



GM571
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ALAPAKI
NAHALE-A, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2023
Senate Committee on Higher Education

April 15, 2019

2:00 p.m.

Room 414

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM571, which would confirm Alapaki Nahale-a as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i. Mr. Nahale-a’s extensive range of professional experience, combined with his strong commitment and dedication to community service, make him highly qualified to serve as one of the two Hawai‘i County representatives on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i (Board). Significantly, Mr. Nahale-a’s comprehensive background in public policy and education will bring valuable and practical perspectives to the Board as it formulates policy and exercises authority over the University of Hawai‘i system.

Mr. Nahale-a has dedicated his life to service of his home community. Born and raised in Hilo, Mr. Nahale-a graduated from the Kamehameha Schools-Kāpalama Campus and the University of Pennsylvania. Upon graduation, Mr. Nahale-a returned to Hawai‘i County to “give back” to his community; his impressive community service of over twenty years includes serving as the East Hawai‘i Commissioner on the Hawaiian Homes Commission, the Chair of the Hawai‘i County Cultural Resources Commission, and a member of the Boards of the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation and the Boys and Girls Club of Hilo.

Mr. Nahale-a’s career in education will offer the Board considerable experience in innovative educational techniques and progressive problem solving, especially as they relate to the unique methods and needs of Hawai‘i’s charter schools. Mr. Nahale-a brings the unique perspective as a former Principal and Director of two public charter schools in Hawai‘i County: Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School and Ka ‘Umeke Kā‘eo Immersion Public Charter School. The State Board of Education’s Strategic Plan 2017-2020 recognizes that public charter schools were established as innovation labs to help advance the state’s educational strategy system-wide; Mr. Nahale-a’s role in developing innovative curricula and methodologies at these schools will help inform the Board’s policy-making at the college level on the Board.

Mr. Nahale-a’s deep roots in the Hawaiian community will offer the Board a critical perspective as it explores ways to improve educational preparation and attainment of Native Hawaiian students. OHA notes that UH’s Strategic Directions for 2015-2021 identifies four priorities developed by the UH Board Regents for the University; one such priority is UH’s commitment to being a foremost indigenous-serving institution. Another priority is the Hawai‘i Graduation Initiative, which seeks to increase the number of educated citizens of the

state, particularly Native Hawaiians, and to prepare students for success in the workforce and community. Mr. Nahale-a's knowledge of Hawai'i's indigenous people, shaped by his personal background and further informed by his work as the Director and Chair of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and his current position as Kamehameha Schools' Senior Director of Community Engagement and Resources for Hawai'i island, can enrich and inform the Board as it develops and advances the priorities related to uplifting Native Hawaiian students.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to **PASS** GM571. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important gubernatorial nomination.

Melissa Teves Pavlicek
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2530
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 447-1840

April 11, 2019

Senate Committee on Higher Education
Chair Donna Mercado Kim
Vice-Chair Michelle Kidani
Members of the Committee

Re: GM 571 Albert (Alapaki) Nahale-a appointment to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Aloha!

Please confirm the outstanding Hawaii island community leader, former school administrator and inspiring educational advocate Albert (Alapaki) Nahale-a to serve on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. Alapaki's vision, integrity, commitment to service and *impassioned* advocacy for education uniquely qualifies him for this position. Over a period of more than ten years I have worked with Alapaki and personally observed his unfailing leadership and public service.

I recall jumping to my feet to in a standing ovation with tears forming in the corners of my eyes after hearing Alapaki speak to a crowd of 300 people at the Council for Native Hawaii Advancement's annual conference. He spoke with such conviction about the need to invest in Hawaii's public school students -- children who go hungry but for a teacher's kindness, children for whom public education is a lifeline in a world with few other supports. He spoke with the authority of serving as a former Ka 'Umeke public charter school leader, delivering high quality education under challenging circumstances. For some students, he is the only adult who ever truly cared. When Alapaki served as the executive director of the Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network, we often "walked halls" at the state capitol, advocating on behalf of public charter school leaders. I have witnessed Alapaki look into the eyes of busy policy leaders and *change their hearts* by speaking about the impact education can have on children, their families, the economy and the future.

