



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

Testimony of  
David Y. Ige  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**  
April 15, 2019  
8:30 a.m., Room 414

In consideration of  
**GM 609, Robert K. Masuda**  
as the  
Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming Robert K. Masuda as the deputy to the chair for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), a position he has served in since August 2017.

Prior to being appointed deputy, Bob was senior advisor for special programs development at the USDA's U.S. Forest Service' Institute for Pacific Islands Forestry. He's also served as deputy to the chair of DLNR from May 2005 to May 2007 and spent more than 55 years working in various administrative positions for the YMCA in Hawai'i, the U.S., and internationally. Masuda holds a B.S. in applied behavioral science and group work education from George Williams College and an Executive M.B.A. from the University of Hawai'i.

My administration is committed to reshaping the culture of government by embracing and accelerating change. I'm confident that Robert K. Masuda will continue to support the employees in the DLNR in this effort. Together, we can build a better home for our keiki, kupuna, and all the residents of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE CASE  
Chairperson**

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

**Monday, April 15, 2019  
8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 609  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS  
THE FIRST DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE  
ROBERT K. MASUDA,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources strongly supports Governor's Message 609 nominating Robert K. Masuda as the First Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), for a term to expire at noon on December 5, 2022.**

Robert Masuda has been First Deputy of the Department since 2017 when he returned to Department for a second stint as First Deputy to the Chairperson. Mr. Masuda's strength is in his ability to bring people together and to work on solutions that address a broad spectrum of interests and needs. This has been particularly helpful at the Department where a broad variety groups have vested and often opposing interests in how state lands are managed.

Some of Mr. Masuda's specific areas of responsibility are working with Native Hawaiians specifically in the areas of getting more water to Hawaiian Homelands, and addressing land management issues with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) and Kamehameha Schools, and addressing Department staff development. In particular, Mr. Masuda has been instrumental in the following at Department in the past 2 years:

- Initiated the Natural Resources Advancement Team (NRAT). This is a mentoring program to encourage cross-division work on major challenges to the Department.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
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

- Initiated the Honōkohau Small Boat Harbor Working Group to include all major interest groups in planning for the future of the Honokōhau Small Boat Harbor.
- Worked with the Division of Forestry and Wildlife, the communication team, and the legislature to promote community understanding of the department's watershed priorities.
- Point person for the Department Emergency Disaster response coordination. Emergency situations require intense coordination, often the closure of state parks and forestry lands, and for warning systems to go into effect.
- Administration lead on addressing the homeless at the Wai'anae Small Boat Harbor. Continue to work residents of that encampment on permanent resettlement.
- Worked with OHA and Kamehameha Schools on the Ho'olau Kanaka conference to look at different ways for the Department to manage its lands.

Mr. Masuda is an integral part of an administration that has made significant strides in managing our public lands and natural resources for the benefit of residents and visitors to Hawai'i. Thank you for your consideration of the Department's strong support of Governor's Message 609, nominating Robert K. Masuda as the First Deputy to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

## ATTACHMENT 1

### **Achievements of the Case/Masuda administration at the Department of Land and Natural Resources under the umbrella goals of the Sustainable Hawaii Initiative, 2015-2019.**

#### **Protect 30% of priority watersheds by 2030**

- Nearly 40,000 more acres of priority watershed forests have been protected, bringing us closer to the Sustainable Hawaii Initiative Goal of 30% of our watershed forests protected by 2030.
- Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death collaborative response: identification of the vector, island-wide surveys, in-field testing, in-field containment trials, inter-island quarantine, outreach to minimize transport
- Planted a quarter-million trees.
- Completed Lehua Island Restoration Project, pending confirmation of success.
- Established hunter access in Ka‘ū and shooting range on Saddle Road
- Legacy Lands: provided matching funding to protect important natural and cultural lands statewide including Turtle Bay, Helemano, Kānēwai Spring, Ka ‘Iwi mauka, Pupukea mauka, Pu‘ukua, Makahanaloa, Waipā, Pua‘ahala Watershed, Kalua‘aha Ranch

#### **Effectively manage 30% of nearshore ocean waters by 2030**

- Passed emergency, then permanent rules, limiting commercial take of sea cucumbers, heading off a significant emerging threat to Hawai‘i’s reefs from foreign-driven over-harvest
- Established the Hā‘ena, Kaua‘i, Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area
- Established the Ka‘ūpūlehu, Kona, Hawai‘i, “Try Wait” ten-year community-based fishing rest area
- Produced the first-ever statewide Coral Bleaching Recovery Plan
- Worked with marine scientists to create the first consolidated statewide marine monitoring data set, making Hawai‘i one of the most data rich marine areas in the world
- Supported expansion of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
- Completed Kaho‘olawe near-shore monitoring, confirming the two-mile managed fishing area as the highest fish biomass in the state
- Established a new state coral nursery to provide “insurance” for lost or damaged reef using large native corals being grown using fast-growth protocol
- Passed coral rules to enable Division of Aquatic Resources regulation of impacts to corals from private sector projects
- Initiated the Statewide 30x30 Marine Planning process

