

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

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

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021  
1:00 PM**

**State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 564  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
BERYL BLAICH, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2025**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message (GM) 564 that nominates Beryl Blauch to serve the Legacy Land Conservation Commission (LLCC) for a term to expire June 30, 2025.**

Mrs. Blauch resides in the County of Kaua'i and possesses membership in an environmental organization and in a land conservation organization, thus fulfilling the LLCC membership requirements of Sections 173A-2.4(a), -2.4(a)(2), and -2.4(a)(3), Hawai'i Revised Statutes. She was the inaugural chairperson of the County of Kaua'i Public Access, Open Space and Natural Resources Preservation Fund Commission, an initiative that shares purpose and matches funding with the Department's Legacy Land Conservation Program. In that role, she led efforts to the develop and utilize a community-based public input process and to formulate land acquisition priorities and recommendations. When Mrs. Blauch began serving on the LLCC in July 2019, she immediately made strong contributions in carefully reviewing grant applications, efficiently organizing field visits on Kaua'i and elsewhere, and thoroughly analyzing key program issues.

Beryl Blauch's deep commitment, experience, and knowledge enhances the effectiveness of the LLCC. The Department supports GM 564 and requests that this Committee find the nominee qualified for the position and recommend that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**GM-564**

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 10:27:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/3/2021 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Penn	Testifying for DLNR	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to testify. Please allow me Zoom access. Thank you.



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 26, 2021

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Subject: Statement of support for the re-appointment of Beryl Blaich to the State Legacy Lands Conservation Commission.

Dear Chair Inouye and members of the Committee on Water and Land:

I am writing to recommend Beryl Blaich for re-appointment to the State Legacy Lands Conservation Commission.

I have known Beryl for over twenty years. In my work as a planning consultant, member of the Kaua'i County Council, County Managing Director, and now State Representative. I have seen Beryl's reliable and thoughtful contributions to the Board of the Kaua'i Planning and Action Alliance, the Lawai Kai Community Advisory Committee, the Kaua'i Natural and Cultural Resources Open Space Preservation Fund Commission, and State Legacy Lands Conservation Commission. When representing organizations before government agencies, Beryl clearly presents researched, reasoned, and gracious testimony.

Beryl is an invaluable participant on the Legacy Lands Conservation Commission and I highly recommend her re-appointment.

Sincerely,

Nadine K. Nakamura  
State Representative, District 14

Office of Representative Nadine K. Nakamura

14<sup>th</sup> District | Hanalei | Princeville | Kilauea | Anahola | Kapa'a | Wailua  
Hawai'i State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 | PH 808.586.8435 | FAX 808.586.8437

**GM-564**

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 4:39:34 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/3/2021 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lea Hong	Testifying for The Trust for Public Land	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairwoman Inouye, Vice-Chair Keith Agaran and Committee Members:

The Trust for Public Land strongly supports the nomination of Beryl Blaich to continue her service as a member of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. Mrs. Blaich has been an exemplary member of the Commission who is prepared for meetings, reads all the applications and meeting materials, asks thoughtful questions, and is always thinking of the benefit to the public in her deliberations. The Trust for Public Land gives Mrs. Blaich our strongest recommendation and urge this Committee to support her confirmation to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify. Unfortunately, I will not be able to appear in person/on Zoom for this hearing because of scheduling conflicts.

Lea Hong

Hawaiian Islands State Director

The Trust for Public Land

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair  
Mason K. Chock, Vice Chair  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Bill DeCosta  
Luke A. Evslin  
KipuKai Kualii



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Scott K. Sato, Deputy County Clerk

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**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

March 1, 2021

TESTIMONY OF LUKE A. EVSLIN  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
GM 564, LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE BERYL BLAICH  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Wednesday, March 3, 2021  
1:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference  
Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of GM 564, Gubernatorial Nominee Beryl Blaich, Legacy Land Conservation Commission. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kauai County Council.

Beryl Blaich is not only a pillar of the Kauai community, but also a tireless community and environmental advocate. I have known Ms. Blaich as a family friend for my entire life and have worked alongside her in the mud of 'Alakoko Fishpond. I have also witnessed Ms. Blaich's commitment to Kauai firsthand at countless community meetings. There is no one I can recommend more strongly to serve on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. Ms. Blaich's formal education in urban planning, her long history of work in conservation, her deep place-based connection to the land, along with her tenacity and kindness, all combine to make Ms. Blaich an ideal member of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the Office of the County Clerk, Council Services Division, at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

LUKE A. EVSLIN  
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

AMK:lc

**GM-564**

Submitted on: 2/25/2021 4:27:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/3/2021 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran:

I am writing in strong support for the reappointment of Beryl Blaich to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. I have known Beryl for over 40 years and first met her because of her expertise in land use planning and work in preserving the historic and cultural landscape of the Hanalei/Northshore Kauai area. Since then she has not only become a dear friend but someone I continue to hold in high regard and deeply respect for her continued work in community planning, cultural and historic preservation. I strongly believe that she brings a background and skill set uniquely suited for the Legacy Land Conservation Commission and the State and public interest would continue to be the fortunate beneficiary of her extensive experience once again should she be reappointed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Mina Morita P.O. Box 791, Hanalei, Kauai, HI 96714

**GM-564**

Submitted on: 2/26/2021 11:50:36 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/3/2021 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I highly recommend that Beryl Blaich continue to serve on the State Legacy Lands Conservation Commission.

