

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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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 30, 2021
1:00 PM-2:30 PM
State Capitol, Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 742
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF O'AHU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, NORMAN
CACERES FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-24**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 742, nominating Mr. Norman Caceres to the Island Burial Council, Island of O'ahu 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.

Norman Kaleilani Caceres, known as Mana among his family, friends, and community is currently serving on the O'ahu Burial Council where he has not only gained experience, but more importantly has shared his experiences and knowledge having to do with caring for native Hawaiian human skeletal remains. For the past few years, he has served as a cultural monitor (including management of staff) for many construction projects on O'ahu. He has a Bachelor's of Arts in communication from the University of Hawai'i-Hilo and there, has learned Hawaiian language, chants, and religious protocol. Part of his academic curriculum included anthropology and archaeology field work.

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

GM-742

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 10:00:16 AM

Testimony for HWN on 3/30/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Downer	Testifying for DLNR	Support	No

Comments:

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

GM-742

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 11:41:11 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/30/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jean Mahealani McClellan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a kupuna, so this topic is near and dear to my heart. I write today in support of Norman "Mana" Caceres' reappointment to the O'ahu Island Burial Council.

I have worked alongside of Mr. Caceres for more than two years, specifically related to 'iwi kupuna, and have found him to be extremely knowledgeable and very passionate and concerned about our 'iwi kupuna. He asks important questions about the topic, as appropriate, listens to concerns and is very aware of the kuleana that reappointment to this Council brings.

As a current member of the OIBC, he regularly attends meetings of the OIBC, as have I, whether in-person or online, during this challenging period. Mr. Caceres is a real asset to the OIBC, his expertise is invaluable, and I ask that the Governor reappoint him to this position for the maximum number of years allowable. Mahalo nui!

J. Mahealani McClellan