#### **Implement the interagency biosecurity plan by 2027**

- Completed Hawaii's first interagency biosecurity planning process, utilizing expert review of biosecurity capacity gaps and input from impacted industries and the public

- Completed operational phase of an interagency response to little fire ants on O‘ahu, with no new detections in Mililani in over two years
- Maintained the interagency coconut rhinoceros beetle response, containing the infestation to south O‘ahu
- Launched a new public pest reporting tool at 643pest.org and on mobile devices to allow the public to report various types of invasive species and be connected to the appropriate responding agency
- Began funding biological control development for invasive albizia trees
- Provided field response and research related to Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death
- Affirmed support for developing technologies to achieve landscape-scale control of mosquitoes to mitigate human and avian disease transmission

### **Protect and more efficiently manage our fresh water supply.**

- Facilitated a mediated settlement that will immediately restore continuous flows in the Waimea River in Koke‘e, Kaua‘i, as well as provide the opportunity for a renewable energy project, water for Hawaiian homesteading, and farming
- Amended the interim instream flow standards for 27 surface water hydrologic units in East Maui through a contested case hearing
- Amended the interim instream flow standards for Nā Wai ‘Ehā, Island of Maui, through a mediated agreement
- Amended the interim instream flow standard for the surface water hydrologic unit of Waimea, Island of Kaua‘i through a mediated agreement
- Amended the interim instream flow standard for the surface water hydrologic units of Ukumehame, Olowalu, Launiupoko, and Kaua‘ula, Island of Maui through the Commission on Water Resource Management-initiated action
- Established additional water reservations for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in 23 surface and ground water hydrologic units in both designated and non-designated water management areas statewide

### **Provide state lands for public use and enjoyment.**

- Kalalau Valley and Nā Pali State Wilderness Area repeated enforcements and cleanups
- Enhanced enforcements and cleanups
- Increased evening and weekend enforcements by DOCARE
- In cooperation with the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority, installed bar-coded public information signs at key Department-managed public access points.
- Over 140,000 hours of community volunteer service donated – equal to over 78 FTEs.
- Over 220,000 hours of youth intern service contributed – equal to about 125 FTEs.
- 70,000 hours of community volunteer service on Kaho‘olawe
- Implemented day-use mooring program to prevent harm to corals statewide by boats.
- Waikīkī – Ka‘anapali partnerships with hotels to re-nourish beaches and enforcement of shoreline accessibility through clearing of encroaching vegetation
- Launched audio tours of Diamond Head State Park with partner Pacific Historic Parks

- Expanded Citizen Forester urban forestry program
- Established hunter access easement in Ka‘ū; negotiated extensions of hunting area agreements on Lāna‘i and Kaua‘i; established the Statewide Game Management Advisory Commission; launched online hunter education hybrid course option; established a shooting range on Saddle Road, Hawai‘i Island
- Capital improvement and maintenance projects statewide for parks, small boat harbors, boat ramps, and trails
- Undertook enforcement and safety control actions for illegal public activity on state lands and waters driven by social media including raves, floatillas, illegal harvest, natural and cultural resource damage
- Finalized Hā‘ena State Park Master Plan; implementation begun
- Flood response, Hā‘ena, Kalalau/Nā Pali, Wailua River, ‘Iao Valley

### **Open Government**

- Established the Revocable Permit Task Force to review the process of issuing revocable permits for use of state lands and began implementing recommendations for best practices to ensure the process serves the public trust and provides transparency, inclusiveness and consistency. Focus on:
  - Open and transparent renewal process, through separate annual BLNR reviews by county and detailed list of permit information
  - Fair access to the opportunity
  - Fair price
  - Move to convert to long-term leases where appropriate
- Digitized all land conveyance records at the Bureau of Conveyances since 1845.
  - Publicly accessible online from 1992
  - Accessible at the Bureau of Conveyances from 1845.
  - Major expansion of e-recording accessibility allowing electronic recording to substantially replace paper recording over time.
- Digitized 1/3 of the library at the State Historic Preservation Office. Smart phone app for documenting historic buildings.
- Established “DLNR and You” campaign to include everyone in the kuleana (responsibility) of helping mālama (to care for) our limited and precious natural and cultural resources. Created “Citizen Conservationist” award to acknowledge members of the public who assist the department in fulfilling its mission of protecting the natural and cultural resources of Hawai‘i nei.
- Completed the court-ordered contested case proceeding for the Mauna Kea Thirty Meter Telescope. The Board of Land and Natural Resources voted 5-2 to approve the permit to build the telescope.
- Built Kaho‘olawe app linking to all digital library online including photos, reports, archives
- Launched DLNRTip app for reporting natural and cultural resource violations
- Launched mobile-friendly trails website and Ka‘ena Point online permits

- Withdrew plan for additional offshore moorings at Keauhou Bay, Kona, following environmental assessment review
- Hosted the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Committee, provided information online, and produced Hawai'i's first-ever Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report
- Completed architectural survey of neighborhoods around the state to identify old-time buildings, structures and places that distinguish our unique Hawai'i identity
- Developed and launched the online publicly accessible Public Land Trust Information System

