

GM700

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, DAVID KAAPU, for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

Report Title: Hawaiian Homes Commission

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: HWN

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

DARRELL T. YOUNG
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT
JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS ON

GM 700

for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **DAVID KAAPU**,
for a term to expire 6-30-2017.

April 15, 2014

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Hee, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the nomination of Mr. David Kaapu to serve on the Hawaiian Homes Commission. He brings expertise and experience in law, community leadership, anthropology and archaeology, finance, agriculture, and renewable energy development to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. We are confident that Mr. Kaapu will contribute to thoughtful consideration and sound decision-making by the commission.

Mr. Kaapu is well established in West Hawaii and is a pillar in his community. He has direct connections with our beneficiaries and insights into our communities that are invaluable to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. Mr. Kaapu's legal experience and service on several community boards including the Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation West Hawaii Regional Board, the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii, Friends of NELHA, and

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

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HWN, 4-15-2014

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the Hawaii Community Foundations West Hawaii Advisory Board, will be valuable to the commission.

Mr. Kaapu is a well-respected member of the community and is clearly qualified to serve on the Hawaiian Homes Commission. We respectfully request your favorable consideration, and urge this committee to advise and consent to this nomination.



GM700

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAIIAN
HOMES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, DAVID KA'APU, FOR A TERM
TO EXPIRE 6-30-2017**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 15, 2014

12:30 p.m.

Room 312

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM700, which would confirm David Ka'apu as the West Hawai'i representative on the Hawaiian Homes Commission, for a term to expire June 30, 2017. OHA believes that Mr. Ka'apu's broad range of business and professional experience will enable him to make significant contributions to the Hawaiian Homes Commission in its service to its native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Mr. Ka'apu holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology (Hawaiian Archaeology) from the University of Hawai'i, and a Juris Doctorate from Santa Clara University. His over twenty years of legal practice in such areas as wills and trusts, land use, quiet title and business law will bring additional and valuable perspectives to the Commission, particularly as it makes challenging homestead development decisions. A recent Attorney General opinion concluding that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is entitled to 100% of the royalties from geothermal development under DHHL lands also represents potential opportunities for increased revenues and additional homestead awards, and Mr. Ka'apu's background in land use law will greatly assist DHHL in evaluating and taking fuller advantage of any such opportunities.

Mr. Ka'apu has also devoted a substantial amount of time to service on various non-profit boards and commissions, including his current service as a member of both the Friends of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i Authority (NELHA) and the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i boards. These activities demonstrate Mr. Ka'apu's commitment to public service as well as his interest in examining natural energy and agricultural opportunities for Hawai'i, which may also inform his role as a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner.

Mr. Ka'apu is highly qualified to deal with the complex issues that face the Hawaiian Homes Commission and its beneficiaries, and will provide a wealth of experience and insight to help the Commission meet its responsibilities under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and the Hawai'i State Constitution.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM700. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 700

Tuesday; 4/15/14; 12:30 pm; Room 312

Aloha Madam Chair Shimabukuro, vice chair Hee and members of the Senate Hawaiian Affairs Committee. I am Soulee Stroud president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs pleased to support the confirmation of nominee David Ka`apu, Esq. to the Hawaiian Homes Commission for West Hawaii.

Mr. Ka`apu's background as an attorney will be very helpful with legal issues and concerns facing the Department of Hawaiian Home Land and the homesteaders. An added bonus, considering the potential for historic discovery on the vast acreage controlled by the Department, will be Mr. Ka`apu's degree in Hawaiian archaeology from the University of Hawaii.

We urge and support the Senate's confirmation of David Ka`apu to the Hawaiian Homes Commission for West Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Contact: jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

IN SUPPORT Of GM 700

Testimony of Leimana DaMate

Before the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Tuesday, April 15, 2014
12:30 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, DAVID KAAPU FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2017**

Government Message 700 calls for the consideration of David Kaapu to be confirmed to the Hawaiian Homes Commission representing the West Hawaii District of Hawaii Island.

As the out-going Hawaiian Homes Commissioner for West Hawaii, I strongly support Mr. Kaapu and ask that the Hawaiian Affairs Committee confirm his nomination.

David Kaapu has always supported our Hawaiian people and stays true to his own culture. I have known him and his family for a long time. During that time, he has been accessible to people, is an honest and just man who makes decisions with much thought and compassion.

One of the most challenging aspects of being a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner is the understanding and interpretation of the Hawaiian Homes Act while fulfilling the mandate of being primarily accountable to the beneficiary. He is an attorney and understands the nuances of law. This is important in working well within the Commission for the people. I am confident that Mr. Kaapu will use his expertise and knowledge in the most beneficial way for the Hawaiian people, the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Respectfully yours,

Leimana DaMate, Commissioner – West Hawaii
Hawaiian Homes Commission

Ph: 808-587-1498

Email: Leimana.K.DaMate@hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: dianeley@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM700 on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM
Date: Monday, April 14, 2014 10:04:36 AM

GM700

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for HWN on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Ley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN) Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Chair Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair April 15, 2014 Testimony on GM 700 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Gubernatorial Nominee, David B. Kaapu For a term to expire June 30, 2017 My name is Diane L. Ley, and I am a resident of both Hawaii Island and Oahu. I am currently employed in an executive position with the federal government and have served in similar appointed positions with the State of Hawaii and the County of Hawaii. I strongly support David B. Kaapu's nomination to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. I have known Mr. Kaapu since 1997 and have served with him for the past 12 years on the Board of Directors for the Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii. I have found Mr. Kaapu to have the highest degree of integrity and ethical standards. He listens with intent to fully understand the perspectives and concerns of others and is effective in reaching collaborative decisions and outcomes. Mr. Kaapu's ability to assess, analyze and make decisions that result in appropriate stewardship of an organization's resources has proven to be invaluable.

