



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

Testimony of
Leimana DaMate, Executive Director

Before the Senate Committee on
Water and Land

Wednesday, May 13, 2020
1:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In **SUPPORT** of
GM 754, Charles Young
Relating to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee

The Hawaii State Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) stands in strong support of Gubernatorial Nominee, GM Charles Young for consideration and confirmation to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Mr. Young is well-known, respected and esteemed on Moku O Keawe, Island of Hawaii. He is a generational practitioner with roots in Ho'okena, Moku of South Kona. His courage in protection of the Hawaiian culture is renowned as one of the main plaintiffs in the Ka Pa'akai O Ka'Aina vs. the State Land Use Commission Hawaii Supreme Court case in 2000, a lawsuit that changed the natural and cultural resource law of Hawaii.

His knowledge of traditional practices of land and ocean of Hawaii Island is deep, and he shares his knowledge with the communities of Hawaii Island. Mr. Young is leader with common sense, practical implementation of practices, and works with traditional practitioners as well as the contemporary leaders of the Hawaiian people as well as the Public Trust.

We are deeply honored that this humble man has agreed to share his mana'o and 'ike with the people of Moku O Keawe and urge this committee to support and confirm him to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure

Respectfully yours,

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



Moku O Keawe
Hawai'i Council for the
Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs
P.O. Box 7164 | Hilo, Hawai'i | 96720

Committee on Water and Land
Wednesday, May 13, 2020 Conference Room 229

Re: GM754 & 755 – AHA MOKU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Aloha Chair Kahele and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club supports GM754 & 755 that considers and confirms Charles Young to the AHA Moku Advisory Committee.

Mr. Young has actively served the Native Hawaiian community for decades. From developing and implementing community based subsistency plans, to collaborating on statewide efforts in support of fisheries management. His leadership is impeccably honest and his reasoning is thoroughly thought out. The Hawai'i Council strongly supports GM754 & 755 confirming Mr. Young.

Mahalo Nui,

Shane Akoni Palacat-Nelsen
Pelekikena

LATE

From: Mahealani Cypher <malamapono744@aim.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Linda Menda <l.menda@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: Re: WTL GMs

Aloha mai kakou!

We are re-submitting our support for the following nominees to boards and commissions, for the Wednesday, May 13, 2020, meeting:

GM550 - Dawn Chang, LUC - SUPPORT

GM584 - Wesley Yoon, BLNR - SUPPORT

GM670 - Jonathan Scheuer, LUC - SUPPORT

GM756/757 - Frances Kaluhiwa, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM758/759 - Godfrey Akaka, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM760/761 - Keith Robinson, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM762/763 - Lewellyn Kaohelaulii, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM 764/765 - Manuel Kuloloio, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM 766/767 - Robert Luuwai, `Aha Moku Advisory Committee - SUPPORT

GM776/777 - Cedric Bertelmann, Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council - SUPPORT

GM 778 - Frederick Reppun, Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council - SUPPORT

GM7808 - Angela Hiilei Kawelo, Natural Area Reserves System Commission - SUPPORT

We had neglected to include the following two nominees:

GM752/753 - Anthony Pacheco, `Aha Moku Advisory Commission - SUPPORT

GM754/755 - Charles Young, `Aha Moku Advisory Commission - SUPPORT

We have attached letters for some of these nominees which apparently did not show up during our attempts to submit our testimony earlier.

Mahalo for letting us know of the mistakes in our submittals today.

A hui hou,
Mahealani Cypher, Chair
Government Relations Committee
Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 1:56:20 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 10:18:37 AM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charmaine Nalani Merrill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in support of Charlie Young to the Aha Moku Advisory committee .

Charlie is a well informed Hawaiian, who has worked tirelessly over the past 35+ years that I have known him. He supports the preservation of Hawaiian values, Hawaiian reef conservation, and has been instrumental in setting up our community organization KUPA that manages Ho'okena Beach. Charlie has participated on the burial council and many other organizations sharing his insights as they relate to Hawaiian values. His guidance is calm, respectful and inclusive. Charlie willingly seeks out any additional information that is useful as we forge the path into the future.

Charlie has written numerous grants in support of our youths education on Hawaiian fishing values and techniques, grants for community informational gatherings and many more. He administers the grants and has drawn in teens and children of all ages and adults.

Charlie is an asset to any group he is involved in. He understands dead lines. He Prepares himself in advance, and performs beautifully , even if others are unable to understand the demanding time line. Charlie shares information easily and willingly accepts help when offered.

Water, wai is one of the most precious commodities in Hawaii and the world. The conservation, and distribution of water is vitally important in Hawaiian culture. Charlie's instinctive understanding of this resource will be useful for this advisory committee.

