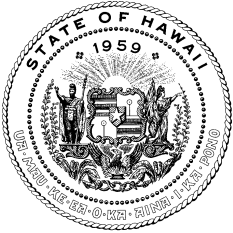


**GM 618**



# 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 618**  
**RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF STEPHANIE DUNBAR-CO 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 Ms. Dunbar-Co's experience as demonstrated on her resume and participation to-date as an interim appointee, OEQC supports the nomination of Ms. Dunbar-Co to the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** alan@prloffice.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM618 on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM\*

**GM618**

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
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 GM618 on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM\*

**GM618**

Submitted on: 3/31/2017

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting Governor's Message 618  
Nominating Stephanie Dunbar-Co to the Environmental Council  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Monday, April 3, 2017, 1:15PM, Room 224

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.*

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The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i strongly supports the appointment of Stephanie Dunbar-Co to the Environmental Council.

Steph currently works for The Nature Conservancy on Moloka'i helping communities, landowners and government agencies plan and implement expanding forest and watershed conservation actions in the east slope area of the [East Moloka'i Watershed Partnership](#). Steph's education and experience in conservation biology, botany, ecology, watershed management, sustainable agriculture, and community engagement will allow her to provide excellent service to the Environmental Council, the Office of Environmental Quality Control and the people of Hawai'i in meeting our collective goals for environmental and ecological management and protection.

The photos below are an example of the kind of conservation success Steph is working to achieve in watersheds of Moloka'i.



East Moloka'i Watershed Partnership area before and after fencing and animal management.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Thomas Gottlieb James Haynes III Sean Hehir Eiichiro Kuwana Duncan MacNaughton Kathy Matsui  
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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:09 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** tenbrug@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM618 on Apr 3, 2017 13:15PM

**GM618**

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jan TenBruggencate	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I would like to strongly support the nomination of Stephanie Dunbar to the Environmental Council. She is uniquely qualified by temperament, education, experience and a strong cultural commitment to the environment of our islands. I urge the Legislature's favorable consideration.

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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# LeGrande Biological Surveys Inc

2243 Mohala Way Honolulu HI 96822 808.722.3355 maya.legrande@gmail.com

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28 March 2017

Testimony of **Maya LeGrande**, President

Before the  
**Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
Monday, April 3, 2017  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In SUPPORT of  
**Governor's Message 618**  
**Relating to the nomination of Stephanie Dunbar-Co to the Environmental Council**

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

I am the president and owner of a botanical consulting firm, LeGrande Biological Surveys, Inc. that was established in 2005. I have known Stephanie Dunbar-Co for over 15 years and in that time have had the opportunity to work with her both in the field as well as in an academic setting during our graduate work at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Stephanie has always shown the desire to continue learning about the Hawaiian natural environment and ecology. Her interest in both field work as well as laboratory scientific enquiry has led to her broad and deep knowledge about the Hawaiian ecosystems and the factors effecting them.

I have always been impressed by the way in which Stephanie deliberates over certain topics or questions. She gathers as much information as she can and withholds judgment or decision until she feels confident enough in her fact finding to render comments or recommendations.

I support the nomination of Ms. Dunbar-Co to the Environmental Council. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Stephanie Dunbar-Co  
9759 Kamehameha V Hwy  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

March 28, 2017

Senator Mike Gabbard  
Chair, Agriculture and Environment Committee

Aloha Senator Gabbard,

Below please find the requested information regarding my nomination to the Environmental Council:

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

As a scientist, Hawaiian, landowner and mother, I believe that Hawai'i's native, natural resources are essential to the health and economy of our island home. Caring for these resources is the best investment we can make in Hawai'i's future. My interest in serving on the Council stems from a personal and professional obligation to help improve and protect the native biota of my birthplace.

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

Broadly, the Council's role is to have an advisory voice on environmental issues in Hawai'i. As a Council member I also understand that I am a liaison between the OEQC Director Scott Glenn and the public. The Council is also tasked with monitoring the progress of the state in meeting its environmental goals through the publication of its annual report on the state of Hawai'i's environment. It creates administrative rules for Hawai'i's environmental impact statement (EIS) process and vets state and county agency lists for actions that can be considered exempt from having to prepare EIS's or environmental assessments (EAs). I appreciate that Council members come from diverse fields thus bringing a breadth of experience and expertise that allows issues to be approached from many perspectives.

*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?*

My education includes MS and PhD degrees on the ecology, evolution and conservation biology of the Hawaiian flora. Through both my position as the East Slope Project Manager with The Nature Conservancy as well as my role as a fifth generation landowner on Molokai, I consider myself well-informed on a variety of environmental



issues including invasive species, endangered species, finding diplomatic resolutions to land management, watershed protection, cultural practices, environmental assessments, mitigating climate change, resource monitoring, sustainable agriculture, and community outreach.

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

Broadly, I hope to play a role in rebuilding the Environmental Council so that it can meet its responsibilities. More specifically, I hope to play a role in the creation of the annual report on the state of Hawai'i's environment, vet exemption lists, and bring environmental issues of particular importance on Molokai and Maui Nui to the discussion.

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

Three qualities that best describe me and may make me stand out are: well-informed; determined; empathic. I believe the Environmental Council needs informed, hard working members who can be a bridge on contentious issues.

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

Starting in 2013, I led the expansion of the East Molokai Watershed Partnership to include most of southeastern Molokai. This took three years of intense community outreach to bring landowners and community (some of whom were contentious) on board. Additionally, the effort required remote watershed reconnaissance and monitoring across the landscape to determine priority protection areas. This was an ambitious undertaking and I am both proud and amazed at its success thus far. Kindness, empathy, determination, hard work and being well-informed about the resources, their opportunities and challenges, were essential to the success of the project. I believe this experience and these qualities benefit the Council.

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

I don't foresee any conflicts of interest; however, if a conflict were to arise, I would follow all necessary procedures.

Me ke aloha,  
Stephanie Dunbar-Co