

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 565
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
CHRISTIANE LUCAS, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2025**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message (GM) 565 that nominates Christiane Lucas to serve on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission (LLCC) for a term to expire June 30, 2025.

Ms. Lucas resides in the City & County of Honolulu and possesses membership in an environmental organization and in a land conservation organization, thus fulfilling the Commission membership requirements of Sections 173A-2.4(a), -2.4(a)(2), and -2.4(a)(3), Hawai'i Revised Statutes. She served previously on the City and County of Honolulu Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission, advising the City Council about land acquisitions funded with property tax revenues, sometimes matched with grants from the Department's Land Conservation Fund (LCF). When Christiane "Kauai" Lucas began serving on the LLCC in July 2019, she made immediate, positive impacts on LLCC work, notably in interacting with applicants and fellow commissioners during public review of LCF grant applications.

With a growing understanding of LCF priorities and LLCC process, backed by personal experience with land/water management issues, Ms. Lucas contributes actively and passionately to the success of the LLCC. The Department supports GM565 and requests that the 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-565

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 10:26:21 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| David Penn | Testifying for DLNR | Support | No |

Comments:

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

February 28, 2021

Dear Committee Chair Sen. Inouye, Vice-Chair Sen. Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

My term on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission started in summer 2019, to fill the vacancy left by long term commissioner Marjorie Ziegler. No one could actually “fill” Marjorie’s place in the conservation community, but it has been a wonderful opportunity to serve the ‘āina, with a steep learning curve.

1. After serving your first term on the commission, please share one memorable highlight.

In 2019 we met on Maui for the presentations of 13 projects and vote our recommendations for both FY 2020 and FY2021. I had only been a Commissioner for two months. I was completely unprepared for the number of outstandingly worthy projects. We had about \$3 million/ FY to allocate. One of the projects was the nearly 12,000-acre Na Wai ‘Eha, which furnishes some 40% of Maui’s drinking water. Price tag over \$5.5 million. It was a very challenging and sobering moment.

2. What was your biggest challenge and how did you overcome it?

I felt helpless and distraught over Na Wai ‘Eha. How could a decision about a parcel which literally thousands of lives depend on, be put on this small body of volunteer commissioners, that did not even have enough in the total budget to protect it? Why was such a vital public trust asset in private hands? Why was it being carved up and offered to the highest bidder at all? What about the other extremely valuable projects and properties?

Fortunately, I had grown to know David Penn, LLCP Director well enough to trust him, and the process. I knew a couple of the commissioners from my work in conservation. I tried to calm down and read how those who had experience and knowledge were approaching the issue. Listening, watching, asking questions, and then speaking my truth is how I overcame it.

3. What are some of your strengths that have made you successful in this role?

I’m not sure I have been successful, or how to measure success. There is nothing more important to me than protecting the ‘āina. Any other goals I may have had over the years have been released. My favorite maternal relative, died last year at 95, Laura Lucas Thompson.

Laura is the one who showed me how to humbly, fearlessly, serve in community organizations to fulfill our kuleana of protecting the land, its natural inhabitants, and those humans who understand that duty. One of my strengths is that I am born and raised here, of parents who were born and raised here, and part Hawaiian.

Every story in Hawai’i is connected. After spending nine years away following high school, I returned, have lived on different islands, and am part of many different communities. I love our mixed plate culture, and could not happily exist anywhere else on Earth.

4. What are the priorities you accomplished and what is your vision for the next term?

Honestly, I did not have any priorities in the first year except to learn the process and my responsibilities. I did not initially seek to be a commissioner. Last minute I was called by staff at DLNR, who asked me if I would consider applying. LLCP has had something of a fallow year in 2020. My priorities moving forward are to participate in as many Permitted Interaction Group site visits as possible; that is the best way to make informed choices, and learn as much as possible from the program staff and community members.

GM-565

Submitted on: 2/25/2021 8:53:55 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jeannine Johnson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Re: GM565 - Nomination of Christiane Kai Lucas

Legacy Land Conservation Commission

Hearing: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 1 pm

Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Honorable Committee Members:

This letter is written in support of the nomination of Chrstiane Kai Lucas for the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

As a member of the Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui and Secretary to the Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center, I am very familiar with the Legacy Land Conservation Program and the responsibilities of the commissioners as well as the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Providing for the acquisition and management of valuable lands necessary for watershed or habitat protection, cultural and historic sites, ag, parks, beach access, recreational and public hunting areas, natural areas, open spaces and scenic resources is a critical job that requires commissioners to have exceptional knowledge of the conservation process. Without any reservation, I can recommend Kai.

I have been fortunate to work with Kai on the non-profit Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center Board of Directors since 2007, as well as other endeavors both professionally and personally. I have been privileged to witness her commitment to conservation over the years, from working with her hands to pull invasives in sensitive areas to spending long hours in meetings serving the interest of the public and the 'Ä• ina. Hawaiians have a saying: He ali'i ka 'Ä• ina; he kauwÄ• ke kanaka. (The land is a chief; man is its servant.) I am thankful Kai is willing to give of her time and energy to serve the land.

Mahalo for this opportunity to highly recommend Kai for the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

'O au iho nÄ• me ka mahalo,

Jeannine Johnson

GM-565

Submitted on: 2/22/2021 4:42:54 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lea Hong | Testifying for The Trust for Public Land | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Member:

The Trust for Public Land strongly supports the nomination of Christiane Kauai Lucas to continue her service as a member of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission. Ms. Lucas has been a dedicated 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 and the community in her deliberations. The Trust for Public Land gives Ms. Lucas our strongest recommendation and urges this Committee to support her confirmation to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify. Unfortunately, I cannot attend this hearing in person/zoom because of a scheduling conflict.