Through his work at the helm of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and in his current private sector position, he is a strategic thinker who gets things done. He sees the big picture without overlooking important details. He asks tough questions and can be tenacious. His community-service orientation is indomitable. His integrity and willingness to make difficult decisions will greatly benefit the Board of Regents. He will serve the people of the state of Hawaii well if confirmed.

As a graduate of the University of Hawaii's undergraduate and graduate degree programs, it's important to me to see highly qualified individuals lead the institution. Alapaki Nahale-a is worthy of your support. Please support his nomination.



WRITTEN STATEMENT OF JAN SULLIVAN
IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF
ALAPAKI NAHALE-A
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS (GM 571)

Before
THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

April 15, 2019
2:00pm
Conference Room 414

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair and
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

From: Jan N. Sullivan, EVP/COO

Re: **Testimony in Support of GM 571**

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Alapaki Nahale-a to serve on the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

Alapaki has been participating in Board and Committee meetings for the last several months. I have found his questions and decision-making to be thoughtful. He has not hesitated to voice his concerns and has been willing to ask the hard questions.

He will be a positive representative for the Big Island and I believe that his background will help to round out our Board.

It has been a pleasure to serve with Alapaki for this short period of time, and I sincerely request your support in allowing him to continue his tenure on the Board of Regents.

Thank you for your consideration.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

Senate Committee on Higher Education

Monday, April 15, 2019
2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 414

**Governor's Message 571
Alapaki Nahale-a**

Governor's Message 571 has been submitted to the Senate Committee on Higher Education for consideration and confirmation as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alapaki Nahale-a, for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

On behalf of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) and the Mokupuni of Moku O Keawe (Hawaii Island), Moku O Pi'ilani (Maui), Moku O Kanaloa (Kaho'olawe), Nana'I Kaula (Lana'i), Molokai Pule O'o (Moloka'i), Moku O Kakuhihewa (O'ahu), Manokalanipo (Kaua'i) and Ka Aina O Kawelonakala (Ni'ihau), we strongly support this nomination.

Mr. Nahale-a has the experience, and the knowledge needed to be part of the leadership of the University of Hawaii. A true keiki o ka aina, he comes from a family of traditional educators and has been involved in Hawaiian Affairs and education for most of his life. And, although he is highly educated, he is a humble man who truly understands what it takes to educate others, many of whom are from different cultures and background. He is intimately familiar with the traditional Native Hawaiian practice of working well with others because he understands the *'ike of kupuna*. He uses these gifts of understanding *kaona* to work with difficult situations and has been successful in resolving conflicts. He inspires trust and loyalty.

For too long, the local people have waited for someone to sit on the Board of Regents who understands that Hawaii is unique because the culture here is unique. Mr. Nahale-a can bring that uniqueness to the table. Aha Moku strongly supports this gubernatorial nomination and urge this Senate Committee on Higher Education to confirm the appointment of Alapaki Nahale-a.

Respectfully,

Leimana DaMate
Hawaii State Aha Moku
Phone: 808-640-1214
Email: Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

April 11, 2019

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Hearing Date: April 15, 2019

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Conference Room 414, Hawaii State Capitol

**Re: GM 714- CONFIRMATION HEARING FOR ALAPAKI NAHALE-A TO THE BOARD
OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

To the Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education:

The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) strongly supports the nomination and confirmation of Alapaki Nahale-a as a member of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Mr. Nahale-a has had a distinguished career as an educator, innovator, manager, and change agent whose skills and attributes will complement and add to the fund of knowledge and expertise possessed by the present Board of Regents.

