

  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai  
Legislative Testimony

**GM689**

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL  
COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI‘I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SCOTT MAHONEY,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ke Kuleana Hawai‘i  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Malaki 16, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Hālāwai Keleka‘a‘ike

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM689, which would confirm OHA Nominee Scott Haili Mahoney as the Ka‘ū regional representative on the Hawai‘i (HIBC).

Mr. Mahoney resides at his family’s homestead in Waimea, but traces his Haili ‘ohana genealogy to Ka‘ū and Kawaihae. Mr. Mahoney is currently retired and he has spent decades assisting with the removal of unexploded ordinance on Hawai‘i Island, O‘ahu, Moloka‘i, and Kaho‘olawe. Although he is not an archaeologist by training, Mr. Mahoney has accompanied many archaeologists on investigative assignments as safety support, while they conducted studies on archaeological resources and burial sites in dangerous areas. Additionally, in his free time, Mr. Mahoney remains actively engaged in various cultural and community organizations including the Royal Order of Kamehameha I, Kua‘āina Ulu ‘Auamo and its E Alu Pū Network, the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Home Lands Assembly, and Mālama Kōloa (as he previously assisted with the restoration and protection of the Hapa Trail).

Through his experience Mr. Mahoney learned much about why and how to mālama iwi and developed a deep connection to the preservation and protection of iwi kūpuna. He has also taken every opportunity he has been presented with to learn about burial law and policy, studying *Ho‘i Hou I Ka Iwikuamo‘o*, the “Iwi Primer”, as well as *Native Hawaiian Law: A Treatise*. Mr. Mahoney has served as a dedicated member on the HIBC since 2017. He brings this knowledge, kuleana, and willingness to continue learning to his candidacy for reappointment to the Hawai‘i Island Burial Council.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM689 to confirm Mr. Mahoney to the HIBC. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

ROBERT K. MASUDA  
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M. KALEO MANUEL  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
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ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021  
1:00 PM-2:30 PM  
State Capitol, Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 689  
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND  
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SCOTT  
MAHONEY FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2024**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 689, nominating Mr. Scott Mahoney to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i expiring June 30, 2024.**

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Councils determine whether to preserve or relocate previously identified native Hawaiian burial sites, recognize lineal and cultural descendants, and provide counsel and advice to the Department.

Scott Mahoney resides on his family's homestead in Waimea, Hawai'i. He has genealogical ties to Ka'u and Kawaihae. For 20 years, Mr. Mahoney has participated in the removal of unexploded ordnances and it is through this experience that he has gained archaeological knowledge that included the identification of burial sites. He is a member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha. Scott is engaged in various cultural and community organizations including the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Home Lands Assembly and Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo. More importantly, Scott has been serving on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council for the last three years where he has earned and gained the respect of his fellow members.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Mahoney's knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Hawai'i Island Burial Council until June 30, 2024.

**GM-689**

Submitted on: 3/15/2021 12:31:53 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/16/2021 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Regina K. Hilo	Testifying for DLNR	Support	No

Comments:

I am available for questions. Please allow me Zoom access. Thank you.