



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Hawaii State Aha Moku
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of
Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Thursday, March 3, 2022
1:15 P.M.

Support for Governor Message 577, Pauline Namuo
Hawaiian Homes Commission

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer support for Governor Message 577, Pauline Namuo. This message is submitted for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2026.

Participants in the Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) supports this submittal.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku supports the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Lands.

Kupuna Namuo is a well-rounded native Hawaiian who is knowledgeable on public policy, social programs and her close work with native Hawaiians, minorities and women. We know her to be a fair and compassionate Kupuna who always keeps the welfare of her people in the forefront.

Aha Moku supports Pauline Namuo as a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and urges this Committee to confirm Governor Message 577.

Respectfully yours,

Kawaikapuokalani Hewett, Ka Mea Ho'okumu, Email: kahalelehua@outlook.com
Rocky Kaluhiwa, Kahu Nui O Kakuhihewa, Email: rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com,
Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i, Email: Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

Hawaii State Aha Moku

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON MARCH 3, 2022 AT 1:15 PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

IN SUPPORT OF

GM577

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee, **PAULINE NAMUO**,
for a term to expire 06-30-2026

March 3, 2022

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee:

It is an honor to provide this testimony in support of Governor Ige's nomination of Ms. Pauline Namuo to continue her service on the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC). Ms. Namuo has been serving on the Commission since her appointment in October 2018.

Ms. Namuo has served in various positions with the State Judiciary, the Office of the Governor, and finally as the Deputy Director of Administration for the Department of Public Safety with responsibilities that included human resources, statistics, training, information technology, and legislative services. The budget for the Department of Public Safety at the time was over \$140 million with approximately 2,300 employees and eight correctional facilities statewide. This extensive experience makes her an invaluable resource on the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Ms. Namuo also serves on a number of community organizations including Hawaiian organizations as the President of the Ahahui Kaahumanu, Chapter I, Honolulu and as a member of the Kalihi-Palama Hawaiian Civic Club.

We respectfully ask your committee to advise and consent to this nomination, and thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

GM-577

Submitted on: 3/2/2022 10:31:29 AM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2022 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Robert J Hall	Testifying for AUKAI PACIFIC LLC	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Robert Hall, principal of AUKAI PACIFIC, LLC and I am in strong support of GM577 and confirmation of Pauline Namuo to the Hawaiian Homes Commission. Ms Namuo has served the native Hawaiian Beneficiaries well in her current term, using her skillsets in education, administration, non-profit collaborations and advancement for women to help guide the decision making and policies for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

I stand in strong support of GM577.

Malama,

Robert J Hall

Committee On Hawaiiaan Affairs
TO Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair
HEARING DATE: March 3, 2022, Thursday
TIME: 1:15 PM

GM 577 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Pauline Namuo, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Senator Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs:

I am Pauline Nakoolani Namuo. I have the honor and privilege of currently serving as a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission for which my term expires on June 30, 2022. In my first term as a Commissioner I have been humbled by the urgent need for assistance of beneficiaries in all aspects of the services provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. The people we meet need assistance in terms of navigating the trials and tribulations of every day life and the mire of bureaucracy that tangles through our governmental structures. My background in government and my position in the Hawaiian community provide me with a unique perspective. It also has helped me develop skills to help others. I am committed to serving the Hawaiian community. There is much to do.

We, as Commissioners are able to provide some relief to people in certain cases and in major policy decisions we are able to try to pursue larger goals for more resources.

One of the main goals, though, is to bring all together, especially during these pandemic times. I consider my work on the Hawaiian Homes Commission a great honor and privilege. I humbly ask for your support to continue to serve.

Me ke aloha pumehana,
Pauline Nakoolani Namuo



HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADERS ASSOCIATION INC.

P.O. Box 698 Kula, Hawai'i 96790-0698

March 1, 2022

TO: Chair Maile Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Jarrett Keohokalole and Members
of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

MEASURE: GM 577
Thursday, March 3, 2022
1:15 pm
Via Videoconference

SUBJ: Testimony in Strong Support of GM 577

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs. My name is Perry Artates, President of the Waiohuli Hawaiian Homestead Association, Inc (WHHA), and I submit the following testimony in strong support of GM 577 and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission for Gubernatorial Nominee, Pauline Nakoolani Namuo.

