



Hawai'i Convention Center
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David Y. Ige
Governor

George D. Szigeti
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
George D. Szigeti
Chief Executive Officer
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
on
GM 534 & GM 535
Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority
Senate Committee on Tourism and International Affairs
Monday, February 29, 2016
2:45pm
Conference Room 225

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following **testimony in support of** GM 534 and GM 535, which together submit for consideration and confirmation to HTA's Board of Directors (the Board), Gubernatorial Nominee Ku'uipo Kumukahi as the Board's designated Hawaiian cultural practices member for terms to expire on June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2020, respectively.

Ms. Kumukahi has extensive experience in promoting Hawai'i's native heritage to residents and visitors alike. In addition to being an entertainer and award-winning musician, Ms. Kumukahi is a mentor, social worker and administrator. Her vision and passion for Hawai'i are evident in the myriad of organizations and events in which she has been involved, including the annual Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame "Lei of Stars" event, the "Mo'omeheu Hawai'i" Cultural Program at the Royal Hawaiian Center and the annual Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards Show. Since 1987, Ms. Kumukahi has also worked for The Arc in Hawai'i, a non-profit organization serving individuals with intellectual and related developmental disabilities.

Ms. Kumukahi has been a joy to work with during her time on the Board. She brings insight, intelligence, diplomacy, positivity and an energetic commitment to the organization. Ms. Kumukahi understands the "pulse of Hawai'i" and the importance of infusing the aloha spirit into our responsibilities of promoting Hawai'i as a premier visitor destination and integrating the interests of visitors, the community and the tourism industry. Her talents as an educator, cultural practitioner and advisor are of tremendous value to our mission.

At HTA, we look forward to continued collaboration with Ms. Kumukahi to enhance and highlight Hawai'i's people, place and culture with the goal of delivering an incomparable visitor experience.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

GM 534 and GM 535, RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE KUIIPO KUMUKAHI

Monday, 2/29/16; 2:45 pm; Room 225

Aloha Chairman English and members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and International Affairs meeting to consider Governor's Messages 534 and 535 nominating Kuuipo Kumukahi to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board of Directors. I am Annelle Amaral, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civil Clubs (AHCC), very pleased to support this nomination.

Ms. Kumukahi's reputation as a superb entertainer, cultural practitioner and community and organizational leader is known and acknowledged wherever Hawaiians gather. As a civic club member she had just recently accepted to be the chair of the AHCC Nohona Hawaii Committee dealing with issues of culture, language, historic sites and more. Unfortunately, she has resigned that post.

Having said that, we reluctantly give her up as she takes on a greater public role to provide a compelling Hawaiian cultural influence at the Board of Directors level of the HTA. We have hopes that on a Board extremely focused on the financial aspects of marketing and selling Hawaii and Hawaiian culture, Ms. Kumukahi's presence will be able to bring the values of cultural appreciation.

We wish Ms. Kumukahi well as she embarks on this endeavor and welcome her continued participation in the AHCC whenever and wherever possible. Thank you for the opportunity to support the appointment of nominee **Kuuipo Kumukahi** to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board of Directors.

Contact: Jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: jaynella@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM535 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016 4:23:14 PM
Attachments: [Kuuipo Kumukahi Support Letter 2.25.16 HTA Dir .rtfd.zip](#)

GM535

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leanella Kauwenaole	Sent on behalf of Micah A. Kane, Advisor to Pacific Links International Hawaii Division	Support	No

Comments: Sent on behalf of Micah A. Kane, Advisor to Pacific Links International Hawaii Division.

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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P.O. Box 1494, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96806-1494
Telephone:(808) 941-8751
www.tropicalmusichawaii.com

February 25, 2016

28th Legislature Regular Session 2016
Committee on Tourism and International Affairs
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Monday, February 29, 2016, 2:45 p.m.

Re: GM 534 and GM 535

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, gubernatorial nominee Ku'uipo Kumukahi for a term to expire 6/30/16, and for a term to expire 6/30/20

Aloha Vice Chairman English and members of the Tourism & International Affairs Committee:

My name is Lea Uehara, president of Tropical Music, Inc. a Hawaiian music recording company. I write in support of Ku'uipo Kumukahi's confirmation as a director on the Board of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

I have known Ms. Kumukahi for 20 years as a colleague in the music business and for 11 years serving with her on the board of the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Arts (HARA). She is an accomplished musician and recording artist having released 10 albums and won numerous Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards including Female Vocalist and the Album of the Year. Because of her background in the music, language, and culture she is sought out as a speaker, instructor, consultant, judge in numerous conferences, events, and competitions over the years.