### **Host Culture**

- Successfully advocated to add Office of Hawaiian Affairs as a co-trustee of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
- Hosted 125 native Hawaiian interns in Kaho'olawe Hui Kapehe internship partnership with Alu Like and UH Maui, focusing on conservation and natural and cultural resource management training.
- Engaged collaboratively with State Aha Moku Advisory Committee representatives and cultural practitioners in state parks and lands and waters statewide including Lipoa, 'Iao, He'eia, Hā'ena, Kealakekua, Makua, Kahana
- Established a streamlined permit process for restoration of loko 'ia, Hawaiian fishponds

### **Renewable Energy**

- Completed project for 100% renewable energy at Kaho'olawe
- Established urban forestry cost-share grant program to help schools plant trees to cool schools

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

JOSH GREEN  
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

GLENN K. MURANAKA  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**

APRIL 15, 2019  
8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 414

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 609  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY TO  
THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT K. MASUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT  
NOON ON 12-05-2022**

Chairperson Kahele and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 609, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert K. Masuda, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022. The Department strongly supports this measure.

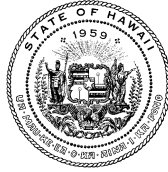
Mr. Masuda has been serving as the Deputy to the Chair for DLNR for the past two (2) years. He has an extensive professional background with natural resources and conservation. His leadership and commitment to serve Hawaii makes Mr. Masuda a clear choice to continue his service at the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
COMPTROLLER  
AUDREY HIDANO  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
AUDREY HIDANO, DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
ON  
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019, 8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 414, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 609

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **ROBERT K. MASUDA**, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 609. I support the nomination of **MR. ROBERT K. MASUDA** to the position of Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Mr. Masuda for YEARS. We grew up (separately) in Kakaako and have the same “old fashion” upbringing. Mr. Masuda and I (separately) traveled through the YMCA (Young Men’s Christian Association) programs and involvement.

Mr. Masuda has strong leadership abilities gained through his years of public service on the County, State & Federal levels – intermixed with the YMCA teachings.

Mr. Masuda truly has built bridges of friendship wherever he goes. He will serve DLNR well and will continue to build more bridges.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
COMPTROLLER  
AUDREY HIDANO  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
WATER AND LAND

APRIL 15, 2019, 8:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 414, STATE CAPITOL

G.M. 609  
SUBMITTING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY  
TO THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT K. MASUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT  
NOON ON 12-05-2022

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on G.M. 609. I support the nomination of Mr. Robert K. Masuda to the position of Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Mr. Masuda has served as Deputy to the Chair of DLNR since August 2017 and from May 2005 to May 2007. Previously, he served as Senior Advisor for Special Programs Development at the Institute for Pacific Island Forestry, Forest Service, USDA. Mr. Masuda also served as Senior Advisor for Natural and Cultural Planning, Office of the VP for Research, UH System. In addition, Mr. Masuda served as President and CEO of The Island of Hawaii YMCA.

Mr. Masuda's professional experience, community service, and leadership ability make him an ideal candidate to continue to serve as the Deputy to the Chair of DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



RYKER WADA  
DIRECTOR

JASON MINAMI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT**  
235 S. BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

April 12, 2019

TESTIMONY TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
For Hearing on Monday, April 15, 2019  
8:30 a.m., Conference Room 414

By

RYKER WADA  
DIRECTOR

**Governor's Message 609**  
**(WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY)**

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee on Water and Land

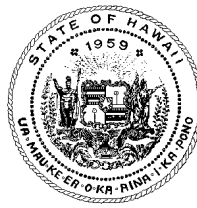
RE: Consideration and confirmation of Robert K. Masuda as Deputy to the Chair for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I submit this testimony in **Strong Support** of the confirmation of Robert Masuda as Deputy to the Chair for the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Masuda over the past two years as Deputy to the Chair. I have found his to be a dedicated, knowledgeable, measured and a well-prepared person who is well suited for the position of Deputy to the Chair for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I support the confirmation of Mr. Robert Masuda as the Deputy to the Chair for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 609 and Robert Masuda.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

**NOLAN P. ESPINDA**  
DIRECTOR

**Maria C. Cook**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Jodie F. Maesaka-Hirata**  
Deputy Director  
Corrections

**Renee R. Sonobe Hong**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 609,  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR,  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE ROBERT K. MASUDA.

by

Nolan P. Espinda, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Monday, April 15, 2019; 8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports the nomination of Robert Masuda as the Deputy to the Chair, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). PSD believes that his experience in the scientific bases of sustainable environmental management, at both the USDA and University of Hawaii, make him an invaluable asset in ensuring that the Hawaii's lands and oceans are overseen in a sustainable and evidence-based manner.