Ms. Namuo has served native Hawaiian beneficiaries as a Hawaiian Homes Commission since October 2018. During her tenure, she helped guide the decisions of the Commission through her perspectives on public policy and experience with Hawaiian issues and programs. She is passionate towards improving public private partnerships with non-profit organizations for the betterment of native Hawaiian beneficiaries and the overall State. Her commitment to education summarizes her lifelong efforts to help improve one's wellbeing.

The Waiohuli Hawaiian Homesteaders Association is honored to strongly support the confirmation of Ms. Namuo and urges the passage of GM 577.

Perry Artates
President
Waiohuli Hawaiian Homesteaders Association, Inc.

GM-577

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 3:25:55 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2022 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michelle Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in STRONG SUPPORT

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TO: Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

FOR: GM 577 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee Pauline Namuoi, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

FROM: *Louise K. ALIMA*

I am writing in strong support of Pauline Namuo to continue to be a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

As a leader in our community and a member of the Commission she has been a model of reason and compassion for beneficiaries.

Her quiet leadership style lends itself to building foundations of strength in our community and she will continue to work for the people.

We need people like her who are honest, hard working, and do the right thing. We also know she always tries her best to help us.

Mahalo,

Louise K Alima
VP Ahahui Kaahumanu
3.1.22

TO: Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

FOR: GM 577 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission
Gubernatorial Nominee Pauline Namuo, for a term to expire 06-30-2026

FROM: Lavina M. Agader

I am writing in strong support of Pauline Namuo to continue to be a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Pauline is a leader with compassion. As our Pelekikena of the Ka'ahumanu Society, Chapter I, she knows how to bring people together as one. She listens first, before speaking, and has respect for all who bring ideas and concerns to the floor.

With her background in teaching, she wants the best for everyone. She will explain in a way that is non-threatening and respectful until both parties understand and, hopefully, come to some kind of an agreement. She is an organized person who does her homework before presenting a plan or a proposal.

Pauline's position as a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission is far from over because her compassion to help the Hawaiians in need motivates Pauline even more.

Mahalo,

Lavina M. Agader

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 3, 2022

Chairperson Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee

It is with great pleasure that I Laverne Fernandes Moore, support GM 577, relating to consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, PAULINE NAMUO, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

I began my advocacy journey with Pauline Namuo in the early 70's working on educational and social reforms for Asian, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander students and families, better working conditions and benefits for our public employees, seeking equal rights and equity for women, setting educational, social policies and platforms in the Democratic Party locally and Nationally, and working on numerous democratic campaigns electing friends of education.

As a testament to her leadership ability as President of the Ahahui Kaahumanu-Chapter one, of which I and my sisters are members, Pauline is able to multi-task numerous projects that includes her responsibilities as the President along with enhancing the skills, knowledge of perpetuating our Native Hawaiian culture, values and beliefs and leadership of our members.

I have found Pauline to be straightforward, dependable, sincere, open, knowledgeable, exciting, and compassionate with all causes and people she comes in contact with. She is a "can do" person with the gift of bringing people together for the common good. She has a way of finding funds through collaborative efforts which makes dreams come true for those who come to her for guidance and assistance.

I would like to impress upon the committee that most of Pauline Namuo's work in the community and universally has been given freely, from the heart, without compensation. She emphasizes that "if our objectives are the right objectives premised on doing good, then by helping those objectives become realities well leave a legacy."

I ask this committee to allow Pauline Namuo to "leave a legacy of doing good" as a commissioner on the Hawaiian Homes Commission by passing GM577. Mahalo

Testimony of Oriana Leao
To the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)
In SUPPORT of Gubernatorial Nominee, PAULINE NAMU'O for confirmation to the Hawaiian
Homes Commission (GM 577)

March 3, 2022
1:15pm

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of Governor's Message 577 and I ask that you confirm Pauline Namu'o to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

Pauline Namu'o is a Native Hawaiian woman whose mana (spiritual power) and resume speaks louder than most will hear her speak in most Hawaiian Homes Commission meetings. Namu'o fully understands the kuleana (responsibilities) of a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner and the potency of her leo (voice) is strategically used to advocate for beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and to support the work of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. She is the knowledge that knows what needs to be said and she is the wisdom that knows when to speak on that knowledge.

Namu'o holds a position that represents the island of O'ahu-a-Lua, which is reflected in her service in leadership with the YWCA of Oahu - Board of Directors, the Kalihi-Palama Hawaiian Civic Club, and the 'Ahahui Ka'ahumanu, Chapter I in Honolulu. Namu'o currently represents one of a few wahine commissioners on the HHC and has advocated for women in the Organization of Women Leaders and the American Business Women's Association.

