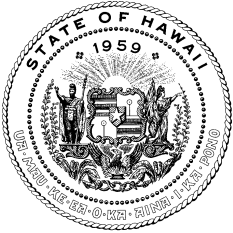


GM 615



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH | 235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702, Honolulu, HI 96813 | oeqchawaii@doh.hawaii.gov

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT GLENN
DIRECTOR

(808) 586-4185

Testimony of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Monday, April 3, 2017

1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in SUPPORT of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 615
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL TULANG TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) administers Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 343, Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). The purpose of the EIS law is to "establish a system of environmental review which ensures that environmental concerns are given appropriate consideration in decision making along with economic and technical considerations" (HRS § 343-1). Additionally, the OEQC serves "the Governor in an advisory capacity on all matters relating to environmental quality control," as directed in HRS § 341-3.

The Environmental Council ("Council") is established in HRS § 341-3, which also directs membership "to assure a broad and balanced representation of educational, business, and environmentally pertinent disciplines and professions, such as the natural and social sciences, the humanities, architecture, engineering, environmental consulting, public health, and planning; educational and research institutions with environmental competence; agriculture, real estate, visitor industry, construction, media, and voluntary community and environmental groups."

The functions of the Council are to serve as a liaison between the OEQC Director and the general public and to make recommendations concerning ecology and environmental quality. The Council monitors the progress of state, county, and federal agencies in achieving the State's environmental goals and policies. It issues an annual report with recommendations for improvement to the Governor, the Legislature, and the general public (HRS § 341-6). Finally, the Council promulgates administrative rules for implementing Chapter 343, HRS (HRS § 343-6).

With respect to these functions, duties, and powers, and in consideration of Mr. Tulang's experience as demonstrated on his resume and participation to-date as an interim appointee, OEQC supports the nomination of Mr. Tulang to the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:52 AM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: alan@prloffice.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM615 on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM*

GM615

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for AEN on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 9:26 AM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: dale@hicattle.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM615 on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM*

GM615

Submitted on: 3/31/2017

Testimony for AEN on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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March 27, 2017

Memorandum:

To: Senator Gabbard

From: Michael C. Tulang

**Subject: Response to questions regarding appointment to the
Environmental Council**

Thank you for providing me with the guide questions to structure my statement, which efficiently clarifies my personal commitment to serve the people and communities in our state. Throughout my professional career in the fields of Agriculture and the Environment, I have always remained dedicated to service and working with fellow professionals. This attitude of always working in a collective groups or teams has served me well in aspects of program delivery within organizations such as local Soil and Water Conservation District Boards, 4H Leader Groups and Agricultural Organizations. I view my commitment to serve on the state's Environmental Council as an extension of my enjoyment of working with other people with similar interests representing similar passions of dedications.

Again, thank you for your guidance and assistance. It is my sincere wish to personally meet you sometime in the near future.

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSE:

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Environmental Council?

I believe that I possess a unique combination of education and experience in the agricultural and environmental fields. I am confident that I can become a valuable asset to the council. Throughout my thirty-one years of working with state, county, federal agencies to assist the agricultural industry and local communities to address environmental

and natural resource issues, I have become a practitioner in the art of collaboration and cooperation. I had a great career working with community leaders, conservation district directors, and leaders of the agricultural industry; I hope to continue that experience as a working member of the environmental council.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of The Environmental Council?

As members of the Environmental Council we are charged with the responsibility of becoming uniquely educated on the issues and making consistent and balanced decisions after listening to each other and members of the community.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position?

Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Environmental Council.

After graduating with a Masters Degree in Agricultural Resource Economics, I was employed by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service as a Watershed Planning Economist. I was a member of the Planning Team. We worked closely with local communities, Conservation districts, counties, and state agencies in addressing natural Resource problems such as flooding, sediment, water shortage or pollution. We assisted communities throughout the state, from Waianae, and Kahaluu Oahu to West Maui, Hilo and to Kona, Hawaii. Through the Public Law 566 Small Watersheds Act we were able to provide planning and technical and financial assistance to the counties and many local communities in the state. In order for these projects to become realities, we had to develop the expertise in listening, cooperation, collaboration and coordination. Above all, we were dedicated to serve the communities, and local agencies. I personally took great satisfaction in coaching and watching local leaders grow and develop. I have enjoyed some close personal friendships throughout the

years.

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

As a council, we have an awesome responsibility of providing advice and counsel to our Governor and other elected leaders of our state. Concurrently, we are charged with guiding our communities as they address agricultural and environmental issues. I personally hope to contribute my expertise and knowledge in developing a team of individuals or that enjoys serving our communities

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Environmental Council?

I am a team player that will support facilitation efforts in order for the Environmental Council to make decisions. I believe in making consistent and balanced decisions. My personal convictions will help the Council to maintain an even keel through out its deliberations.

Throughout my professional career, I have strongly supported efficient well-structured meetings. As such, I will continually press for decision making actions. I take pride in being a “focused” individual and will try hard to remain on task; because I feel meeting time is a precocious commodity. These three qualities will benefit the operational efficiency of the Environmental Council’s program/

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Environmental Council?

I served on interagency planning teams formed to assist Hawaii’s congressional delegation formulate and implement solutions to resolve critical agricultural and environmental issues that were impacting the tourist industry located on the West Maui Coast. The West Maui Tourist I development was being negatively impacted by floodwaters coming off the agricultural fields and watershed area. In addition, the near shore environment was being degraded by sediment pollution. My experience on the interagency planning team can provide the Environmental Council with lessons of collaboration, cooperation, and coordination. My previous experience as a member of an interagency team working

with members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation and State Legislature to address critical water issues will help the Environmental Council understand its task of coordinating and facilitating the collaboration to develop avenues of available assistance, particularly in the present political climate.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Environmental Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I cannot foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during my service on the Environmental Council. If I sense any possibility, I will immediately seek advice and counsel from our legal counsel.