Mr. Nahale-a has served as the director of the Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School and later as the director of Ka'umeke Ka'eo Hawaiian Immersion Charter School, a school which set and achieved high standards of education for the students and their families living in this economically-challenged rural Hawaiian community. He has also worked tirelessly as the President and Executive Director of the Hawaii Charter School Network to foster, encourage, and preserve the innovation inherent in public charter schools while striving for parity in charter school public funding, increased rigor in school curriculum and instruction, and greater accountability and transparency in charter school management and operations. He also was appointed by President Obama as a member of the President's Commission on Scholars, where he was able to expand the national criteria for determining high school student excellence to include high school students who were legal residents (and not citizens) of the United States, as well as to expand national recognition to high school students enrolled in non-traditional and technical education programs, who, before this change was made, were unrecognized, unnoticed, and unacknowledged for their excellence and accomplishments at the national level.

Mr. Nahale-a's management abilities are exceptional, as noted by his experience first as an active member of the board of commissioners of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and later as the director and chair of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands serving the needs of Hawaiian homestead beneficiaries. Mr. Nahale-a continues his service to the Hawaiian community to this day, as the Senior Director of Community Engagement and Resources for the Kamehameha Schools on Hawaii island.

Mr. Nahale-a's greatest asset, however, is his willingness to give his time and his energy to serve the needs of his community. He is the past chair of the County of Hawaii Cultural Resources Commission, a former member of the Hawaii County Commission, a former board member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Hawaii island, and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation.

The breadth and scope of Mr. Nahale-a's knowledge and experience across federal, state, and local institutions, administrations, and systems will enable him to assist the University Regents in identifying trends, defining present and future issues, and working towards discovering collaborative solutions that reflect Hawaii's long-term values while building and solidifying the higher education foundation necessary to support Hawaii's future.

In summary, CNHA strongly recommends Mr. Nahale-a be recommended by the Senate Committee on Higher Education for confirmation to the full Senate as a member of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Kuhio Lewis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

J. Kuhio Lewis
Chief Executive Officer

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/13/2019 12:14:17 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alapaki Nahale-a	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kim and members of the Higher Education Committee:

I am deeply humbled to stand before you in hopes of being confirmed to the UH Board of Regents. It has been an incredible honor to serve as a regent these past few months and I hope to have the opportunity to take on this critical kuleana as a confirmed Regent.

I would like to thank the members of the community that urged and encouraged me to pursue this appointment. Their belief in me and their aspirations for our UH System is inspiring. I need to give a deep mahalo to my friends and family that have always stood with and supported me as I've tried to be a good public servant leader. I could not begin to consider this appointment without their love and support. I am grateful to the Regents Candidate Advisory Council for their commitment to our UH System evidenced by the time and dedication they devoted to create an extensive and rigorous selection process. And my appreciation to Governor Ige and his team for selecting me from the other quality candidates for your committee's consideration to serve as Regent for Hawaii Island.

I would also like to thank you and the members of this committee for your passion and integrity in raising expectations for our UH System. Your desires for us to be the best we can be are clearly evident. I realize that this commitment and kuleana includes the vetting of my nomination. I hope that my resume and previous communications give you confidence in my ability to fulfill this important role. Of greater importance to me is my hope that you believe I am fully committed to improving our UH System and if confirmed will take on this responsibility with courage, urgency, and aloha. I look forward to answering any questions the committee may have regarding my confirmation.

In closing, I'd like to share that there are a number of areas where we can improve in the UH System. That is a truth for all large complex organizations and progress will come from a dedicated and consistent effort over time. One thing that will remain constant is a need to work together. Although I will not shy away from controversial issues or take hard positions, I will always try to do so with thoughtfulness and seeking to work collaboratively. I look forward to working with all stakeholders including this committee to do the important work ahead.

Thank you very much for your consideration and for all of your committment to public service.

