO`OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

March 27, 2014

TO: Senator Malama Solomon, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair  
And Members, Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice P. Hewett, President  
Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

SUBJECT: G.M. 505, Appointment of Aaron Mahi to the Land Use Commission – Support

Aloha, Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of this Committee:

The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club strongly supports Aaron Mahi to serve on the State Land Use Commission, and urges you committee to support confirmation of his appointment.

As one of the state's largest Hawaiian Civic Clubs, we draw our membership from the nine ahupua`a around Kane`ohe Bay.

Aaron Mahi is a dedicated and beloved member of our civic club and currently serving as one of our vice presidents. It has been our experience that, hearing his mana`o about various issues that affect our community, Aaron has demonstrated his unique qualifications to serve on the very important State Land Use Commission. Whenever we have held discussions about various cultural and land use issues, particularly in the Ko`olaupoko region, Aaron has shared his broad awareness of effective land management and stewardship, into which he weaves his considerable cultural knowledge. He understands the vital role that the commission occupies in making major land use decisions for the benefit of the State of Hawai`i and its people

Aaron is deeply respected within our Hawaiian community and by many, many non-Hawaiians both in the islands, throughout the continental U.S., and internationally as well. He will truly be an asset to the commission.

We urge your committee to approve his appointment and to support his confirmation by the Senate as a whole. Mahalo for the opportunity offer our mana`o.

*The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians. Its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are "Hawaiian at heart".*

P. O. Box 664 \* Kaneohe, HI 96744 \* Ph. (808) 235-8111 \* [www.koolaupokohcc.org](http://www.koolaupokohcc.org)



**"E Paepae I Luna Loa I Ka Malamalama"  
"Hold High the Light of Knowledge"**

Pearl Harbor Hawaiian Civic Club  
Chartered: April 16, 1964  
P.O. Box 66, Aiea HI 96701



Testimony of Charles Kapua, President

**IN SUPPORT**

**GM 504 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AARON MAHI, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.**

**GM 505 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AARON MAHI, for a term to expire 6-30-2018.**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

March 28, 2014

Aloha Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and members of the Committee,

My name is Charles Kapua, President of the Pearl Harbor Hawaiian Civic Club. I am testifying on behalf of our club's members in strong support of Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Mr. Aaron Mahi to the Land Use Commission.

Mr. Mahi is qualified for this position and has the professional credentials and experience to successfully and effectively carry out the duties and responsibilities of a member of the Land Use Commission. His work with the Malama Aina Foundation, Partners in Development, the Hawaiian Civic Club movement, and the Oahu Island Burial Council, coupled with his profound knowledge of our culture and traditional practices make him an ideal candidate for this commission. He will bring years of experience and much-needed expertise to the state's Land Use Commission.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge your committee to advise and consent to this nomination. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



**From:** [Ed Wagner](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony For GM 504 & 505 In Support Of Aaron Mahi's Appointment To The Land Use Commission  
**Date:** Saturday, April 05, 2014 10:33:59 PM

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Dear Senator Solomon & Members of the WTL Committee,

I support the confirmation of Aaron David Mahi to the Hawaii Land Use Commission.

I have known Aaron for over 20 years while a volunteer selling Royal Hawaiian Band merchandise in Mililani. I still see him performing with George Kuo and Martin Pahinui at the Waikiki Beach Marriott, and we often get together for dinner or lunch to talk story. It was during our past Friday lunch in Mililani that I learned about the confirmation hearing on April 14.

No one can question his humbleness, his integrity, his dedication to the community, to the aina, and to the Hawaiian people.

Please confirm his position on the Land Use Commission.

Sincerely,

Ed Wagner  
Mililani, HI

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ndavlantes@aol.com](mailto:ndavlantes@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM505 on Mar 28, 2014 13:00PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 26, 2014 9:13:48 PM

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**GM505**

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for WTL on Mar 28, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have known Aaron for a long time and feel that it's about time that the LUC have a voice that can share Hawaiian cultural knowledge. I feel that the LUC has been derelict in its duty to help control development and preserve the islands' limited farmland and conservation land and another perspective is sorely needed.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)