

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**

**Thursday, April 8, 2021
1:00 PM-2:30 PM
State Capitol, Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 768
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUA'I AND NI'HAU, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, SANDRA QUINSAAT FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 768, nominating Ms. Sandra Quinsaats to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau 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.

Sandra Quinsaats is a longtime resident of the Island of Kaua'i. She currently serves on the Kaua'i Ni'ihau Islands Burial Council and has been its chair for the last couple of years. Through her employment, she has gained knowledge and experience dealing with human skeletal remains. For instance, her time spent as the Project Manager at the Grand Hyatt Kaua'i Resort & Spa enabled her to gain valuable experience in the treatment of native Hawaiian skeletal remains discovered on neighboring properties. She is a member of the Hyatt Regency Kaua'i's Protocol Committee, the Na Hui O Kamakaokaini hula halau, and the Na Kalai Wa'a O Kaua'i.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Ms. Quinsaats's knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Kaua'i Ni'ihau Islands Burial Council until June 30, 2024.

GM-768

Submitted on: 4/7/2021 11:56:41 AM

Testimony for HWN on 4/8/2021 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.

LATE


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

GM768

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF KAUAI AND NIIHAU, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SANDRA QUINSAAT, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2024

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ke Kuleana Hawai‘i

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

‘Apelila 8, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Hālāwai Keleka‘a‘ike

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** GM768, which would confirm Sandra “Sandi” Quinsaas as a Kōloa regional representative to the Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau Island Burial Council.

Ms. Quinsaas has demonstrated a life-long commitment to keeping our cultural traditions pono. She has much experience with burial laws and practices as well as collaborative problem solving through her previous service on the Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau Island Burial Council. As a project manager at the Grand Hyatt Kaua‘i Resort & Spa, Ms. Quinsaas has witnessed many burial discoveries during construction of the Hyatt as well as of neighboring hotels. In many cases, she assisted with reinternment protocols, always seeking the advice and respect of kūpuna. These are important experiences for Council members whose primary purpose is to serve in the best interests of kūpuna and their living ‘ohana.

Ms. Quinsaas also maintains strong connections with the community and strives to protect cultural traditions. She currently serves on the Protocol Committees at the Hyatt and with Nā Kālai Wa‘a o Kaua‘i. Also, Ms. Quinsaas dances hula with hālau hula Na Hui O Kamakaokalani. Ms. Quinsaas has been a strong voice for kūpuna in the Kōloa community for many years. Her continued service on this Council would be highly valuable.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM768. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

GM-768

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 1:42:32 PM

Testimony for HWN on 4/8/2021 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna K Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a Native Hawaiian from the island of Kauai.

I am in SUPPORT of the confirmation of SANDRA QUINSAAT to the Kauai-Niihau Islands Burial Council.

Her experience and cultural background makes her an asset for this position.

Mahalo piha,

Donna Kaliko Santos

Lihue, Kauai