Mahalo,

Alapaki Nahale-a

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 8:17:33 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kea Kala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 8:11:00 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne S. Higaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 2:20:21 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keiki Kawaiaea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha e nā Iā kā mike HRE,

On behalf of Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikā Iani College of Hawaiian Language at UH Hilo, we **STRONGLY SUPPORT** the nomination of Alapaki Nahale-a to the UH Board of Regents. Alapaki has served on a variety of community boards and commissions including chairperson of the County of Hawai'i Cultural Resources Commission, member of the County Charter Commission, board member of the Boys and Girls Club of the Big Island and board member of the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation. Alapaki was also appointed by President Obama to serve on the Presidential Scholars Commission where he helps to set policy for the Commission and select the top high school scholars from around the country. He has also served as Director and Chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and the East Hawai'i DHHL commissioner.

Nahale-a has strong community and charter school experience as President and Executive Director of the Hawai'i Charter School Network, Director of Laupāhoehoe Community Public Charter School and Director of Ka 'Umeke Kā'eo Hawaiian Immersion Public Charter School. Currently, Alapaki serves as Kamehameha School's Senior Director of Community Engagement and Resources for Hawai'i island. In that position, he works to connect programs, services, lands, and resources with communities KS interacts with and helps support.”

His broad leadership experience and heartfelt sensitivity to Hawai'i's educational issues—from a community to school and government level—makes him an excellent candidate to serve on the UH Board of Regents. We humbly ask that you confirm his nomination to the BOR.

TESTIMONY OF
RANDOLPH G. MOORE
to the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

April 15, 2019
G.M. 570, 571 and 572

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii
Gubernatorial Nominee Robert Westerman for a term to expire June 30, 2022
Gubernatorial Nominee Alapaki Nahale-a for a term to expire June 30, 2023
Gubernatorial Nominee Kelli Acopan for a term to expire June 30, 2020

Chair Kim and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for the nomination of Robert Westerman, Alapaki Nahale-a, and Kelli Acopan to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I am speaking for myself as a member of the Board of Regents. The regents as a body do not take positions on the nomination of individuals for the Board.

I regret that I will be out of town at the time of your committee hearing on this matter and will therefore not be able to testify in person.

All three nominees are currently serving interim appointments and therefore I and others have had the opportunity to “see them in action.” All three have assumed their positions with an appropriate mix of curiosity, perspective, experience and wisdom. They are all active and constructive members of the board and of the committees to which they have been assigned. Additionally, all three have taken the time to attend meetings to committees of which they are not members, and accordingly have gained an understanding of the range of matters that have come to the board since their appointments.

The University of Hawaii is a large and complex organization. It takes more than one year for new regents to “get up to speed.” The board and the University would benefit by the continued participation and contributions of these three outstanding individuals as a regents.

Thank you for your consideration.

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 1:35:11 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Todd Apo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support Alapaki's nomination to the UH Regents. I have known Alapaki for over 30 years and have been associated with him personally and professionally. He is highly qualified for this position and will be a great asset to the University. Thank you for the opportunity to support his nomination.

Testimony of Farrah-Marie Gomes

Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Monday, April 15, 2019

2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 414

In consideration of GM571

Alapaki Nahale'a

Gubernatorial Nominee to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony as an individual, in **strong support** of the confirmation of Alapaki Nahale'a to serve on the University of Hawai'i's Board of Regents.

Alapaki's background, including his academic credentials and professional experiences, coupled with his personal values and qualities, make him a great nominee for the UH Board of Regents.

I have known Alapaki for more than 25 years with our paths crossing often in our various personal and professional capacities. Partnership and collaboration have always been at the core of Alapaki's work. He understands that no one entity or industry can support all that Hawaii needs to be a thriving place, now and into the future. He understands that decisions made today are impacting generations to come. In all of his roles, I have known Alapaki to be passionate about people and place - they go together, one needing the other not just to survive, but also to thrive.

Alapaki is willing to roll up his sleeves and get involved in the hard work that needs to be done to impact change, individually and collectively. I could provide countless examples of Alapaki's accomplishments, achievements and contributions. Instead, I will share with you something I recently read on Alapaki's Facebook page because this captures the essence of why he will be an amazing regent, keeping an eye on the bigger picture and looking for opportunities to connect the right dots so that we have prosperity to look forward to ahead.

