

GM527

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kauai and Niihau, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEIANA ROBINSON, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Report Title: Island Burial Council, Islands of Kauai and Niihau

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
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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

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Friday, March 7, 2014
2:45PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 527
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NI'HAU, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, LEIANA ROBINSON, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2017**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 527, nominating Ms. Leiana Robinson to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, to expire June 30, 2017.

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. With regard to previously known burials, the Councils determine whether to leave the burial in place or remove it, recognize lineal and cultural descendants and provide counsel and advice to the Department.

Ms. Robinson was born and raised on Ni'ihau. That gives her a unique perspective. She brings to the Island Burial Council thoughts, experiences, and opinions unique to someone who speaks the mother tongue, Hawaiian, as it is a language that provides a unique identification of culture and its people.

Ms. Robinson has previously served on the Kaua'i-Ni'ihau Islands Burial Council and she remains eagerly committed to continue that service to her people.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Ms. Robinson's valuable knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Island Burial Council until June 30, 2017.



GM527

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NI'HAU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, LEIANA ROBINSON, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2017

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 7, 2013

2:45 p.m.

Room 224

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM527, which would confirm Leiana Robinson as the Ni'ihau regional representative to the Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Island Burial Council.

Ms. Robinson holds a unique experience to represent the genealogy, history, and culture of Ni'ihau for the benefit of the Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Island Burial Council. Ms. Robinson is a native of Ni'ihau which, as she expresses, imbues her with a deep and unique understanding of, appreciation for and kuleana to the people of her island. She feels a special connection and kuleana to the kūpuna of Ni'ihau who came before her. She has formerly served on the Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Island Burial Council as the representative for Ni'ihau and eagerly awaits the opportunity to serve again.

For these reasons, OHA urges the committee to **PASS** GM527 to advise and consent the nomination of Ms. Robinson to the Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Island Burial Council. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

**Testimony of Leimana DaMate
Aha Moku Advisory Committee**

Before the Senate Committee on
Hawaiian Affairs

Friday, March 7, 2014
2:45 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

**In Support of
Governor Message 527**

Leiana Robinson

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Hee and Members of the Senate Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

On behalf of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, we are deeply honored for the opportunity to strongly support Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Leiana Robinson to the Island Burial Council for the Islands of Kauai and Niihau.

Ms. Robinson is a native Hawaiian born and raised on the Island of Niihau. She is a spiritual and compassionate leader of her people of Ka Aina O Kawelonakala. She embodies the foundation of the Hawaiian people, and especially that of her island. Further, she is very familiar with the Hawaiian cultural protocols of Kaua'i and comes from an unbroken line on Niihau where the traditional protocols that surround kupuna iwi have continued.

We are very proud and happy that Governor Abercrombie nominated her for this position and urge this committee to support his nomination through passage of GM 527.

Respectfully yours,

Leimana DaMate, Executive Director
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
Ph: 808-587-1498

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: kyap@gayandrobinson.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM527 on Mar 7, 2014 14:45PM
Date: Monday, March 03, 2014 9:30:09 AM

GM527

Submitted on: 3/3/2014

Testimony for HWN on Mar 7, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith R Yap	Kauai Niihau Burial Council	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Testimony in Support of Leiana Robinson I have known Ms. Robinson for over 5 years and served with her on the Kauai Niihau Burial Council. Ms. Robinson has shown to be extremely knowledgeable on Niihau district matters and customs, as well as the Island of Kauai. I do not feel that there is a better person to represent the Niihau District than Ms. Robinson. Ms. Robinson has shown to be knowledgeable and engaged in our discussions of Iwi Kapuna and her comments always come from a deep cultural perspective. Her return to the Council will be welcomed. I hope that the Committee will agree and forward her application to the Senate for confirmation. Me Ke Aloha, Keith R. Yap Chairman Kauai Niihau Burial 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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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Friday, March 07, 2014
Conference Room 224 | State Capitol, 2:45pm

GM 527 Gubernatorial Nominee **LEIANA ROBINSON**
Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Island Burial Council

Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro me Vice Chair Hee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of LEIANA ROBINSON to the Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Island Burial Council.

Leiana is a great resource to represent one of this state's treasures, Ni'ihau.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support.

Adrian Kamali'i
Pae 'Āina Communications



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: kaliko08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM527 on Mar 7, 2014 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 28, 2014 10:07:34 AM

GM527

Submitted on: 2/28/2014

Testimony for HWN on Mar 7, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna K Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am from Kauai and of Native Hawaiian ancestry and I support the appointment of Leiana Robinson to the Kauai - Niihau Islands Burial 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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In Support of

Governor Message 527

Leiana Robinson

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my support for Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Leiana Robinson to the Island Burial Council.

Leiana has expressed a deep connection and burden for the people of Niihau and Kauai. She also has a unique understanding of practices and traditions both ancient and modern. But I firmly believe that the most valuable asset she would bring to the Council is her care and constant concern for the Native Hawaiian people and their culture.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my support for her.

Sincerely,

Shandra Macatee

808-212-4408