The Department respectfully urges the Committee's favorable consideration of Mr. Masuda's nomination as Deputy to the Chair of DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY  
RODERICK K. BECKER  
AND  
ROBERT YU

TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 609

**April 15, 2019**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Room 414**

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT K. MASUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

We strongly support Robert Masuda's appointment to the position of deputy to the chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). We are working with Mr. Masuda in our professional capacities as Director and Deputy Director of Finance, respectively.

Governor Ige's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our state in a direct and forthright manner. We strive to do the right thing, the right way to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable economy to support our keiki, our kupuna, and the disadvantaged.

Mr. Masuda is an integral part of a team that is committed to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Mr. Masuda currently serves as the deputy director of DLNR since August 2017; prior to that he was senior advisor for USDA Forest Service Institute for Pacific Islands Forestry and also for the Natural & Cultural Resources Planning at the University of Hawaii. Mr. Masuda's work experience and knowledge of DLNR will benefit the department and the State; therefore, we support confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY  
DIRECTOR

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Statement of  
**MIKE MCCARTNEY**  
Director  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Monday, April 15, 2019  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of  
**GM 609**  
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy to the Chair of the  
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee,  
ROBERT K. MASUDA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.**

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee.

I **support** the appointment of **Robert K. Masuda** to serve as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Mr. Masuda has extensive knowledge and experience acquired in four decades of professional and community service. Serving in various executive positions with the University of Hawaii, US Forestry Service, DLNR, and the YMCA, he has managed budgets, staff and programs while being an advocate for natural and cultural resources and science. He will bring passion, direction and commitment to the position and his leadership will benefit the people of the State of Hawaii.

For these reasons, I urge his confirmation for the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI  
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIJO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

[www.labor.hawaii.gov](http://www.labor.hawaii.gov)

Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099

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April 12, 2019

To: The Honorable Kaialii Kahele, Chair,  
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Date: Monday, April 15, 2019  
Time: 8:30 a.m.  
Place: Conference Room 414, State Capitol

From: Scott T. Murakami, Director  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

**Re: G.M. No. 609 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy to  
the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee,  
ROBERT K. MASUDA**

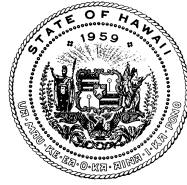
Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Scott T. Murakami, and I am the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I am testifying in strong support of Governor's Message 609, Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert K. Masuda, as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Mr. Masuda has demonstrated that he has the leadership and experience to assist in leading the DLNR. As the Deputy to the Chair, Mr. Masuda supports the Chair by helping to develop, implement, and manage programs and policies, such as the Sustainable Hawaii Initiative. Mr. Masuda's extensive leadership background and public service at the federal, state, and county level show his passion and commitment to protecting Hawaii's natural resources and working towards sustainability goals.

I urge you to confirm Mr. Masuda to serve as the Deputy to the Chair of the DLNR so that he may continue to provide leadership and service to the public.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Mr. Masuda.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of GM609**  
**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy to the Chair of the**  
**Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT K.**  
**MASUDA, for a term to expire 12-31-2022.**

SENATOR KAIALI'I KAHELE, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: April 15, 2019

Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the nomination of Robert  
3 Masuda as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

4 Mr. Masuda's resume demonstrates exemplary public service and community orientation in  
5 fields ranging from human services, conservation, academia, health, and international  
6 development. He is not only qualified professionally, but also well regarded in our state and  
7 known as an honest broker and strong collaborator. He is an effective leader who is a great  
8 "people person" with a good sense of humor, which is important in that job.

9 As Deputy Director, he spends much of his time working on administrative and personnel  
10 matters. He knows the State system very well and takes time to get to know the staff at DLNR  
11 personally as well as professionally. He has been a mentor to many staff at DLNR and  
12 taken students interested in natural resource management under his wing. At the same time, he is  
13 not afraid to take on tough programmatic challenges, such as mediating community concerns  
14 related to the Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area at Moomomi on Molokai. He really  
15 cares about Hawaii and is committed to preserving our precious natural resources. DOH stands  
16 in strong support of Bob's nomination for First Deputy.

17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM609.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII



JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI  
CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**LATE**

TESTIMONY OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
HEARING ON APRIL 15, 2019 AT 8:30 AM IN CR 225414

IN SUPPORT OF

**GM609**

for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, **ROBERT K. MASUDA**,  
for a term to expire 12-05-2022

April 15, 2019

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

We provide this testimony in **support** of Governor Ige's nomination of Robert K. Masuda as the Deputy Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Mr. Masuda has a long background in community service in Hawaii at leadership levels with the YMCA. His assignments have taken him throughout the Pacific, China, four continents, and the Middle East. Add to that, 12 years tenure on County, State, and Federal Levels, which included as First Deputy Director, DLNR, May 2005-May 2007. He has received many awards, among them the *Distinguished Service Award*, Hawaii Conservation Alliance (2011), conferred the Doctor of Humane Letters *honoris causa*, University of Hawaii (2015), and inducted into the YMCA of USA National *Hall of Fame* (2016). This most importantly, he works to advocate Hawaii's legacy of sustainable living practice and values, promoting these island strengths as values for global progress.