Namu'o holds a keen understanding of the nuances between and among the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government and she was adamant about appealing the 2021 decision concerning the *Nelson v. Hawaiian Homes Commission* case. One of Namu'o's strongest suits is her ability to network among community civic clubs in conjunction with government efforts and her broad range of expertise and insight into the innerworkings of how to make the almost insurmountable very possible is why the Hawaiian Homes Commission will need her in the years to come.

Mahalo for considering this testimony in strong support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Pauline Namu'o for confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TO: Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

FOR: GM 577 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee Pauline Namuo, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

FROM: Lani Kahalehau

I am writing in strong support of Pauline Namuo to continue to be a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

As a leader in our community and a member of the Commission she has been a model of reason and compassion for beneficiaries.

Her quiet leadership style lends itself to building foundations of strength in our community and she will continue to work for the people.

We need people like her who are honest, hard working, and do the right thing. We also know she always tries her best to help us.

Mahalo,

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COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TO: Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

FOR: GM 577 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee Pauline Namuo, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

FROM: Doni Chong

I am writing in strong support of Pauline Namuo to continue to be a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

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Mahalo,

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COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TO: Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

FOR: GM 577 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
Gubernatorial Nominee Pauline Namuo, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

FROM: Ralph Kahalehau

I am writing in strong support of Pauline Namuo to continue to be a member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

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Mahalo,

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COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

Members of the Committee

HEARING DATE: Thursday, March 3, 2022

GM 577 - Support for Hawaiian Homes Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee Pauline Namuo

Aloha Madame Chair and Senators of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee,

I work for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, but today I am testifying as an individual. I am a native Hawaiian, a beneficiary of the Trust (O'ahu Residential Waitlist #7320), raised on a homestead in Hoolehua, Molokai.

Public service in any area is no small feat, but a volunteer policy-maker for the betterment of native Hawaiians is special. Commissioners are asked to accomplish an almost impossible task, affecting thousands of native Hawaiians and their familial legacies. With limited resources and a growing beneficiary class, the charge is daunting.

Through her service on the Hawaiian Homes Commission for the past four years, Pauline Namuo has proven herself a worthy advocate of the Trust's beneficiaries and continues to do her best to improve the policies that affect them.

I strongly support the confirmation of Pauline Namuo as a Hawaiian Homes Commissioner.

Leatrice W. Burrows-Nuuanu

wailaahia@gmail.com

GM-577

Submitted on: 3/2/2022 2:55:46 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2022 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kaipo Nuuanu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am an applicant on the Oahu Residential Waitlist. Please confirm Pauline Namuo for another term.

**GM 577 TESTIMONY OF JOBIE MASAGATANI IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF PAULINE NAMUO TO THE HAWAIIAN
HOMES COMMISSION**

My name is Jobie Masagatani, and while I am currently a staff member at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, I am testifying today as an individual in my personal capacity.

I submit this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of confirming Pauline Namuo to serve as a Commissioner on the Hawaiian Homes Commission for another term.

I had the opportunity to serve with Pauline on the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) during my time as Chair, and I continue to work with her in this new role as a member of DHHL's Executive Management team. Few realize how diverse and complicated the issues are that come before the Commission on a monthly basis. Issues can range from the very specific dynamics within a family to long term policy issues at the federal level. Pauline listens, reviews the materials, and considers all sides of the issues that are brought before her as a Commissioner. I don't consider her the type of board member that feels the need to speak on every issue just to be "heard". Thus, when she does speak up, people pay attention to her contributions and feedback.

Pauline is thoughtful, dedicated, and committed. In addition to the monthly meetings, Pauline has served on temporary HHC committees (permitted interaction groups) that take a deeper dive into complex issues before the Commission. These committees investigate, discuss, and develop recommendations to help inform the Commission. They also place additional demands on her time and her talents which she gives of generously to help move DHHL forward.

Because of her previous government experience, she brings an understanding of the challenges state employees face in trying to meet an ambitious program mission with insufficient staff and financial resources; competing stakeholder expectations; cumbersome procedural, statutory, and regulatory processes; and a demanding constituency.

Pauline is an excellent Commissioner and I am very appreciative that she is willing to renew her term. I respectfully ask that you vote in support of her confirmation.