An exceptional leader Ms. Kumukahi served as president of HARA for four years, and is the past president of the Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame. She is a co-founder and past president of the Na Lani 'Ehā Hawaiian Civic Club. Her excellent organizational, management and supervisory skills have served her well and resulted in her various promotions over the years.

Having spent many years in the human services sector, she was recently hired for the new position of Hawaiian Cultural Advisor at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. She is passionate about Hawaiian music and has long been an advocate of bringing it back to Waikīkī, keenly aware that Hawaiian music and culture distinguishes our visitor destination from others.

Ms. Ku'uipo has performed in Waikīkī for over 25 years, giving her a unique perspective on the evolution of our visitor industry. And because of her passion, and belief in Hawaiian culture as integral to Hawai'i as a premier visitor destination I believe she has much to contribute to the Hawai'i Tourism Authority Board. She has my highest recommendation. I am happy to provide further comment or answer other questions.

Mahalo,

Lea Uehara, President
Tropical Music, Inc.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: alicekamaka@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:16:29 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alice Kamaka	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I first met Ms. Kumukahi in October 1989, she was my teacher at The Arc in Hawaii. Even though I stopped going to The Arc, Ms. Kumukahi never forgot about me. Every time she sees me she would greet me, always making me feel welcome and like her family. I strongly support her nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority. Thank you for your consideration and time.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: alicekamaka@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:16:29 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alice Kamaka	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I first met Ms. Kumukahi in October 1989, she was my teacher at The Arc in Hawaii. Even though I stopped going to The Arc, Ms. Kumukahi never forgot about me. Every time she sees me she would greet me, always making me feel welcome and like her family. I strongly support her nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority. Thank you for your consideration and time.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: aloha@manoaheritagecenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 9:56:41 AM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aloha McGuffie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kuuipo Kumukahi is a phenomenal Hawaiian cultural resource who willingly shares her vast knowledge, important practices and warmest aloha with all of us who seek what is pono in life from history and values of our kupuna to music of our alii and preservation of our language. I wholeheartedly support her appointment to the HTA Board as a Hawaiian Practitioner!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: cwaki1@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:30:25 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Claretta Wakita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: dwong@99imperial.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 3:22:53 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darryl Wong	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Ku'uipo Kumukahi is an individual who we feel can help our State bring more energy and expertise to HTA as she continues to promote those culturally directed efforts aimed at informing our visitors of what they can experience during their stay in the islands.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: hawaiifishingfanatic@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Sunday, February 28, 2016 7:19:06 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/28/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In full support of nomination. I have personally known Ms. Kuuipo Kumukahi for over three decades. Her character and integrity in the Native Hawaiian community is unquestioned and she serves as a great ambassador and caretaker of our Hawaiian culture, music and language. Mahalo piha.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: jwong@99imperial.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 5:12:51 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Ku'uipo Kumukahi is an individual who we feel can help our State bring more energy and expertise to HTA as she continues to promote those culturally directed efforts aimed at informing our visitors of what they can experience during their stay in the islands. She has many positive qualities and will be an asset as a member of the HTA Board.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [TSI Testimony](#)
Cc: leif@thearcinhawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM534 on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:13:50 PM

GM534

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for TSI on Feb 29, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lei Fountain	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe that Ku'uipo Kumukahi would be an excellent choice as a Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority. Her knowledge of Hawaii and her commitment to our culture is invaluable. She is an excellent candidate.

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February 24, 2016

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2016
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH, VICE CHAIR
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016, 2:45 P.M.
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 225

RE: GM 534 AND GM 535
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAI'I TOURISM AUTHORITY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KU'UIPO KUMUKAHI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-16 AND FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020

Aloha, Vice Chairman English and Members of the Tourism & International Affairs Committee,

My name is Mona Wood-Sword, owner of Public Relations company IKAIKA Communications, testifying in support of the confirmation of Ku'uipo Kumukahi to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Miss Kumukahi will be filling a seat that requires the Board member to be a Hawaiian practitioner. She is a lifetime student and practitioner of Hawaiian culture, history, language and the arts, most notably music and hula. A former president of the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Arts (HARA), winner of multiple Na Hoku Hanohano Awards, a director of the Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame Serenaders, co-founder of the Maiki Aiu Foundation, and a kumu at Halau Hawai'i, Miss Kumukahi is obviously a fine choice for this particular Board seat.