"I heard a statistic that 46% of Native Hawaiians no longer live in Hawaii. Even the possibility that this is true haunts me. My two oldest children contribute to this statistic as they have decided to live on the mainland, at least for now. Which means my first grandchild is thousands of miles away from me and her Hawaiian roots. I don't need a study to tell me that most of these folks, including my children, made the choice because it's hard to see opportunity at home. If we want a Thriving Lahui, then we need to make it possible to live at home in Hawaii."

Alapaki understands the role that the University of Hawai'i plays in our economy and state. He understands the complexity of government and community work. I am confident that Alapaki has vision and foresight that will be beneficial to the University of Hawai'i and all who we are called upon to serve.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

LATE

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 10:40:06 PM
Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Aoki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing to express my strongest support for the confirmation of Alapaki Nahale-a to the Board of Regents. Alapaki is a proven leader in education with a long track record of innovation, compassion, and strategic thinking. When confirmed, he will carry and fulfill this kuleana with the seriousness and vigor that the University of Hawaii needs at this critical time.

Mahalo for the opportunity to add my voice to the process.

Andrew H. Aoki

LATE

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 10:58:23 PM
Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Au	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to share my enthusiastic support of Alapaki Nahale-a to the Board of Regents.

I have known Alapaki in his role as Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and in his current position as Senior Director of Community Engagement and Resources for Hawai'i island for Kamehameha Schools.

Throughout his career, Alapaki has worked tirelessly to support the educational excellence of the people of our islands. His experience and deep-rooted care for Hawaii's future will add an important and unique perspective and voice for the UH Board of Regents.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share my respect and support of Alapaki.

Aloha,

Laurie Au



ASHFORD + WRISTON
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

BENJAMIN A. KUDO
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Fax: (808) 533-4945
bkudo@awlaw.com

April 15, 2019

LATE

To: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

From: Benjamin A. Kudo
Ashford & Wriston
999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM-571 – Consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Gubernatorial Nominee, ALAPAKI NAHALE-A - **SUPPORT**.
Hearing date: Monday, April 15, 2019
Hearing time: 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 414

Dear Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and the support of your Committee members on the appointment of Mr. Alapaki Nahale-a as the Big Island Regener to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Mr. Nahale-a will faithfully carry out his responsibilities as a member of the Board.

I recommend your favorable consideration of Mr. Alapaki Nahale-a for the aforementioned position. He is a person who will prove to be worthy of your support.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully urge your Committee's support to confirm his nomination.

Very truly yours,

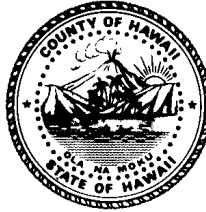
ASHFORD & WRISTON

Benjamin A. Kudo

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Karen Eoff
Council Vice Chair
Council District 8 - North Kona



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HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740



April 15, 2019

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Testimony supporting GM571 Relating to consideration and confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, Alapaki Nahale-A, for a term to expire on June 30, 2023
HRE – April 15, 2019 at 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 414

Dear Committee Chair Kim and Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee Members:

On behalf of myself and constituents of Council District 8, North Kona, support for the above referenced nominee is expressed, with brief testimony provided as follows:

I have had the opportunity to work with Alapaki Nahale-a on the 2009-2010 Hawai'i County Charter Commission and I find him to be very articulate and a critical thinker. Mr. Nahale-a is a well established community advocate that would bring a cultural perspective, as well as innovative ideas to the table.

I strongly urge confirmation of Mr. Alapaki Nahale-a to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

KAREN EOFF, Council Vice Chair
Council District 8, North Kona

KE.wpb

LATE

To the Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education:

I am Colin Kippen and am testifying in strong support of Alapaki Nahalea-a (Paki) for confirmation as a member of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents because of his insatiable curiosity, because of his ability to ask the right questions at the right time and to use those data to take the best action possible, and because of his abiding love for and record of caring for and educating Hawaii's people.

