

GM 625

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Monday, April 18, 2016
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 625
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF OAHU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHARLES
MITCHELL FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2019**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 625, nominating Mr. Charles Mitchell to the Island Burial Council, Island of Oahu expiring June 30, 2019.

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. With regard to previously known burials, the Burial 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.

Mr. Mitchell (Aulii) is a Cultural Anthropologist. He currently is employed by Cultural Surveys Hawaii as a Project Director and Cultural Advisor. He holds a B.A. in Anthropology with emphasis on Archaeology from the University of Hawaii-Hilo. He also has a Masters in Applied Indigenous Knowledge from Te Wanaga O Aotearoa Universities, Hamilton, New Zealand. As an employee of Cultural Surveys Hawaii, he has a wide expanse of knowledge and experience regarding the statutes and administrative rules guiding the SHPD's burials program. Aulii's professional affiliations include: Society for Hawaiian Archaeology, Ke Kula Na Mea Hawaii-School of Hawaiian Culture, and Kua O Ka La Public Charter School.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Mitchell's knowledge, experiences and perspective informs the deliberations of the Island Burial Council until June 30, 2019.



GM625

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL,
ISLAND OF O'AHU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHARLES MITCHELL, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE
6-30-2019**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 18, 2016

1:19 p.m.

Room 423

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM625, which confirms Charles “Auli’i” Mitchell as the Wai’anae regional representative on the O’ahu Island Burial Council.

Mr. Mitchell has long demonstrated a deep interest in Native Hawaiian cultural practices and a passion for the preservation and protection of iwi kūpuna. His experience with archaeological resources and community consultation will make him an invaluable addition to the O’ahu Island Burial Council.

A current resident of Wai’anae, Mr. Mitchell’s dedication to the preservation of iwi kūpuna was inspired at a young age when, as a child, he was selected by his ‘ohana to care for the iwi of his own kūpuna. He later supplemented his traditional training with a B.A. in Anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology from the University of Hawai’i at Hilo, and a Masters in Applied Indigenous Knowledge at Te Wānanga O Aotearoa University. Subsequently, Mr. Mitchell personally assisted with the repatriation of iwi kupuna and moepū, worked on the long term preservation plan for portions of a trail located in West Hawai’i Veteran’s Cemetery, conducted the archaeological inventory survey for a 71 acre parcel in Kawela, and drafted several burial treatment plans. He has also conducted cultural assessments, and developed collections of traditions, historical accounts, and mo’olelo of Kea’au, Kahuwai, Pu’ala’a, Kauaea, and Kaueleau, and Hawai’i. Mr. Mitchell remains an active member of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology. OHA believes that this lifetime of cultural and archaeological experience, combined with his experience working with communities from various locales, will allow Mr. Mitchell to contribute significantly to the O’ahu Island Burial Council and its work.

In addition to his archaeological and burial expertise, Mr. Mitchell has also demonstrated a deep interest in the broader perpetuation of his cultural heritage, which further counsels his appointment to the Council. Fluent in Hawaiian, Mr. Mitchell has worked as an interpreter and cultural specialist at the Lyman Mission House Memorial Museum in Hilo, and has dedicated much of his time to a variety of Hawaiian community and educational organizations. He currently serves on the board of directors of Ke Kula Nā Mea Hawai’i, as the president of Ho’oulu Lahui/Kua O Ka Lā Public Charter School, and as a kumu hula for Hālau O Kahiwahiwa & Hālau o Moana-nui-a-Kiwa. This extensive record of community service and

cultural perpetuation activities further reflects Mr. Mitchell's likely level of commitment to the Council and its important kuleana, should his nomination be confirmed.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM625, to confirm Mr. Mitchell to the O'ahu Island Burial Council. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM625 on Apr 15, 2016 13:15PM*
Date: Monday, March 28, 2016 3:55:41 AM

GM625

Submitted on: 3/28/2016

Testimony for HWN on Apr 15, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

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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April 14, 2016

TESTIMONY OF DANNA HOLCK

VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER OF TURTLE BAY RESORT

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 625

GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHARLES MITCHELL
O'ahu Island Burial Council

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro and Members of the O'ahu Island Burial Council:

I strongly support the nomination of Charles Mitchell for the appointment to the O'ahu Island Burial Council. I have known Mr. Mitchell since joining the O'ahu Island Burial Council four years ago.

Mr. Mitchell has been an active member of the Hawaiian community and is a regular attendee at O'ahu Island Burial Council meetings. He has dedicated himself to ensuring iwi kupuna is handled in the most respectful and honorable way. He is respectful and committed to ensuring proper care of iwi kupuna. Mr. Mitchell dedicates his personal time to attend meetings both as a cultural descendent and a concerned Hawaiian man. His delivery is consistently honest and straight forward. He rarely misses an OIBC meeting and also dedicates his time sharing his mana'o with developers, community members and OIBC members.

I respectfully ask that Charles Mitchell receive the consent of your committee and be forwarded to the full Senate for confirmation. I appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on Mr. Mitchell's nomination.

Respectfully submitted,



Danna Holck



April 13, 2016

The Senate, 28th Legislature, Committee On Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

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Pacific American Foundation
C/O Bay View Golf Park
45-285 Kaneohe Bay Drive, #102
Kāne'ohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 664-3027
www.thepaf.org

Subject: (GM 625) Support for CHARLES MITCHELL for confirmation to the Oahu Island Burial Council as a Gubernatorial Nominee

The Pacific American Foundation fully supports Charles (Aulii) Mitchell for Senate confirmation to be a member of the Oahu Burial Council.

Pacific American Foundation was founded in 1993 and certified as a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 1998 by the IRS as a permanent nonprofit organization. The organization's mission is to improve the lives of all Pacific Islanders and conducts a wide range of projects in the areas of leadership development for emerging Pacific American leaders, culture-based education, and community partnerships.

In conducting various culture-based programs, PAF has developed a very close working relationship with Charles Aulii Mitchell and the archaeological consultant agency for which he works, Cultural Surveys Hawai'i. As a cultural anthropologist, Aulii has proven to be a scholar, a team member, and a sensitive community member involved in educational programs, charter schools, and as a kumu hula who leads a hula halau.

Mr. Mitchell has 15 years of experience as a specialist in the disciplines of archaeological and cultural impact studies, with a primary focus on Hawai'i. His many projects include the repatriation of human remains, associated and unassociated funeral objects, and objects of cultural patrimony under NAGPRA (Native American Protection and Repatriation Act). He has also played an active part in the Section 106 consultation process, writing, facilitating, and assisting CSH in the mitigation process with lineal and cultural descendants, the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD), and the Hawai'i Island Burial Council (HIBC) associated with burial treatment plans (BTP) and other documents needed for compliance with rules and regulations put forth by the SHPD and the County and State of Hawai'i.

We are confident in the cultural expertise, sensitivity, and integrity that Aulii Mitchell has demonstrated during our partnership activities. We whole-heartedly support and endorse Mr. Mitchell's confirmation to be a member of Oahu's Burial council. Please feel free to contact me at herblee@thepaf.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Herb Lee, Jr.", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Herb Lee, Jr., Executive Director

cc: VerlieAnn Malina-Wright, Chair, Board of Directors

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HWNTestimony](#)
Cc: pkaleikini@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM625 on Apr 18, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 17, 2016 5:15:05 PM

GM625

Submitted on: 4/17/2016

Testimony for HWN on Apr 18, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 423

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaanohi Kaleikini	Individual	Support	No

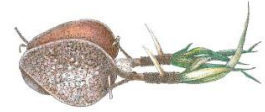
Comments: Aloha pumehana I SUPPORT the gubernatorial nomination 625 of Charles Mitchell to the Oahu Island Burial Council. The Council determines whether to leave burials in place or relocate it. The Council recognizes lineal and cultural descendants to native Hawaiian burials that have been impacted and provide counsel and advice to the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Mr. Charles Mitchell has extensive knowledge of these processes and more. I have worked with Charles Mitchell on archaeological inventory surveys, cultural impact assessments, data recovery plans and burial treatment plans. He will be a tremendous asset to the burial council. I urge this committee's confirmation of his nomination to the Oahu Island Burial Council. ola na iwi P. Kaanohi Kaleikini

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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CULTURAL SURVEYS HAWAI'I

ARCHAEOLOGICAL, CULTURAL, AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION SERVICES - SINCE 1982



15 April 2016

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Senate, State of Hawai'i

RE: **GM 625--Support for confirmation to the Island Burial Council Island of O'ahu, Gubernatorial Nominee, Charles Mitchell, for a term to expire 06-30-2019.**


Dear Chairperson Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Charles Auli'i Mitchell for the last 12 years here at the cultural resource management firm of Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, Inc. (CSH). CSH specializes in providing archaeological, historical, and cultural studies that support projects' state and federal historic preservation review. Our studies assess a planned development project's impacts on historic properties and cultural practices and, if needed, develop mitigation measures to alleviate any project impacts on these cultural resources.

