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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
JUDICIARY**

**Thursday April 01, 2021
9:35 AM
State Capitol, Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 663, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

House Bill 663, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to amend the way members of the Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) are appointed. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comment.**

The selection of GMAC members is an important task. The Department agrees that providing this opportunity to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House would provide the Legislature with a broader level of involvement in activities for the development of the GMAC, but would suggest not specifying a number of names to be set forth; and suggesting further that the requirement to have leadership experience in a hunting organization be eliminated to create a larger pool of qualified applicants. There are some hunters that could provide valuable feedback, but are not affiliated with hunting organizations.

The Department recommends amending (in grey highlight) Section 183D-4.5(a)(6), Hawaii Revised Statutes, as follows:

- (6) The chairperson of the board of land and natural resources or the chairperson's designated representative, who shall serve as an ex officio, voting member; provided that each member, other than the chairperson of the board, shall be appointed

by the governor from a list of [nine] names submitted by the president of the senate and a list of [nine] names submitted by the speaker of the house of representatives in the manner provided in section 26-34, shall be a hunter licensed in the State under this chapter ~~[, and shall have leadership experience in working directly with local hunter or shooting organizations]~~; provided further that at least one member shall have knowledge, experience, and expertise in the area of native Hawaiian cultural practices; and provided further that no more than three members shall represent, be employed by, or be under contract to any sector of government.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.