By way of background, I am a former trial attorney and judge with a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Of relevance to Paki's confirmation, I am also the former deputy director in charge of managing the policy and government relations at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, former Senior Counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs under Senator Daniel Inouye (now deceased), former executive director of the Native Hawaiian Education Council tasked with "assessing, evaluating, and coordinating" approximately \$34 million dollars in annual federal funds to improve the education outcomes for Native Hawaiian students under the federal Native Hawaiian Education Act, and the former executive director of the National Indian Education Association whose mission it is to improve educational outcomes for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

I have known Paki for over 15 years, beginning when I was working as the executive director of the Native Hawaiian Education Council and he was involved with the burgeoning charter school movement on the island of Hawaii. Paki was known as a school administrator focused on improving outcomes for rural students from predominantly low-income backgrounds whose parents did not have positive experiences with traditional educational approaches and systems.

Paki was known for his ability to collect and mine data on the needs of his students, their families, and their community and the impact various curriculum and educational approaches could possibly have on improving their education outcomes and future success in life. Paki was an early proponent of early childhood education, and he and I frequently crossed paths as he sought and successfully obtained external funding from a consortium of private foundations committed to improving the well-being of rural, low income communities through education.

During those years, Paki developed a reputation as a charter school administrator who was able to meet or exceed state and national educational standards in spite of being under resourced financially and educating a predominantly low income rural community that did not have a history of positive education experiences. I believe that one of the reasons Paki was able to accomplish this feat was because of his singular commitment to developing and implementing curriculum relevant to the needs and desires of his community, while collecting, measuring, and evaluating the impact selected curriculum had on school performance and student well being. This was no small achievement, given the fact that while many educators espouse the same data-focused approach Paki took to managing and evaluating the education

process at his charter school, few administrators are actually able to actually follow through and rigorously implement such an approach, especially when the data they collect shows they are not achieving their educational goals.

Our paths crossed again years later when Paki was appointed to the President's Commission On Scholars by President Obama. I was one of the original members on the Commission appointed during President Obama's first term, and Paki was appointed to the Commission at the start of President Obama's second term. The members of this Commission read like a who's who of academic and national thought leaders from a wide range of fields, professions, and institutions.

Paki's presence on the Commission was immediately felt. The President's Commission on Scholars is an organization created by former President Kennedy to honor and recognize excellence of character, excellence of school and community involvement, excellence of academic achievement, excellence of artistic achievement, and excellence of musical achievement by high school seniors and to honor them for it. The commissioners' task is to establish the criteria for selection as a National Presidential Scholar realizing that the act of defining what constitutes excellence at the national level for high school students becomes, by its very nature, the gold standard of what excellence means and how it will be created for all high school students across the nation. Over time these standards of excellence will become what our education system strives to achieve in building character, school and community involvement, academic, artistic, and musical achievement.

Paki was a strong proponent of broadening the national definition of high school student excellence to include those students who participated in and excelled in technical or non-traditional education programs rather than holding to traditional academic achievement rubrics as the only path for one to become a Presidential Scholar. The Commission wholeheartedly embraced this suggestion, and, over time, the Commission augmented the definition of a Presidential Scholar to include students who excelled in technical, agricultural, carpentry, electrical, mechanical and other areas of instruction normally viewed as less academically rigorous and less worthy of national recognition. Due in part to Paki's leadership, Commissioners confronted data and reports demonstrating the changing American workforce, and the need for a cadre of highly trained individuals available to meet the job requirements of the 21st century. The decision making process Paki used was similar to what I had seen before: data and research driven with a view towards taking action to address future education needs, in this case the future education needs of the nation.

I continue to have contact with Paki in his present role at the Kamehameha schools. As before, our conversations revolve around the data and information he has collected and what it reveals about the actions required to build a strong, vibrant, economically self-reliant, culturally competent, educated, and resilient Native Hawaiian community.