We thank him for his continuing service and respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination, and we thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

April 15, 2019  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 414

**G.M. 609**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT K. MASUDA, for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022.**

Senate Committee on Water and Land

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** Robert Masuda as Deputy to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Mr. Masuda received his Executive M.B.A. from the University of Hawaii and has been with the YMCA for 55 years. The DOT believes Mr. Masuda is an excellent choice, having served as the First Deputy to DLNR in 2005-2007 along with his work with the Institute for Pacific Islands Forestry, United States Department of Agriculture.

The DOT and DLNR's coordinated approach have been essential to our success in reducing the further introduction of invasive species into the state. The DOT, DLNR, and Mr. Matsuda share the important goal of *malama 'aina*. We look forward to working with him again to ensure that we are as unflinching as possible under our respective statutory authorities to protect the state's land and natural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**LATE**

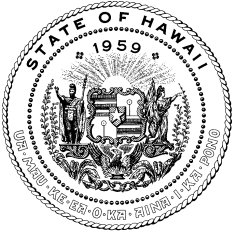
**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/15/2019 8:05:22 AM  
Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Chu Takayama	Testifying for DOTAX	Support	No

Comments:

Bob Masuda's long history and passionate support for issues related to land use and environment make him an outstanding nominee for Deputy Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your strong support is appreciated.



# 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 WATER AND LAND**  
Monday, April 15, 2019  
8:30 AM, Room 414

in SUPPORT of  
**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 609, ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
**As the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources**

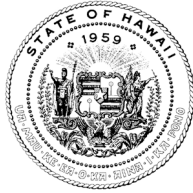
Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the appointment of Mr. Robert K. Masuda to continue to serve as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a term to expire at noon on December 5, 2022.

Mr. Masuda brings his extensive experience in state and international governance to guide the Department in improving its administration and operations. Mr. Masuda is generous with his experience and readily mentors his colleagues by providing a keen perspective on the history and context of current issues along with thoughtful, compassionate, and collaborative ways of moving forward. Under his leadership, the Chair, administrators, and staff have the expertise and support they need to implement improvements across the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM 609.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
CHIEF INFORMATION  
OFFICER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119  
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922  
ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Chief Information Officer  
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Monday, April 15, 2019

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 609  
Gubernatorial Nominee Robert K. Masuda

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

I am submitting testimony in strong support of Robert K. Masuda as Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Mr. Masuda has served as DLNR First Deputy Director since 2017, and previously served in that capacity from May 2005-May 2007. He led DLNR's response and recovery efforts during the state's last two major natural disasters and served as DLNR's liaison with many interagency working groups and government jurisdictions.

Mr. Masuda's career includes more than 55 years of executive and leadership roles, notably with the YMCA and the City and County of Honolulu. He has been Senior Advisor for Special Programs Development at the USDA's U.S. Forest Service' Institute for Pacific Islands Forestry since 2007, where he advised, consulted and assisted management and scientists.

I strongly urge the committee to favorably consider Mr. Masuda's nomination, so he may continue the exemplary leadership he has demonstrated during his many years in public service. He is a great leader for the department and for our state government.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this nominee.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i Supporting  
GM 609 Gubernatorial Nominee Robert K. Masuda for Confirmation  
as the Deputy of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Monday, April 15, 2019, 8:30AM, Room 414

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 preserves and work in over 30 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs, waters and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnership with government, private parties and communities to protect forests and coral reefs for their ecological values and the many benefits they provide to people.*

---

The Nature Conservancy strongly supports Bob Masuda's confirmation as Deputy to the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

For more than 50 years, Bob has dedicated himself and his talents to the betterment of Hawai'i's, the nation's and the world's people and environment. From his service and leadership locally, nationally and internationally with the YMCA organization to his many roles in county, state and federal government natural resource agencies to his continuous volunteer leadership, Bob has demonstrated a level of dedication to people and planet that reflects multiple lifetimes.

We're truly grateful for the opportunity to work with Bob and that – in his words – he “keeps failing retirement” and continues share his talents, wisdom and work ethic. In that regard – and beyond his official role and duties as DLNR Deputy – Bob has informally created a Natural Resources Action Team amongst the junior staff at the DLNR for the purpose of providing coaching and professional development guidance and activities. Like any great leader, he is cultivating future generations of leaders.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Bob's confirmation as DLNR Deputy.



# NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Chartered by Congress to Create a National Resource in Conservation, Research, and Education

**LATE**

April 14, 2019

Senator Kaiuli'i Kahele, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

**Subject: GM 609 – Support for Robert Masuda as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, for a term to expire 12-05-2022.**

Dear Senator Kahele and Keith-Agaran,

I want to voice my strong support for Bob Masuda for a second term as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). I have worked closely with Uncle Bob over the past 10 years through his work at the US Forest Service, as well as his volunteer work on the Hawaii Conservation Alliance Foundation, and as the Deputy to the Chair of the DLNR.

Uncle Bob is an outstanding individual who brings decades of experience in both the for-profit and non-profit world not to mention years of service as a public servant. He understands and can work with anyone and has excellent communication and management skills which make him an ideal person for this important position within DLNR.

Please support the conservation of Hawaii's natural and cultural resources by giving Robert Masuda a second term as the Deputy to the Chair of the DLNR.

Me ka mahalo a me ke aloha,

Chipper Wichman, President



**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 Water and Land

**LATE**

Monday, April 15, 2019  
8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 414

**Governor's Message 609  
Robert Masuda**

Governor's Message 609 has been submitted to the Senate Committee on Water and Land for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert Masuda, for a term to expire at noon on December 05, 2022.

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.**

An open and accessible man, Mr. Masuda has the experience of working with Government for more than 55 years. In his current role of Deputy Director at DLNR, Mr. Masuda helps to manage, develop and oversee programs and policies of the Department. He also works with implementing the State's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative – a program that is much needed in Hawaii and parallels the kanaka maoli practice of *malama Hawaii*. He is familiar with the divisions of DLNR as he previously served in this position from May 2005-2007 and that familiarity serves he, and the divisions, very well.

From the perspective of the Aha Moku, Mr. Masuda is a welcome colleague who has the life experience of working well with people. He listens and makes decisions after much deliberation. He is friendly, yet careful. Working with the indigenous people of Hawaii from the eight distinctly different islands, history and practices can be daunting. In addition, he must meld multiethnic cultures into this mix, and work to collaborate all of this with government policy and procedures. But, Bob Masuda is a local boy, raised with Hawaiians and many of the diverse ethnic groups that have melded into what is now Hawaii. His dedication and passion for natural and cultural resources is the common denominator for all of us. Therefore, working with communities and agencies to sustain our natural and cultural resources continues to drive him to the benefit of all.

Aha Moku supports this gubernatorial nomination of Robert Masuda to the position of Deputy to the Chair of DLNR. We humbly ask that this committee grant confirmation.

Respectfully,

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





**LATE**

Testimony Before The  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
**IN SUPPORT OF GM 609**  
Monday April 15, 2019, 8:30am, Rm. 414

My name is Kevin Chang and I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to practice and engage in mālama 'āina and civic governance as a traditional and customary kuleana and to celebrate their places and pass on traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

KUA employs a community-driven approach that currently supports a growing network of over 30 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 40 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a new and growing hui of Limu practitioners all from across our state. Collectively they touch on almost 75 places. Many of these communities focus on improving natural resource management and restoration of native food and ecological systems, values and ethics more sensitive to the needs of their wahi (their places).

**KUA supports GM 609, the nomination of Mr. Robert K.Masuda as Deputy Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.**

Caring for Hawai'i's cultural and natural resources and our very future will require us to shift to a more collaborative and collectively driven path. Some of the ways in which past decisions have been made will need to be decentralized and brought closer to the ground where people with situated knowledge are most adaptable and insightful of place specific dependencies, needs and changes. We see this as a shift to a konohiki mindset; a contemporary renewal, imagination for, and empowerment of Hawaiian traditions of community place-based natural resource management, co-management and co-governance that builds a collaborative mindset within our State (the people and the state) such that the focus, needs and capacity of management leads to policy, procedures, infrastructure, jobs and skills for future generations to *mālama Hawai'i*.

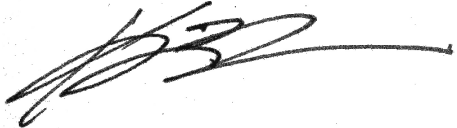
Deputy Chair Masuda, comes with a deep experience in organizational change, natural resource management (and prior DLNR experience), collaborative decision-making and conflict resolution recognized and entered into public service with the DLNR and Chair Case in part to further the ability of the State and communities to better collaborate in caring for Hawai'i. Indeed in his past work at the Institute for Pacific Island

Forestry he advocated for a stronger connections between people, culture and environment.

Accomplishments he contributed to with Chair Case, his predecessor Kekoa Kaluhiwa and the staff at DLNR include among other things co-management of our fisheries at Hā'ena and Ka'ūpūlehu, the quick response to community calls for protection of loli, the rapid 'Ōhi'a response, the acquisition and protection of lands significant to our communities, enhanced DOCARE presence and capacity, new and permanent positions with a community based focus, fishpond permitting, better collaborative relationships around community stewardship with State Parks and increased recognition of limu to our cultural perspective and environmental health.

We certainly may not always agree on everything along the way, but we continue to believe in a balance of short and long views and approaches to change. The Deputy Chair has expressed and facilitated changes that we believe lend to the vision we see in the long view. We would like to see the opportunity to work with him and Chair Case continue and to see acceleration of changes especially in regards to community place-based natural resource management and the visions of our rural and Hawaiian communities in places like Hā'ena, Hanalei (Kaua'i), Ka'ūpūlehu, Miloli'i, Ho'okena (Hawai'i) Mo'omomi (Moloka'i) and Kīpahulu (Maui) among many others who are growing in their desire to find collective ways forward.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin K.J. Chang', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin K.J. Chang

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/13/2019 6:22:42 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Lodge	Testifying for Hawaii Hunting Association	Oppose	No

Comments:

DLNR/BLNR have failed their constituencies, don't live up to their agreements with organizations, and will willingly break the law or agreements to suit themselves as dictator, rather than entrusted servant.

