

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1688

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 20 2017

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 668

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred Governor's Message No. 668, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

G.M. No. 668 WENDY WILTSE,
for a term to expire 06-30-2021,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee has reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by the nominee and finds Wendy Wiltse to possess the requisite qualifications to be nominated to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for Wendy Wiltse from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, and two individuals.

Wendy Wiltse received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Denison University, Master of Science degree in Marine Science from the University of New Hampshire, and Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. Wiltse recently retired from her position as a Senior Environmental Scientist after thirty-two years of employment with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Prior to her long tenure at the EPA, Dr. Wiltse was an Assistant Professor at William College - Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program and a Postdoctoral Researcher at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.



The nominee has also been a member of various working groups, committees, and organizations, including the Hawaii Coral Reef Working Group; United States Coral Reef Task Force Steering Committee, Watershed Working Group, Climate Change and Ocean Acidification Working Group, and Injury and Mitigation Working Group; Hawaii Chapter of the Sierra Club; and The Nature Conservancy.

Your Committee finds that Dr. Wiltse has the education, experience, and commitment to land conservation to serve on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission as a member possessing scientific qualifications as evidenced by an academic degree, as specified in section 173A-2.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Testifiers commented on Dr. Wiltse's strong professional background at the EPA, where she assisted government agencies and nonprofit organizations with all aspects of resource management and protection, and her keen understanding of the laws, rules, criteria, and priorities that govern the Commission's work as evidenced during her prior years on the Commission. The nominee indicated in her personal statement that her recent service on the Commission as an interim member has been a fulfilling experience, and she believes in the Commission's mission to acquire, protect, and manage private lands for public trust purposes. Additionally, Dr. Wiltse expresses a desire to continue to serve her community in Hawaii after her lengthy career in federal government, and to put her years of knowledge and experience to constructive use. Your Committee finds that with her extensive experience, knowledge, and commitment to public service, Dr. Wiltse is and will continue to be an asset to the Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water and Land,

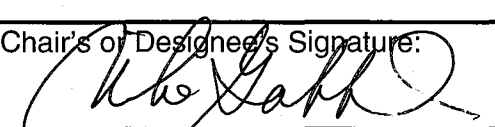


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL
Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:* GM 668	Committee Referral: WTL	Date: 04-12-2017		
<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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.				✓
TOTAL	3	—	—	2
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