Above and beyond that, as someone who has worked with Miss Kumukahi on various projects in the private and non profit sectors, I can testify to her uncompromising work ethic and strength as both a team leader and member. Currently, as Hawaiian Cultural Advisor for Hyatt Regency, she also exemplifies the Hawaiian practitioner at work within the tourism industry, sharing our host culture with visitors from around the world.

I could go on and on about Miss Kumukahi's positive qualities that will make her an exceptional member of the HTA Board, and am available should you wish me to elaborate further.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on Miss Kumukahi's behalf.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mona Wood-Sword', written in a cursive style.

Mona K. Wood-Sword, President
IKAIKA Communications



February 28, 2016

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2016
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH, VICE CHAIR
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016, 2:45 P.M.
STATE CAPITOL CONFERENCE ROOM 225

RE: GM 534 AND GM 535

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY,
GOVERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KU'UPO KUMUKAHI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-16 AND FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020

I, Vice Chairman English and to the Members of the Tourism & International Affairs Committee,
Paulina Nogelmeier, Director and Co-founder of Awaiaulu Hawaiian Literate Project, a nonprofit of
training and resource development entity based in Honolulu, and I am testifying in strong support of
nomination of Ku'upo Kumukahi to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Kumukahi is a lifetime student of Hawaiian culture, history, language and the arts, most notably music and
her father, Kamuela Kumukahi, was a native speaker of Hawaiian who was considered a model for
speakers of his time, and her mother, Uhiama, was the matriarch of a noted Hawaiian family, so
was raised in a home steeped in Hawaiian language, tradition and practices. She has implemented those
values throughout her life, as a performer, teacher, advisor and leader. A former president of the Hawaii
Society of Recording Arts (HARSA), winner of multiple Ni Huki Hanohano Awards, a director of the
Hawaii Music Hall of Fame Sirenamakers, co-founder of the Mahealani Foundation, kumu of Hālanu Hawaii's
Song Singer and Performer, Ms. Kumukahi is a fine choice for this particular Board seat.

worked with Ku'upo in community endeavors, then being adopted into her family (ho'okama'ia), I
the opportunity to see her at work, at play and at rest, and throughout our years of interaction, I
to admire her work ethic and strength as both a team leader and member. In her current position as the
a Cultural Advisor for Hyatt Regency Hotel, she also exemplifies the ability to implement Hawaiian
language and practice within the tourism industry, sharing our local culture with visitors from around the
have nothing but praise to offer on behalf of Ms. Kumukahi, and I strongly support her confirmation as
of the HTA Board of Directors. Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my support of Ku'upo
this nomination, and I am available should you wish me to elaborate further.

I,oha,

Nogelmeier

Board of Directors: Oswald Stander (President), Gaylord Wilson (Vice President), John Marrack (Treasurer), Matti Steele
31, John Clark, Dr. Marlene Busham, Jimmy Hayes, Wayne Pritch. Executive Director: Dr. Paulina Nogelmeier.

February 24, 2016

The Honorable J. Kalani English
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Tourism and International Affairs
Hawai'i State Senate
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Vice-Chair English and members of the Committee:

RE: GM 534 and GM 535: Relating to the nomination of Ku'uipo Kumukahi to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of the nomination of Ku'uipo Kumukahi to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

I first met Ku'uipo when she served as the primary musician for kumu hula Leimomi Ho. I had just started in hula after returning home from college on the mainland and wanted to learn more about my Hawaiian culture. My first thought was that this was a person with a beautiful voice filled with passion for the language and song. My next thought was this was a compassionate person, filled with aloha.

Through the years I learned that Ku'uipo Kumukahi is a noted musician and Nā Hōkū Hanohano award recipient. She is also a leader in our community playing key roles with the Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and numerous other Hawaiian organizations. She is an educator, sharing her knowledge about Hawaiian music and culture. And she is a producer of concerts and shows, and a volunteer for many different organizations.

From a broader community standpoint, she has also been involved with the Waikīkī Neighborhood Board, and was instrumental in the creation of the still ongoing benefit lū'au for Lunalilo Home. And she has served in many capacities with The ARC in Hawai'i, a national grassroots organization of and for people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities, earning promotions and increasing levels of responsibilities through the years.

She is co-founder and creator of Mele Mei, an innovative event designed for the visitor industry and the community to celebrate and perpetuate Hawaiian music and culture. She can still be found performing Hawaiian music at many visitor venues and is currently the cultural and community relations advisor for the Hyatt Regency Waikīkī Beach Resort and Spa.