**From:** [Jim Anthony](#)  
**To:** [WTL Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Public Testimony: proposed reappointment confirmation of Robert K. Masuda  
**Date:** Saturday, April 13, 2019 2:56:56 PM

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Please be informed that we give further notice (within the required 24 hour framework) that we intend to testify also **against** the reappointment of **Robert K. Masuda** to the Deputy's position, Department of Land & Natural Resources.

I think that the mismanagement issues at the very top of DLNR that we intend to highlight for the information of the Committee apply especially to the Director, Suzanne D. Case, but not exclusively to her. We hope that this Committee shares the view that Mr. Masuda must share some part of the burden of accountability when charges of mismanagement are raised at a confirmation hearing. There is no firewall between the Director and a Deputy.

On the major issue we intend to raise I I ask what did the Deputy know about the issue and, if he knew anything, what if anything did he do about it? If he did nothing, the Committee is entitled to a full explanation. The Committee is obligated to ask further questions such as: Was the Deputy informed that \$200,000 of public funds were expended on procuring a report from professional planners, Townscape, Inc.? Did he see the report? Read it? Discuss the report with the Director? Was Mr. Masuda concerned that the Board was being kept in the dark about the contents of the report and, since February 2018 the Board continues to be kept in the dark? What are Mr. Masuda's views on the right of members of the public to appear before the Board of Land & Natural Resources? Related, refined questions on this subject to be teased out. These are just sample questions in an effort to give the Committee of *some of the issues we have in mind*.

Thank you for taking note of this.

Jim Anthony, PHD

and Grace Vaiove'a Anthony

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 3:52:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Statement of  
**Mary Alice Evans**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Monday, April 15, 2019  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of  
**GM 609**

**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation as Deputy to the Chair of the  
Department of Land and Natural Resources,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, Robert K. Masuda,  
for a term to expire on 12-05-2022.**

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee.

I respectfully urge your **support** for the confirmation of **Bob Masuda** to serve as Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Bob has extensive experience in managing international programs that serve the public. His ability to relate effectively to a wide variety of people on contentious issues has served the department well and will continue to be needed. His residence on Hawaii Island is also an asset since the majority of public lands under management by DLNR are located on Hawaii Island.

I respectfully urge you to recommend advice and consent to the nomination of Bob Masuda for Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/12/2019 2:31:32 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Testimony of Teya M. Penniman Supporting GM 609 Gubernatorial Nominee Robert Masuda for Confirmation as the Deputy Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha Senators,

Please confirm Robert Masuda for another term as the Deputy Chairperson of DLNR. Our state's land and natural resources face unprecedented challenges from climate change, invasive species such as rapid ohia death and little fire ants, water for our streams and people, and development pressures. The department must simultaneously balance recreational and boating needs and ensure protection of important cultural resources. Ms. Masuda's wealth of experience, get-it-done approach, and accessibility have helped move important DLNR programs forward. We need to ensure steady and consistent leadership at this time by retaining Mr. Masuda in this position.

Thank you for your consideration.

Teya M. Penniman  
Haiku, HI

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/12/2019 8:42:54 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/12/2019 2:30:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Very strong support - Robert is exactly what we need in a deputy at DLNR!

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/12/2019 3:11:42 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Robert Masuda as Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

TESTIMONY OF DAMIEN ELEFANTE  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019 8:30 AM  
CONFERENCE ROOM 414

GOV. MSG NO. 609

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DEPUTY  
TO THE CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT K. MASUDA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT  
NOON ON 12-05-2022.

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee. I am testifying as an individual and I am in support of Robert K. Masuda's confirmation as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

During his time at the Department of Land and Natural Resources he has developed an administrative understanding of the department. He knows government especially the Department and has demonstrated commitment and dedication to his position as the Deputy. His administrative and managerial experiences working in the public and private sector is an asset and resource for the State.

I urge you to support the confirmation of Robert K. Masuda as the Deputy to the Chair of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**Timothy E. Johns**  
**5615 Poola Street**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96821**

April 13, 2019

Honorable Kaialii Kahele, Chair  
Hawaii Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Conference Room 414  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF  
ROBERT MASUDA AS THE DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES—GM609**

Aloha, Chair Kahele and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of the nomination of Robert Masuda as the Deputy to the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Mr. Masuda in a personal and professional capacity for over 15 years and have had the opportunity to observe her in a wide variety of circumstances. I am also familiar with the position to which he is nominated, having served as the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources during Governor Cayetano's second term and subsequently serving on the Board of Land and Natural Resources for 8 years, a portion of which covered the time when Mr. Masuda previously served as Deputy.

While I had known Mr. Masuda from his career at the YMCA of Honolulu, it was during his tenure as Deputy that really became familiar with him and his unique set of skills.