In closing, I believe Paki has the aptitude, the judgment, and the personal characteristics to help guide the University of Hawaii Board of Regents in its future deliberations as Hawaii's premiere public institution of higher education. He is a natural bridge builder, is able to communicate and listen to a wide range of people and interests, and is unafraid to collect and evaluate data and use it to make the best decision possible. Paki has a reputation as a man of action, able to do the right thing, for the right reasons, at the right time. He has also proven that he is able to evaluate that same data and correct his actions and approach, should such changes be warranted.

I personally give Paki my highest rating and urge his recommendation for confirmation by your Senate Committee on Higher Education.

Sincerely,

Colin Kippen



From: [Lee Putnam](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: GM 571 - In strong support
Date: Monday, April 15, 2019 10:06:24 AM

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committee,

Please accept my testimony in strong support of the confirmation of Alapaki Nahale-a to the Board of Regents.

In the short period he has been attending meetings of the Board of Regents, it has become apparent that Alapaki Nahale-a will contribute to the overall knowledge and decision making of the BOR. Alapaki's background in pre-college education and his strong community connections bring a valuable perspective to our deliberations. His commitment to the University is evident in his willingness to sacrifice his membership on other boards. The BOR faces a number of consequential and contentious issues in the near term future. I am confident that Alapaki will be a steady and sincere voice in the decision making.

I strongly support the confirmation of Alapaki Nahale-a to the Board of Regents.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my support and I apologize for any inconvenience of late testimony

April 14, 2019

Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair



Monday, April 15, 2019 2:00 p.m.
Conf. Room 414 Support for GM 571

Aloha Committee on Higher Education,

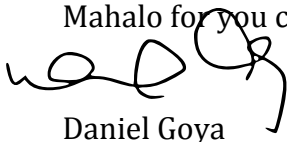
My name is Danny Goya. I am the Director of Project Development for the Partners in Development Foundation, The Director of Operations of the Mālama 'Āina Foundation and a Community Resilience Initiative Trauma Informed Trainer. I was also an educator for 15 years in the public, private high schools and at the community college level. I am writing this letter as a private citizen in support of Alapaki Nahale'a as at University of Hawai'i Board Regent.

I have known Alapaki for the past six years and although I knew of his service as the Director of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and his community work through the Kamehameha Schools, I personally had the privilege of working with Mr. Nahale'a when he was the Director of the Laupahoehoe Public Charter Schools. I was impressed with his deep knowledge and understanding of the Hawaiian culture and how it balanced with western educational milestones and outcomes. He also has a great depth of knowledge in the community and the need for higher education to play a critical role in transformational change.

As Senior Director of Community Engagement and Resources for the Kamehameha Schools on Hawai'i Island, I have seen how Alapaki has managed vast resources, provided direct funding and program support for higher education and infuse Native Hawaiian culture into every aspect of work. His accomplishments at Kamehameha have been simply amazing.

Alapaki will be an excellent addition to the Board of Regents, because he will provide valuable view points- a Kanaka, outer island (UH-Hilo, Hawai'i Community College both in Hilo and at Pālanui), and community-based education perspective.

Mahalo for your consideration,



Daniel Goya

LATE

GM-571

Submitted on: 4/15/2019 11:00:45 AM
Testimony for HRE on 4/15/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Guy H Kaulukukui	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the nomination of Alapaki Nahale-a to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. Most of Governor Ige's cabinet and key board appointments to date have been uninspiring. The nomination of Mr. Nahale-a to the crucial post of Regent is a refreshing change to this trend.

Mr. Nahale-a is experienced, confident and has an unimpeachable character. He is an educational leader in our community and will be a valuable asset to the Board of Regents and the University of Hawaii System itself. I've know Mr. Nahale-a most of his life and witnessed his growth as a leader in our community. I'm excited and encouraged by his nomination. Mr. Nahale-a is a change agent and thought leader. He knows that managers can keep the train on time and on the tracks, but a leader will take the train to interesting places. I'm convinced that throughout his tenure on the Board, he will encourage the leadership of the University to relentlessly pursue taking our University to increasingly interesting places.

I encourage Mr. Nahale-a to be indelible on the University--- i hope he leaves a mark.

Guy H. Kaulukukui