



*KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA*  
**KAHO‘OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

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CARMEN HULU LINDSEY

Michael K. Nāho‘opii  
*Executive Director*

**Testimony of  
Michael K. Nahoopii, Executive Director**

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

Before the  
**SENATE WATER AND LAND COMMITTEE**

**Monday, April 17, 2017  
2:45 P.M.  
State Capitol, Room 224**

**GOVERNOR’S MESSAGE 762 – SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION TO THE KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE HÖKŪLANI HOLT-PADILLA**

Governor's Message No. 762 nominates Hōkūlani Holt-Padilla to serve on the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in the seat reserved for a representative of a Native Hawaiian Organization. On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express **my strong support and recommend her confirmation.**

Ms. Holt’s involvement with the protection and restoration of Kaho‘olawe began with the Protect Kaho‘olawe Ohana (PKO), where she dedicated her time and effort to help with the movement to return Kaho‘olawe to the State of Hawaii, brought students from Nā Pua No`eau Center for Gifted and Talented Native Hawaiian Children to Kaho‘olawe and founded and dedicated a traditional hula pā in Hakioawa. It was through her hula training and traditions that many hula practitioners and students have been to Kaho‘olawe to learn about its importance to Hawaii.

Later, Ms. Holt continued her support of Kaho‘olawe as the Cultural and Education Manager for the KIRC during the Navy’s cleanup of the island. Through her foundational knowledge and expertise in Hawaiian cultural practices that she was able to develop the orientation program that sensitized the many workers, who were a part of the cleanup, to the importance of Kaho‘olawe’s place in Hawaii’s history and the special nature of the island to the people of Hawaii. She was instrumental in introducing Hawaiian cultural practices as part of the everyday life of the KIRC and educated KIRC staff in the many finer points of caring for an island that is an important symbol to future of native Hawaiian Sovereignty. Ms. Holt is currently the Director of Ka Hikina o Ka Lā, a specialized program at the University of Hawaii Maui College funded by the National Science Foundation that integrates native Hawaiian cultural knowledge and practices into modern scientific technology and instruction.

Commissioner Holt has been serving as a member of the KIRC since her appointment on October 22, 2013. Since that time, Commissioner Holt has taken on the role of guiding and expanding the cultural use of the Reserve.

Commissioner Holt's dedication to perpetuating native Hawaiian culture is in alignment with the KIRC's vision for Kaho'olawe; "where the people of Hawai'i cares for the land in a manner which recognizes the island and ocean of *Kanaloa* (an ancient name for Kaho'olawe) as a living spiritual entity. *Kanaloa* is a *pu'uhonua* (place of safety) and *wahi pana* (storied place) where Native Hawaiian cultural practices flourish."

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2017 2:32 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** anelamarie@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM762 on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM\*

**GM762**

Submitted on: 4/10/2017

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anela Evans	Individual	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:** Monday, April 10, 2017 8:51 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** michele.mclean@co.maui.hi.us  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM762 on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM

**GM762**

Submitted on: 4/10/2017

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michele McLean	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the re-appointment of Hokulani Holt-Padilla to the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission. I have worked with Hoku for several years on the KIRC, and she is dedicated and diligent, and makes important contributions to the commission and to the management and restoration of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve. While I serve as the chair and the Maui County representative on the KIRC, this testimony is being offered in my personal capacity. Hoku is much needed and deserves your support. Mahalo!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2017 8:06 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** 2kahaualea@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM762 on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM\*

**GM762**

Submitted on: 4/9/2017

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2017 7:24 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** kteger@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM762 on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM

**GM762**

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katharine T. Cannon-Eger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have known Hokulani Holt-Padilla since 1977. I have seen her in action on Maui and Hawaii Island. I strongly urge confirmation of her appointment to the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2017 3:27 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** launahele@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM762 on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM

**GM762**

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Hokulani Holt Padilla is a fantastic choice for KIRC. Her knowledge of Hawaiian culture and Kanaloa will benefit both the commission and the people of Hawai'i.

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