

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3708

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 26 2016

RE: GOV. MSG. NOS. 878,  
880, 881, 882, 883,  
884

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2016  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred Governor's Message Nos. 878, 880, 881, 882, 883, and 884, submitting for study and consideration the nominations of:

ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NIIHAU

G.M. No. 878	RICHARD NESMITH, for a term to expire 06-30-2017;
G.M. No. 880	KEITH YAP, for a term to expire 06-30-2016;
G.M. No. 881	KEITH YAP, for a term to expire 06-30-2020;
G.M. No. 882	THEODORE BLAKE, for a term to expire 06-30-2016;
G.M. No. 883	THEODORE BLAKE, for a term to expire 06-30-2020; and
G.M. No. 884	SANDRA QUINSAAT, for a term to expire 06-30-2020,

begs leave to report as follows:



RICHARD NESMITH

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Richard NeSmith from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, County of Kauai Office of Economic Development, and two individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. NeSmith has built a reputation in his community for promoting Hawaiian culture and language. Mr. NeSmith was born in Waimea, Kaua'i and raised in Kekaha, and he has 'ohana ties to Anahola and kūpuna in Halele'a and Nāpali. Mr. NeSmith has a Doctor of Philosophy in applied linguistics from the School of Maori and Pacific Development, University of Waikato, New Zealand. He also holds a Master of Arts in Pacific Islands Studies from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a Bachelor's degree in Hawaiian Studies. Mr. NeSmith has taught Hawaiian language, literature, and culture for more than twenty years. Your Committee therefore finds that Mr. NeSmith has been nominated for appointment to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau based on his knowledge, experience, and commitment to Hawaiian culture and language.

KEITH YAP

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment and reappointment of Keith Yap from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Yap's professional skills and experience qualify him for appointment to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. Mr. Yap holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Accounting from the University of Hawaii. He is a Certified Public Accountant and is currently employed at Gay & Robinson, Inc., as its Director of Administration and Treasurer. Your Committee further finds that Mr. Yap's executive position with Gay & Robinson, Inc., one of Kaua'i largest landowners, provides the Council with a valuable perspective when it conducts its business and deliberations. Your Committee also finds that Mr. Yap has a thorough understanding of the role and responsibilities of council members and has been nominated for appointment and reappointment to the Island Burial Council,



Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, representing landowners and developers based on his knowledge, professional experience, and commitment to the Kaua'i community.

THEODORE BLAKE

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment and reappointment of Theodore Blake from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and four individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Blake's substantial contributions to his community and to preserving and perpetuating Hawaiian culture demonstrate his qualification for appointment to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. Mr. Blake has spent more than forty-five years identifying, restoring, and preserving wahi pana and cultural sites. Your Committee further finds that the Council will benefit from the knowledge passed to Mr. Blake from his 'ohana, whose roots extend in the Kōloa area for at least sixty-five generations. Mr. Blake is also the Executive Director of Malama Kōloa, an organization that seeks to preserve and perpetuate Hawaii's natural and cultural resources, and is a member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha. Your Committee finds that Mr. Blake has been nominated for appointment and reappointment to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, representing landowners and developers based on his knowledge, experience, and commitment to Hawaiian culture and his community.

SANDRA QUINSAAT

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the appointment of Sandra Quinsaats from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and two individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Ms. Quinsaats's professional and personal experience and her commitment to her community will be valuable assets and additions to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau when the Board conducts its business and deliberations. Ms. Quinsaats was involved with the application of Hawaii laws regarding disposition of human skeletal remains when such remains were



discovered at the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa where she currently works as a Project Manager, and at other properties such as The Point at Poipu, Marriott Waiohai, and Sheraton Kauai Resort. Ms. Quinsaats performs reinterment of iwi kūpuna with traditional Hawaiian protocol. Your Committee finds that Ms. Quinsaats's first hand experiences with iwi kūpuna will be a helpful resource to the Island Burial Council. Your Committee also notes that Ms. Quinsaats served on the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, from 2004 to 2012, and your Committee finds that Ms. Quinsaats has a thorough understanding of the role and responsibilities of board members. Your Committee therefore finds that Ms. Quinsaats has been nominated for appointment to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, representing the geographic region of Koloa based on her knowledge, professional experience, and commitment to her community.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominees, has found the nominees to be qualified for the positions to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nominations.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,



MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair
















The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**  
**HWN**  
**Advise and Consent**

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 884</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HWN</b>	Date: <b>4/18/16</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)				/
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
SLOM, Sam				/
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:      Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report      Clerk's Office      Drafting Agency      Committee File Copy				

\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes