

GM 884

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
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

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**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 884
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUAI AND NIIHAU, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, SANDRA QUINSAAT FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 884, nominating Ms. Sandra Quinsaas to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kauai and Niihau expiring June 30, 2020.

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.

Ms. Quinsaas is a Project Manager at the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa. While working there and participating in construction projects, she gained experience and learned the statutes and rules regarding the disposition of human skeletal remains. She also dealt with the discovery of human skeletal remains at other properties such as The Point at Poipu, the Marriott Waiohai, and the Sheraton Kauai Resort. Thus, she understands the sensitive nature of the process. Ms. Quinsaas is also a past member of the Kauai Niihau Islands Burial Council.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Ms. Quinsaas's knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Kauai Niihau Islands Burial Council until June 30, 2020.



GM884

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL,
ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NI'IHOU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SANDRA QUINSAAT, FOR A
TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 18, 2016

1:19 p.m.

Room 423

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM884, which confirms OHA Nominee Sandra “Sandi” Quinsaas as a Kōloa regional representative to the Kaua’i and Ni’ihau Island Burial Council.

Ms. Quinsaas has expressed a life-long commitment to keeping our cultural traditions pono. She has gained much experience with burials law and practices as well as collaborative problem solving when she previously served on the Kaua’i/Ni’ihau Island Burial Council. As a project manager at the Grand Hyatt Kaua’i Resort & Spa Ms. Quinsaas has witnessed many burial discoveries during construction of the Hyatt as well as neighboring hotels. In many cases, she assisted with reinterment protocols, always seeking the advice and respect of kūpuna. These are important attributes for Council members whose primary purpose is to serve that the best interests of kūpuna and surviving ‘ohana and descendants.

Ms. Quinsaas also maintains strong connections with the community and strives to protect cultural traditions. She currently serves on the Protocol Committees at the Hyatt and with Nā Kalai Wa’a o Kaua’i. In this capacity, she is currently working on the birthing chant of Kaua’i’s voyaging canoe “Namahoe”. Also, Ms. Quinsaas dances hula with Hula Hālau Na Hui O Kamakaokalani. Ms. Quinsaas has been a strong voice for kūpuna in the Kōloa community for many years and would make an excellent addition to this Council.

For these reasons, OHA urges the committee to **PASS** GM884 to confirm Ms. Quinsaas to the Kaua’i and Ni’ihau Island Burial Council. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

April 13, 2016

Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro
Chair, Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Letter of Recommendation – Sandra (Sandi) Quinsaas

Aloha mai kakou!

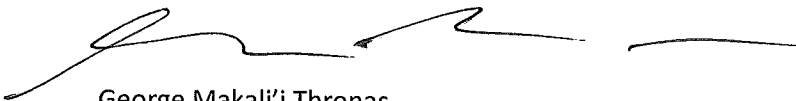
It is vital that the Hawaiian Traditions, Culture, and History remain alive and preserved for our many generations to come. Truly respecting the host culture of this 'aina (land) is to respect what we, as po'e Hawai'i have learned and take pride in continuing to perpetuate what has been our responsibility for many generations.

In a continued effort of the protection of our 'Iwi Kūpuna. I am humbly asking for your approval and appointment of Sandra Quinsaas to the Island Burial Council of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. Sandi exemplifies and embodies the Aloha spirit that is necessary for a position such as this.

Sandi has deep love and passion for her Kulaiwi. She is not afraid to work hard for what is pono, what is right. A great asset to the Council, she will bring her many years of hard work and dedication to her fellow council members.

I thank you for your time and for allowing me the opportunity to share my words of support.

Me ka Mahalo nui,



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