

GM705

GM705



Submit Testimony

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, THOMAS OI, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Report Title: Board of Land and Natural Resources

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: WTL

Introducer(s):

Sort by Date		Status Text
3/31/2014	S	Received.
4/1/2014	S	Referred to WTL.
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
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

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

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 705
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
THOMAS OI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-16**

It is with pleasure that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) recommends Senate confirmation on the appointment of Thomas Oi to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The Board of Land and Natural Resource is established under Section 171-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and is composed of seven members, one from each of the four land districts, and three at large members. Mr. Oi has been nominated to represent Kauai County. Upon confirmation, Mr. Oi would start his term immediately as there is currently no sitting Board member from Kauai. Mr. Oi's appointment would run through June 30, 2016.

Mr. Oi served as the Kauai District Land Agent for the Department's Land Division for over eight (8) years before retiring in 2011. He is currently employed by Representative Dee Morikawa during the Legislative Session. Prior to working for the Department, Mr. Oi worked as a Land Boundary Surveyor with the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Transportation. He also has 15 years with a private engineering firm.

Outside of his professional discipline, Mr. Oi coached Lihue softball for ten years and currently serves on the Board of the Lihue Hongwanji.

The Department believes that Mr. Oi's extensive land surveying experience and familiarity of land management practices, will be a welcome addition to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. The Department greatly appreciates your consideration of Thomas Oi and strongly recommends his confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

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

JESSE K. SOUKI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
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

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April 10, 2014

Senator Malama Solomon, Ph. D.
Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Vice-Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Malama Solomon and Vice-Chair Brickwood Galuteria,

I am writing to you as a personal friend of Thomas Oi, who is subject to confirmation of his appointment by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Mr. Oi for over 20 years and support his nomination for this position. He has 15 years in the private industry of engineering and land surveying field and over 20 years of government experience working for the Department of Transportation Highway Division, Department of Accounting and General Services Land Survey Division, and Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division.

I feel that the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the State of Hawaii would benefit from appointing Thomas Oi to the Board.

Sincerely Yours



Alan Suzawa
2870 Aukoi St.
Lihue, HI 96766

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Senator Malama Solomon, Ph. D.
Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Vice-Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813

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Sincerely Yours



APRIL 10, 2014

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WTLTestimony](#)
Cc: clifford.ikedada@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM705 on Apr 14, 2014 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 13, 2014 10:06:42 AM
Attachments: [Testimony_Thomas_Oi.docx](#)

GM705

Submitted on: 4/13/2014

Testimony for WTL on Apr 14, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clifford Ikeda	Individual	Support	No

Comments: 2nd attempt; no email confirmation on 1st submittal.

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

From: clyde kodani [<mailto:clyde@kodani.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2014 5:15 PM

To: Sen. Malama Solomon

Subject: GM 705 - Thomas Oi

Honorable Senator Malama Solomon, Chairperson, Water and Land Committee –

Please accept this email as my **SUPPORT for Mr. Thomas Oi** for the position of member to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. Oi was employed as the agent in charge of DLNR for the island of Kauai. This experience qualifies him for the position that he has been nominated for. His experience with the Executive Branch will be an asset to the Legislative Branch of the Land and Natural Resources body.

I humbly ask that you and your committee look favorably upon Mr. Oi.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Clyde T. Kodani



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 10, 2014

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Subject: Written Testimony In Support of Governor's Message No. 705
Thomas Oi, Nominee to the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land. I am submitting this written testimony in strong support of Governor's Message No. 705, nominating Mr. Thomas Oi to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. Oi has extensive experience working for the State of Hawai'i. He was a surveyor and drafting technician at the DOT-Highways Kaua'i Branch from 1986 through 2003. Most recently before retirement, he served as the DLNR's Kaua'i District Land Agent for 8 years. He is also one of the few licensed land surveyors on the island of Kaua'i.

I have known Mr. Oi personally for more than 30 years. My first working experience with him was through our involvement with the Hawai'i Government Employees Association (HGEA). Mr. Oi has been working in my office part time as a legislative aide for the past three sessions. His knowledge and expertise in land issues is a great asset. I believe his contributions to the Board will be in the best interest for the island of Kaua'i and the state. I strongly support his nomination to serve on the Board of Land & Natural Resources.

Through the years, Mr. Oi has, and still devotes time to his community. He has spent many years coaching girls softball, little league baseball, and Kaua'i High School baseball. In addition, Tommy is involved in various other capacities as a member of the Hawai'i Land Surveyors Association, a director for the East Kaua'i Soil Conservation District, and an active member of the Kauai Sanshin Club and the Lihue Hongwanji Mission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this written testimony, and I humbly ask for your support of Mr. Thomas Oi.

Sincerely,

Daynette "Dee" Morikawa
House of Representatives
16th District – Ni'ihau, Lehua, Koloa, Waimea



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair
Monday, April 14, 2014
1:15 PM

Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Gubernatorial Nominee:

Thomas Oi- GM 705

Board of Land and Natural Resources

Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Galuteria and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I would like to express my support for the nomination of Gubernatorial Nominee, Thomas Oi, to the Board of Land and Natural Resources for term to expire on 6-30-2016.

As a former member of the Kauai County Council and currently serving as the 14th House District Representative, East and North Kaua'i, I worked with Mr. Oi on many public land management issues, concerns and challenges for the island of Kauai. His vast knowledge and experience as the former Kauai Land Agent and serving over 20 years as a land surveyor in the State Departments, provides a strong institutional base and professional skills essential to serve as a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Combining the knowledge he has accumulated through his various positions, professional licenses and sound understanding of State laws governing public land and property management, Mr. Oi will be able to quickly engage in the board's deliberations and fill the 2 year vacancy for the Kaua'i Board representative. Mr. Oi also adds a wealth of information as a long time Kaua'i resident and his dedication to supporting many community programs and events brings a significant Neighbor Island perspective as a board member.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Thomas Oi.

Sincerely,

Derek S.K. Kawakami
State Representative

District 14, East and North Kaua'i
Assistant Majority Leader & Vice Chair, Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 314, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone (808) 586-8435 • Email: repkawakami@capitol.hawaii.gov



April 9, 2014

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Senator Malama Solomon, Chairperson
Water and Land Committee
Senate District 4
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

SUBJECT: Appointment of Thomas Oi to the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Dear Senator Solomon:

We are excited to hear that Thomas Oi has been selected by Governor Abercrombie to serve as the Kauai Representative on the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Thomas served as the DLNR Land Agent for the County of Kauai for many years and was extremely helpful during a Hanalei River project in 2011. He has been selected to serve a second term on the East Kauai SWCD Board and we value his knowledge of Kauai County.

The East Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District Board gives their full support for this nomination. Thank you for your consideration of his appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Kawamura, Jr.", written over a white background.

Ed Kawamura, Jr.
East Kauai SWCD, Chair

cc: Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chairperson
Water and Land Committee
Senate District 12
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813



Hawai'i State Legislature

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 11, 2014

REPRESENTATIVE
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

TO: Chair Malama Solomon
Vice-Chair Brickwood Galuteria
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

RE: **GM 705** – Supporting MR. THOMAS OI for consideration and conformation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Aloha Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Galuteria and honorable members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I strongly support the nomination of Mr. Thomas Oi to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) for a term to expire on June 30, 2016.

I have known Mr. Oi personally and professionally for over 10 years and have always found him to be a diligent and capable individual.

Mr. Oi is well qualified for this position and if confirmed by the Senate, I firmly believe that Mr. Oi's many years of experience will be an invaluable asset to the BLNR.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at extension 6-6270.

Mahalo for your kind consideration and for allowing me the opportunity to submit this letter of support.

Aloha pumehana,

Representative James Kunane Tokioka

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

Monday, April 14, 2014, 1:15 p.m., Room 225

GM 705 Thomas Oi, Board of Land & Natural Resources

Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee:

This testimony is in STRONG SUPPORT of the nomination of Thomas Oi to represent Kauai on the Board of Land & Natural Resources. I am Lynn McCrory, and served for eight years as the Kauai representative on the Board of Land & Natural Resources (1996 to 2004). During a number of years in my tenure Thomas Oi was the District Land Agent for Kauai. He clearly understood his responsibilities, and worked diligently at moving forward a number of issues for the island. He answered many questions and did this with the public almost always coming away understanding what had to be done and moving forward. His ability and knowledge will greatly assist in any explanation or comments he would have as a Board member.

Thomas worked at DAGS in the survey office prior to coming to DLNR. His experience and knowledge of the State lands proved invaluable many times. The knowledge that Thomas would bring to the Board position is often not seen except in a second term BLNR member.

Thomas worked well with the other Kauai managers and worked to have everyone be successful as part of a team that supported our natural resources on the land and in fresh and ocean waters. This will also be very important for issues that while occurring at one point on one island, could easily be an issue elsewhere in our state.