She brings a wealth of knowledge of Hawaiian history and culture with her. She has shown strong leadership, management, and problem-solving skills through all of her work, juggling her many responsibilities and passions.

As the former Product Development Manager with the HTA, I know that she would be a welcome and valued addition to the board of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority and I strongly recommend confirmation of her as a member through the current term and the term ending June 30, 2020.

With sincere aloha,
Robbie Ann Anelanani Kāne
7115 Kamilo Street
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-384-4599
robbiekane@hawaii.rr.com



February 25, 2016

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2016
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH, VICE CHAIR
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016, 2:45 P.M.
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 225

RE: GM 534 AND GM 535
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAI'I TOURISM AUTHORITY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KU'UIPO KUMUKAHI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-16 AND FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020

Aloha, Vice Chairman English and Members of the Tourism & International Affairs
Committee:

My name is Rudylance K. Ramos, testifying in support of the confirmation of Ku'uiipo
Kumukahi to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

I understand that Miss Kumukahi will be filling a seat that requires the Board member to be a
Hawaiian practitioner. Well, Kuuipo Kumukahi is a lifetime student and practitioner of
Hawaiian culture, history, language and the arts, most notably music and hula.

Immediate past president of the Hawai'i Academy of Recording Arts (HARA), multiple Nā
Hōkū Hanohano Award winner, director of the Hawaiian Music Hall of Fame Serenaders, co-
founder of the Maiki Aiu Foundation and Nā Lani 'Eha Hawaiian Civic Club, and kumu mele
for Halau Hawai'i, I believe Miss Kumukahi is obviously a fine choice for this particular

RUDYLANCE K. RAMOS

825 University Aveue #A, Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: 808.953.9177E-Mail: kelaniz808@gmail.com

Board seat.

Knowing her for the past 17 years, as someone who has worked with Kuuipo Kumukahi on various projects in the private and non profit sectors, as well as being a student of Halau Hawai‘I, and having her as one of my best friends I can testify to her unbending work ethic and forte as both a team leader and member.

She is currently employed at the Hyatt Regency Waikiki as Hawaiian Cultural Advisor, she demonstrates the Hawaiian practitioner at work within the tourism industry, sharing our host culture with visitors from around the world.

I could keep listing all the positive qualities that will make Miss Kumukahi an exceptional member and asset to the HTA Board, and am available should you wish me to do so.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Miss Kumukahi.

Rudylance K. Ramos

Rudylance K. Ramos

Su Jun Lim-Higbie, Ph.D.
2425 Campus Rd. Sinclair 10,
Honolulu, HI 96822.
808-440-5217
sujun@hawaii.edu

February 27, 2016

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2016
COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH, VICE CHAIR
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016, 2:45 P.M.
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 225

RE: GM 534 AND GM 535

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAI'I TOURISM AUTHORITY,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KU'UIPO KUMUKAHI,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-16 AND FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020

Aloha, Vice Chairman English and Members of the Tourism & International Affairs
Committee,

I am testifying in support of the confirmation of Ku'uipo Kumukahi to the Board of
Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Ms. Kumukahi possesses excellent leadership skills. More importantly, Ms.
Kumukahi has deep knowledge of Hawaiian culture, history and the arts. Thus, I am
confident that Miss Kumukahi is an excellent choice for the Board seat of the Hawai'i
Tourism Authority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sujun', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Su Jun Lim-Higbie, Ph.D.

Thomas P Huber
46-291 Auna Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744

February 29 2016

Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Committee on Tourism and International Affairs
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 534 and GM 535 Confirmation of KUUIPO KUMUKAHI
Hearing: Monday, February 29, 2016. 2:45 PM
Conference Room 225

Dear Senator English and Members of the Committee;

I SUPPORT the confirmation of KUUIPO KUMUKAHI to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Ms Kumukahi is a treasured Hawaiian musician who has performed and championed traditional Hawaiian music for many years. Her knowledge and love of Hawaii traditions and long experience with the Hawaii entertainment industry will bring valuable insight to the Authority.

I got to know Ms Kumkahi through another side of her community involvement. She has served as an aide to people with developmental disabilities, developing their living skills and instilling in them a love of music as well. Her dedication to inclusion of people with disabilities will bring an added benefit to the Authority, helping it to be open to the economic and social potential of tourism by people with unique interests and skills.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony

Thomas P. Huber