Beryl has a long history of community involvement and conservation work. You are aware of this dedicated work through her Letter of Interest, so it will not be repeated here, although I must say that reading through it has increased my respect for her work.

I have known Beryl for over 40 years on Kauai and have worked with her for several years on the board of directors of Kauai Planning and Action Alliance (KPAA). What is important, in my mind, to confirm for you is that Beryl is thoughtful, educated, patient, and passionate about community and conservation. As passionate as she is, she also seeks collaboration and well thought out solutions.

Beryl has demonstrated to me over the years a high level of integrity. I need say no more.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Mark Hubbard

Active community volunteer with Malama Huleia, KPAA, Kauai Hospice, Lawai International Center, Friends of the Kalalau Trail, Friends of Kauai Community College, Friends of Childrens Justice Center of Kauai, among many others in past years.

Jeri Di Pietro  
PO Box 338  
Koloa, HI 96756  
(808) 651-1332

February 28, 2021

RE: Letter of Recommendation for the Reappointment to the Legacy Lands Conservation Commission for Beryl Leolani Bailey Blaich

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Agaran and Committee Members,

My name is Jeri Di Pietro, and I live in Koloa, Kaua`i. I am writing to strongly recommend Gubernational Nominee, Beryl Blaich, for re-appointment and confirmation to the Legacy Lands Conservation Commission for the seat as community conservation group member for Kaua`i, for a term through June 30, 2025.

It is an honor to write this letter of recommendation for my dear friend and colleague Beryl Leolani Bailey Blaich. I have known Beryl for over fifteen years through our local land conservation non-profit, Malama Maha`ulepu. We have served together on the Board and the Steering Committee. I have witnessed and learned a great deal from Beryl about land use and conservation models. Beryl's knowledge and passion run deep for appropriate conservation and land use opportunities on Hawai`i's undeveloped lands. She has brought logical, thoughtful experience to many situations of Land Use on Kaua`i, especially the lands in need of protection, stewardship and perpetual conservation.

Beryl's degree in Land Use Planning and extensive experience makes her one of the most qualified people on our island. She is conscientious, kind and fiercely loyal. Beryl does her homework and brings a wealth of knowledge into any dialogue or planning. Her character is one of impeccable integrity in all situations.

Beryl knows how to work with the many facets and nuances of bringing together stakeholders, scientific experts, historical knowledge, resource managers, cultural practitioners and decision makers. She is thoughtful and takes the time to look at every intention from all sides. Her wealth of knowledge and willingness are of the highest quality. Beryl is genuine in her love for the land. She can see the big picture and understands the interconnectedness of eco-systems. She is a good listener, and a friend to all.

Because she is naturally inclusive, hospitable and always welcomes "other" perspectives and expertise, Beryl is a successful networker, community builder and bridge maker. She has played a critical role in many situations that we have worked on together over the years. She has a



keen sense of observation and is a natural teacher. She values the responsibility we hold for future generations. Her vision is long-range, she works hard and she plans ahead.

Beryl has brought a great deal of experience to the Legacy Lands Conservation Committee. She is dedicated and detail oriented and makes every commitment a priority. Her involvement is always an asset.

As a Kaua`i resident, I would be grateful for her continued representation on the Legacy Lands Conservation Committee, and highly recommend her reappointment for another term.

Sincerely, with respect and aloha,

Jeri Di Pietro

**GM-564**

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 11:26:20 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/3/2021 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear Senate Committee on Water and Land-

Commissioner Blaich has been a great asset to the LLCs' deliberations, both with her skills as a professional planner, and as an active member of the Kauai conservation community.

Please support her nomination.

mahalo,

Kai Lucas, LLCs Commissioner 2019-

**GM-564**

Submitted on: 3/2/2021 11:13:44 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/3/2021 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in full support of GM564 and Beryl Blaich's nomination to continue to serve on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

I served on the Commission with Beryl for two years and value her insights as an active conservationist, Native Hawaiian and resident of the Kaua'i community in which she lives.

Mahalo,

Angela Hi'ilei Kawelo