

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 662  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF  
LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, KEITH K.  
DOWNING, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2021.**

Governor's Message 662 submits the Governor's nomination of Keith "Keone" Downing for an at-large seat on the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board). The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this nomination.

Mr. Downing is the son of big-wave pioneer, George Downing, a founder of Save Our Surf Foundation. He is a prize winning big-wave rider and paddler who has been surfing since the age of five. Today, he carries on the surfing tradition by taking his young grandson surfing weekly.

As part owner, with his sister, of Downing Hawaii, Hawaii's oldest surf shop, Mr. Downing is well aware of the financial importance of Hawaii's beaches and ocean recreation industry. He understands the fine balance between the need for regulations and encouraging certain kinds of businesses at Hawaii's landmark beaches and ocean recreation areas.

Mr. Downing was first nominated to the Board in 2015 and he has brought his passion, knowledge and respect for the ocean to Board decisions ranging from fireworks at Waikīkī to seawalls in Lāhainā. He also understands the need for ocean education. As a member of the Surfing Education Association, Mr. Downing is dedicated to the preservation of Hawaii's oceans, coral reefs, waves and beaches. Mr. Downing brings all of this knowledge and family tradition to bear on Board Decisions, often providing the Board a different perspective from which to view an issue.

The Department strongly supports Mr. Downing's nomination to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**DANIEL S. QUINN**  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
ACTING 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