I humbly ask for your SUPPORT of the nomination of Thomas Oi, GM 705, to the Board of Land & Natural Resources. Mahalo!

Me ke aloha pumehana
With warm aloha,

Lynn P. McCrory
60 N Beretania Street #3606
Honolulu, HI 96817

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WTLTestimony](#)
Cc: markmararagan@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM705 on Apr 14, 2014 13:15PM*
Date: Thursday, April 10, 2014 9:42:35 AM

GM705

Submitted on: 4/10/2014

Testimony for WTL on Apr 14, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark A. Mararagan	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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Hawaii State Twenty-Seventh Legislature
The Senate
Committee on Water and Land

GM 705

My name is Marvin Mikasa. I am providing written testimony as an individual and not a representative of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I've known Mr. Thomas Oi for many years, first with the Hawaii Government Employees Association (HGEA) where he served as a volunteer in many capacities from Union Steward, to Unit 13 Chairperson representing Kauai Division, to various positions on the Board of Directors, culminating being the Vice-President of HGEA before his retirement from the State.

Thru-out the years, while being a government employee and serving with the HGEA, Mr. Oi also volunteered time on the coaching staff for the Lihue Little League, Bobby Sox League, the Board of Directors for Lihue Hongwanji Mission Church, he has shown knowledge and compassion for his involvement representing the people of Kauai.

His confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources will continue his serving the people of Kauai.

Thank you for taking time in reading this testimony.

Senator Malama Solomon, Ph. D.
Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Vice-Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I feel that the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the State of Hawaii would benefit from appointing Thomas Oi to the Board.

Sincerely Yours



April 10, 2014

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Senator Malama Solomon, Ph. D.
Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

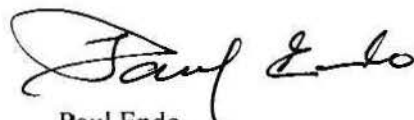
Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Vice-Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Malama Solomon and Vice-Chair Brickwood Galuteria,

I am writing to you as a personal friend of Mr. Thomas Oi, who is subject to confirmation of his appointment by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Mr. Oi for the past 10 years and fully support his nomination for this position. His qualifications for this board include 15 years in the private industry of engineering and land surveying field, and over 20 years of government experience working for the Department of Transportation Highway Division, Department of Accounting and General Services Land Survey Division, and Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division.

Based on his vast knowledge and experience in the public and private sectors, I feel that the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the State of Hawaii would benefit from the appointment of Mr. Oi to the Board.

Sincerely Yours


Paul Endo

Senator Malama Solomon, Ph. D.
Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

RECEIVED APR 11 2014

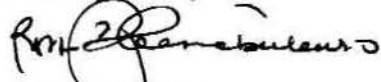
Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Vice-Chair, Water and Land Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 221
Honolulu, HI 96813

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I feel that the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the State of Hawaii would benefit from appointing Thomas Oi to the Board.

Sincerely Yours,



Ross Y. Shimabukuro

TESTIMONY
OF
THOMAS H. OI
TO THE
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

April 14, 2014

G.M. 514

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, Thomas H. Oi, for the term to expire June 30, 2016.

Chair Solomon, Vice-Chair Galuteria and the members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I would like to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. I consider this truly an honor and a privilege that he has the confidence in me to be a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Being born and raised in Palolo and attending the public school system and living on the island of Kauai for over 40 years I consider myself a person with the old local philosophy to assist when help is needed. I am seeking this position because the people of Kauai were without a Board member for about a year and Kauai needs representation on the Board.

My background is in Land Surveying which started on Kauai, working for 15 years with Kutaka, Portugal and Ibara inc. an engineering and land surveying firm in the 70's.

Then in 1986 I took a position at the Department of Transportation Highways Division on Kauai, subsequently moving to Honolulu where I worked as a licensed Land Surveyor for the Department of Transportation Highways Design Cadastral Engineering Section. We were responsible for field surveying and creation of new highway right-of-ways and widening.

I transferred to the Department of Accounting and General Services Land Survey Division in 1999. I was responsible for all the land surveys for the State owned lands on the island of Kauai and Maui and providing maps for State leased lands and Governor's Executive Orders.

I became the District Land Manager for the Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division in 2003. Being responsible for all State Land under leases, revocable permits and maintains State unencumbered lands.

I was the past Chairperson for the East Kauai Soil and Water District and reconfirm to sit as a Director on the Board.

With my past experiences within the State and private industry I feel that I can utilize my expertise on the Board of Land and Natural Resource Board.

If you have any questions I will be happy to answer them at this time.