Lea Hong

Hawaiian Islands State Director

The Trust for Public Land

GM-565

Submitted on: 2/28/2021 4:56:52 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sandy Ward | Testifying for Hui o Ho`ohonua 501(c)3 | Support | No |

Comments:

I am writing on behalf of the 501(c)3 community non-profit Hui o Ho`ohonua in support of Cristiane Lucas' confirmation to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

As someone who grew up in `Ewa and cares deeply about preserving the waiwai that is left in the moku, we believe Ms. Lucas will be an excellent leader of a commission that serves a vital function.

Mahalo for your consideration.



Testimony Before the Water and Land Committee

GM-565 -In Support of Kai Lucas- Nomination to the Legacy Land Conservation Commission

Wednesday, March, 3 2021, 1pm

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Honorable Committee Members ,

I would like to share our strong support for the nomination of Kai Lucas to serve on the Legacy Land Conservation Committee. Kai is a dedicated member of the community who has substantial experience with land conservation. She has worked on a wide variety of conservation settings from shoreline fishponds to mauka lands. Having served on the board of the Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center alongside Kai for many years, I know she would be an outstanding and highly ethical commission member.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support this strong nominee,

Chris Cramer

Executive Director,

Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center

GM-565

Submitted on: 2/28/2021 2:14:47 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Daniel J. Comer | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Kaui has served as an integral part of many organizations committed to sustainability, conservation, and education. She has my complete support and confidence.

GM-565

Submitted on: 2/28/2021 3:17:06 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ted Bohlen | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

SUPPORT!

GM-565

Submitted on: 2/28/2021 7:40:23 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| William Bekemeier | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I continue to support Kaui Lucas and her efforts regarding the motor sports facility.

GM-565

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 10:25:22 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Doug Harper | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I am writing to support the appointment of Christiane Lucas. I have worked with Ms. Lucas for several years and found her to always be informed, committed, and fair. I think she is a valuable asset to the Commission and brings an important viewpoint given her personal and family history.

She is a committed steward, informed, and deserving of a spot on the Commission.

Mahalo,

Doug

GM-565

Submitted on: 3/1/2021 12:10:22 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Danielle Frohlich | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

This is in support of Kai Luca's appointment to the Legacy Land Conservation Program. I firmly believe she has Hawaii's best interests at heart.

GM-565

Submitted on: 3/2/2021 7:34:53 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Stuart Coleman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I support Kauai Lucas' re-nomination.

Aloha, Stuart Colema

GM-565

Submitted on: 3/2/2021 10:24:23 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ann Marie Kirk | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I fully support Ms. C. Kaui Lucas appointment to the Legacy Land Conservation Program. Ms. Lucas is dedicated to our statewide community in doing what is right for our islands.

From:
Li Cobian
President of OMA, Oahu Motorsports Association &
RTP Grant Congressional Letter of Recognition Recipient

pg 1/2

Date: Feb 23, 2021

**GM 565
For Comment**

**Renomination of Christiane Kauai Lucas
on the Legacy Land Commission**

Regarding the Renomination of Christiane Kauai Lucas on the Legacy Land Commission and her potential negative impact to SCORP with regards to Outdoor Motorsports Recreation, I have grave concerns of her lack of impartiality, subjective and bias opinions on fuel-based motorsports recreation and their participants.

Christiane Lucas's position and testimony opposing Fuel based Motorsports Recreation and being a member of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission with regards to Motorsports Recreation, clearly indicates that she would NOT be able to impartially and fairly execute her duties as a member of the Legacy Land Conservation Commission with regards to motorsports recreation and its participants.

SCR-108

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 1:16:02 PM
Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 2:45:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| C. Kauai Lucas | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments:

Dear Legislators

Fossil fuel based fun is not something morally or fiscally defensible. This area is of historic importance to more than one group. Encouraging leisure activities that depletes natural resources while fostering dangerous behavior, creating noise and toxic wastes, all with a high carbon footprint is not what the Ewa plain needs.

Mahalo,

Kauai

Hawaii Big Island, Kauai and Maui for the past 50 years (under their County Parks & Recreation and State Rec Programs) all have Public Auto Motorsports Parks who have been supported with Federal and State funding like all other outdoor recreations . Oahu is in the process of developing a Public Auto Race Park and our community is requesting lawful acknowledgment and recognition in the next 2020 SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) that is prepared every 5 years by the State of Hawaii DLNR.

I am not opposing her nomination, for I commend and respect all individuals that volunteer for public service.

But a Commission member with such disdain for the Industry (The Petroleum , Fuel and Gas Industry) that has philanthropically and generously provided billions to the LWCF which supports the effort of the Land Legacy Land Conservation program , and with prejudice views of motorsports participants as “ immoral ” and “ Indefensible ” , must be recused from any voting or discussion of matters related to motorsports recreation, or potential grant support review or advisement for such recreation facilities, or provide SCORP input in regards to this activities demographic.

I trust that the Commission will address this issue with the re-nominee and propose remedy and recusal to execute the programs goal. Thank You

Li Cobian,

President of the Oahu Motorsports Association

& RTP Grant Congressional Letter of Recognition Recipient