I ask humbly that you include Charlie Young on the AHA Moku Advisory Committee.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

C. Nalani Merrill

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 3:19:51 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Lamson Leatherman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wholehearted support Charles Young's nomination to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. I have worked / volunteered in efforts to protect natural and cultural resources in South Kona with uncle Charlie over the years - and have seen him work with community members and government agencies within his capacity as a Board member of KUPA (Kama'Ä•ina United for the Protection of the 'Ä€ina) at Ho'okena and as a longtime member of the West Hawai'i Fishery Council. Uncle Charlie is thoughtful, honest, easy to work with, and committed to protecting Hawai'i's people, plants, animals, and places. He would be an excellent choice for this leadership role.

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 5:02:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shaelene Kamakaala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/11/2020 5:57:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harlan Miyoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Mai Kakou,

My name is Harlan Miyoshi, a volunteer and associate member of KUPA Friends of Ho'okena Beach Park on the Big Island of Hawai'i and I am submitting testimony regarding consideration and confirmation to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHARLES YOUNG.

It is with great enthusiasm and joy that I wholeheartedly applaud the nomination of Charles Young to become a committee member of the Ahu Moku Advisory Committee. I believe that he would be a tremendous asset to the council because of his wealth of knowledge in land and resource management, Hawaiian culture and community collaboration.

I have had the honor of working with Charlie over the last few years at Ho'okena to learn from his leadership and witnessed his tireless work and sacrifices that he has put into going to various meeting such as our board meetings, E Alu Pu, West Hawai'i Fisheries Council, Kai Kuleana Network, other organizations and other community related meetings as well as the work and communication to coordinate and support these meetings as well as community events. He has secured and managed grants from OHA, HTA, Conservation International and the county for the 'Opelu project to revive traditional Hawaiian fishing practices which is a testament to his impeccable reputation and relationship building skills.

Charles Young is most certainly the right choice for the Ahu Moku Advisory Committee, who will surely elevate the work of this committee as he has in Ho'okena.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Harlan Mlyoshi

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 12:31:28 AM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edwin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing to support Mr. Charles Young in his bid for the Aha Moku advisory committee. Mr. Young's sensible approach using common sense is a breath of fresh air. I have known him for the past 7 years and am always impressed by his wealth of knowledge and viewpoints from different angles. His ability to find the win/win situation is an asset to any committee. He comes with no "hooks" and from what I've seen, seeks to serve/honor his Kupuna, culture, resources, and community. Please award Mr. Young the Aha Moku advisory committee seat.

Mahalo

LATE

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 10:03:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christopher Funada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend Charles Young to the Aha Moku advisory committee.

Charles Young has impressed me since the first day I met him on the West Hawaii Fisheries Council (WHFC). He has been a great role model, guide and source of information for me whenever I needed help. He has lifted me up over the years and I am now the co-chair of the WHFC. It is my pleasure to recommend him for all of the hard work he has done for the Ho'okena community and West Hawaii.

Charles is a community organizer for Ho'okena but works to better all of Hawaii by keeping Hawaiian traditions alive. In Ho'okena he works to preserve the opelu fishery with traditional Hawaiian knowledge while cultivating the minds of the next generation to think sustainable. He understands what sustainable means and how it relates to Native Hawaiian generational knowledge. He is a good listener and works hard to find solutions to problems instead of just complaining about them. I feel this man has and will continue to take care of Hawaii, its people and their traditions.

Mahalo

-Christopher Funada Co-Chair West Hawaii Fisheries Council

LATE

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/13/2020 7:37:56 AM
Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kinau Camacho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the nomination of Charles Young to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

He has been an active member in the South Kona community for many years, bringing his 'ike and mana'o to organizations such as Kama'aina United to Protect the 'Aina (KUPA) and the West Hawai'i Fisheries Council. Charles' experience and passion makes him an ideal candidate for the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

GM-755

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 5:21:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 5/13/2020 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua DeMello	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

My comments on this nomination is not directed at the nominee but rather at the process for which nominations were provided to the legislature.

The Aha Moku Advisory Committee Final Rules of Practice and Procedure adopted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, effective October 20, 2016, provides for the process for nominations. Part 1, section 1-2 states:

" The committee shall consist of eight members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate **from a list of nominations submitted by the 'aha moku councils of each island**. Oversight of the committee shall be by the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources. The committee members shall vote for the committee chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members."

My question is, did the Governor provide his list of nominees from a list submitted by the Aha Moku Councils? If not, these nominations cannot be supported by the legislature based on procedure alone.

This will be a comment that I repeat for each nominee under each GM number.