Mr. Kaapu possesses strong leadership skills; the ability to work well with others; and depth of insight and critical perspective necessary to contribute in an effective and dynamic manner to teams and organizations. His deep commitment to Hawaii's communities is evident by the number and range of boards, associations and community corporations he devotes his time and energy to. I am confident that, if confirmed, Mr. Kaapu will contribute significantly to the mandate and the stakeholders of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. Thank you for this opportunity to extend my full support for Mr. Kaapu's nomination to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. I respectfully ask the Chair and Committee Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs for your favorable consideration.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: dakatz@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM700 on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM*
Date: Monday, April 14, 2014 6:11:26 PM

GM700

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for HWN on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Godfrey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: kapinapalacat@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM700 on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM*
Date: Monday, April 14, 2014 6:12:12 PM

GM700

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for HWN on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: Cynthia@onipaa.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM700 on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM*
Date: Monday, April 14, 2014 12:12:43 PM

GM700

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for HWN on Apr 15, 2014 12:30PM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LeeAnn Crabbe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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April 13, 2014

Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Chair
Honorable Clayton Hee, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Shimabukuro, Senator Hee and Members of the Committee:

GM700 – Confirmation of DAVID KAAPU to the Hawaiian Homes Commission

I am honored to be writing in support of David Kaapu for service on the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The State of Hawai'i is lucky to have someone like David willing to devote the time necessary to be a good commission member; he is deeply committed to the community as evidenced by his current and past service with Hawai'i Community Foundation, Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Community Federal Credit Union and Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation Regional Board. He brings great experience and history to this appointment along with a great sense of integrity.

I have known David for many years and he always can be counted on to "tell it like it is" and to be fair and straightforward. David and I have had the opportunity to talk about many social issues and challenges for Hawai'i that have come out of my experience as Director of Neighbor Islands for the Hawai'i Community Foundation. We have worked together on many occasions on behalf of the community and I have admired his ability to be a champion for the future potential of our local families while also holding strong the long-time values of Hawai'i.

David is a smart and accomplished attorney, as evidenced by his 20+ years of work in Hawai'i advising individuals, families and businesses. Moreover, he has a deep sense of aloha for his community as a Big Island-born son. David's personal and professional leadership with planning issues, land management and community development will certainly be an asset to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and its beneficiaries.

I wholeheartedly endorse David's nomination and believe him to be an excellent addition to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lydia K. Clements", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lydia K. Clements

KUAKINI HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB OF KONA
P.O. Box 1097
Kealahou, Hawaii 96750
www.kuakinihcc.org

April 4, 2014

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 700

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, DAVID KAAPU,
for a term to expire June 30, 2017.

My name is Shane Palacat-Nelsen, I am president of our Hawaiian Civic Club, and I am testifying on behalf of our members in support of this nominee for the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

The Kuakini Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona works to promote Native Hawaiian traditions and values through active participation in civic and local community activities. To that end, we believe Mr. Kaapu will uphold this principle as a member of the commission. Mr. Kaapu is a pillar of the West Hawaii community and is known for his community contributions. As an attorney, Mr. Kaapu has provided guidance and assistance to many organizations and community groups to build capacity. He has also served on a number of boards, like the Friends of Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii (NELHA), Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union, Agriculture Leadership Foundation of Hawaii, and Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Mr. Kaapu is very generous with his time and expertise, and this is the kind of leadership that is needed on the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Our club's members thank you for the opportunity to share our resounding support for David Kaapu as a Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration. Mahalo nui loa.

Hawaii State Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Chair
Hawaii State Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 3, 2014

Re: Testimony on GM 700

Hawaiian Homes Commission Nominee DAVID KAAPU, for a term to expire June 30. 2017

This written testimony is submitted in support of the pending appointment of David Kaapu to the Hawaiian Homes Commission currently before your committee for consideration.

During the past ten years or more, I've had the pleasure of serving together with David Kaapu on several community organization boards. Most recently David and I served on the Board of Directors for the Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union where he played a key leadership role as Board Chair directing the organization through some challenging and strategic transitional changes. David has always eagerly and enthusiastically stepped forward when asked to serve his community. In his legal professional career he has consistently proven himself as a highly sought after attorney and model to his profession. I have always been impressed with the high degree of integrity and collaborative attitude David has shown when confronted with the decision making process. He is respectful of all interests expressed and thorough in the fact finding process before rendering decisions. These are the qualities characteristics I believe make David Kaapu stand out as a dynamic leader and asset to both our Hawaii County and the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my support for David Kaapu as a Gubernatorial Nominee to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and I kindly ask for your favorable consideration.

Mahalo,

Tom Whittemore