Mr. Masuda is very intelligent, but it is in his empathy and people skills where he really excels. He truly cares about Hawaii and its people and that shows in every decision he makes and every action he takes. I can think of no other stronger candidate to serve as Deputy to the Department during these challenging times. Please support his nomination. Mahalo.

***Timothy E. Johns***



**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/13/2019 11:45:16 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Robert Masuda as first deputy of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. First Deputy Masuda is a wealth of knowledge and is very effective problem solver. He has proven to be an asset to the Department through his community work and ability to bring stakeholders together for productive conversations and solutions.

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/13/2019 5:03:09 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As demonstrated by his longtime service in both the nonprofit and public sectors, Robert “uncle Bob” Masuda has a deep love and commitment to Hawaii’s people and natural resources. He is a bridgebuilder and is well respected in the conservation, outdoor and Hawaiian communities. I strongly support his nomination for a second term as DLNR Deputy Director.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony in STRONG support.

TESTIMONY OF JO ANN UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER AND LAND

Monday, April 15, 2019 8:30 AM  
Conf. Rm 414

G.M. 609

**Testimony in support of Governor's Message No. 609  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director of the  
Department of Land and Natural Resources,  
Gubernatorial Nominee, ROBERT K. MASUDA  
for a term to expire at noon on 12-05-2022**

TO THE HONORABLE KAIALI'I KAHELE, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

I am writing to express my **support** of the appointment of ROBERT K. MASUDA to serve as the Deputy Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), for a term to expire on December 5, 2022. My name is Jo Ann Uchida Takeuchi and I am submitting this supporting testimony in my personal capacity.

I have known Robert Masuda since he became DLNR Deputy Director. Deputy Director Masuda's vast knowledge of the work of DLNR and his familiarity with government operations have made him an indispensable asset to his department and to the state. He has been collaborative, helpful, and committed to seeking solutions to issues of mutual concern.

I believe Deputy Director Masuda is and will continue to be a valuable public servant and an asset to the administration and to the state, and respectfully request that you recommend advise and consent of his nomination as Deputy Director of DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of GM 609.



**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 1:24:29 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide personal testimony in strong support of Robert K. Masuda for his nomination as the First Deputy for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have worked with Mr. Masuda since 2017, when he returned for the second time as First Deputy with DLNR. He is extremely intelligent and has an amazing ability to bring people together through his strong interpersonal skills. He is a very likeable person who is very much admired by his colleagues. He is a strong community leader and has a genuine passion for protecting our lands' natural and cultural resources, thereby making him a valuable asset to DLNR. I urge you to strongly support his nomination as First Deputy for DLNR.

**LATE**

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 9:12:31 AM  
Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Robert Masuda as First Deputy of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. First Deputy Masuda is a wealth of knowledge and is an effective problem solver. He has proven to be an asset to the Department through his community work and ability to bring stakeholders together for productive conversations.

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April 14, 2019

**LATE**

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF GM 609:  
NOMINATION OF BOB MASUDA AS DLNR DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, 2<sup>ND</sup> TERM

To: Sen. Kai Kahele, Chair, Sen. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

Bob Masuda has brought great positive energy to the DLNR. He should be confirmed to a second term as the deputy to the chairperson.

As a member of the BLNR, I've been able to watch and hear about the contributions Bob has been making to the DLNR. He's taken a special interest in the younger staff at the DLNR and has been a great mentor to this group of new leaders. He's also a great listener and has been priceless in representing the DLNR in many community meetings.

Bob Masuda had previously served the DLNR in several roles in other administrations, so he has a deep knowledge of the organization and its people. Before that he had worked effectively in the non-profit sector, especially with the YMCA.

His skills are a perfect complement to those of DLNR Chair Suzanne Case. The State is very fortunate that Bob Masuda has chosen to continue in public service. I urge the Committee on Water and Land to recommend his confirmation to the full Senate.

Yours truly,

Chris Yuen

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 7:11:41 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Robert Masuda as First Deputy of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. First Deputy Masuda has a vast wealth of knowledge and is an effective problem solver. He has definitely proven to be a huge asset to the Department through his community work and his ability to bring stakeholders together for productive conversations.

Mahalo,

Edward Underwood

**LATE**

**GM-609**

Submitted on: 4/14/2019 3:14:28 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/15/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

Testimony on Robert Matsuda (Deputy Chair) - GM 609

My name is Bill Sides and I have been trying to meet the SHPD archeological requirements (AIS) for subdividing a small piece of property in Hana. It has been over 8 years and it has still not been completed. It should have been completed within 8 months not 8 years. Documents at one point were lost for over a year. Personnel have come and gone as well. It is absurd what is going on at SHPD. SHPD is understaffed and underpaid. You create an understanding and working relationship with a person at SHPD and then that person leaves. Then you have to start all over with someone that wants everything different. I have tried to do the right thing and meet the state requirements. The archeologist we hired was listed on the state web site, but found out later was not qualified to do the work. The whole system at both the DLNR and SHPD are broken from the top to the bottom and everyone knows it. So I ask you, that if the buck stops at the top isn't it time to replace the leadership at the top.

Bill Sides