A key component of this work is documenting Native Hawaiian burial sites and facilitating the appropriate consultation with Native Hawaiian stakeholders, agencies, and project proponents to ensure appropriate burial treatment, pursuant to Hawai'i State burial laws (Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 6E-43 and Hawai'i Administrative Rules Chapter 13-300). Based on a two and half decade working relationship with the various Island Burial Councils, CSH has a deep working understanding of the importance of the Island Burial Councils, and how the council members fulfill a critical role in Native Hawaiian burial treatment decisions.

Based on my past working experience here at CSH, I strongly support Mr. Charles Auli'i Mitchell's confirmation to the O'ahu Island Burial Council.

Mr. Mitchell is a respected Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner and *kumu hula*. He is also a respected cultural anthropologist who provides Native Hawaiian cultural sensitivity training to the contractors that work on the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation's Honolulu Rapid Transit Project. Mr. Mitchell has ample experience working with historic preservation issues in general and specifically Native Hawaiian burial treatment. He has prepared burial treatment plans and worked through the consultation process for burial treatment decision making. His vast experience interviewing Native Hawaiian informants and preparing cultural impact assessments (pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 343) has given Mr. Mitchell a profound understanding of Native Hawaiian cultural issues and cultural practices. He also understands archaeology and the historic preservation review process, as well as Hawai'i State burial law.



O'ahu Island
P.O. Box 1114
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Ph: (808) 262-9972
Fax: (808) 262-4950

Maui Island
1860 Main Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793
Ph: (808) 242-9882
Fax: (808) 244-1994

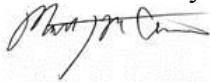
Branch Offices:
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Kona, Hawai'i
Lāwai, Kaua'i

This understanding will serve Mr. Mitchell well on the burial council, where so many decisions revolve around development, construction, and archaeology.

Mr. Mitchell is responsible, well-spoken, and committed. I wholeheartedly recommend his confirmation by the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs to the O‘ahu Island Burial Council.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (808) 262-9972 on O‘ahu or toll free at 1-800-599-9962. You may also reach me by e-mail at mmcdermott@culturalsurveys.com.

Sincerely,
Cultural Surveys Hawai‘i, Inc.



Matt McDermott
Project Manager



April 16, 2016

Hawai'i State Legislature
Senate Committee Hawaiian Affairs
Monday, April 18, 2016
1:15 – 2:45 p.m.

Re: GM 625 for consideration and confirmation of Charles Mitchell to the Island Burial Council Island of O'ahu

Aloha Honorable Chair Maile Shimabukuro and Committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to strongly support gubernatorial nominee, Mr. Charles "Auli'i" Mitchell to the O'ahu Island Burial Council (OIBC). I am Lani Ma'a Lapilio, attorney and cultural consultant, colleague and personal friend of Auli'i Mitchell. I know him to be a very strong advocate for the protection and and respectful care of iwi kūpuna!

Auli'i brings to the OIBC a unique background of cultural expertise and valuable insights as a trained cultural anthropologist in the discipline of archaeology.

His cultural experience includes the repatriation of human remains, associated and unassociated funeral objects, and objects of cultural patrimony under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

Auli'i is a native Hawaiian cultural practitioner and a Hawaiian language speaker. He is highly respected as a cultural leader in both Hawai'i and Aotearoa. Fortunate to be raised by his tutu, he shares his cultural knowledge with his students as Kumu Hula of Halau o Kahiwahiwa and Halau o Moana-nui-a-Kiwa. Auli'i is also the co-founder and current President of Ho'oulu Lāhui, non-profit that supports Kua O Ka Lā Public Charter School.

In summary, Auli'i's background and passion for iwi kupuna, makes him an ideal candidate for the OIBC. We are fortunate that Auli'i Mitchell is willing to serve our community on this important Council. I ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of GM 625. Mahalo nui loa!

Lani Ma'a Lapilio

Linda M. DaCosta
PO Box 1211
Mountain View, HI 96771
808-989-9017
lolle@hialoha.net

14 April 2016

Ref: GM 625 – Charles Mitchell

To: Senator Maile Shimabukuro

My name is Linda DaCosta and I have known Charles Mitchell for over 28 years in varying capacities, business and personal. I have always found him to be culturally sensitive and dedicated to following Hawaiian protocol as taught to him by his grandfather and mother.

I humbly ask for your confirmation of Mr. Mitchell to the Oahu Burial Council. I believe his extensive experience as a cultural practitioner and his dedication to preserving Hawaiian customs make him uniquely qualified for this position. His abilities are further enhanced by his bachelor's degree in cultural anthropology and a master's degree in applied indigenous knowledge. He is dedicated, culturally sensitive, and has a life-long commitment to the Hawaiian community, its customs and preservation. I believe he would be an asset to the Burial Council.

Should you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me directly. I can be reached at 808-989-9017.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on his behalf.

Sincerely,

Linda M. DaCosta