



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Friday, April 8, 2022
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

in consideration of
GM 601
NOMINATING MOANAOIO BJUR TO THE
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment.

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) supports GM 601.

Moanaoio Bjur currently serves as the executive director of the Conservation Council for Hawaii. With a degree in psychology and extensive professional experience with various organizations in Hawai'i, she has more than ten years experience in cultural preservation, program management, fundraising, community involvement and staff development to achieve policy initiatives.

We believe that Ms. Bjur is eminently qualified for service on the Environmental Advisory Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

GM-601

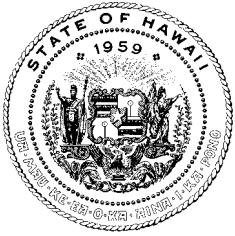
Submitted on: 4/5/2022 5:39:04 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Kaye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write **in support of** the nomination of Moana Bjur to the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) in my individual capacity. I have known Moana since she became the Executive Director of the Conservation Council for Hawaii (CCH.) In fact, I was part of the CCH committee that oversaw the process of finding a new Executive Director. During that process, I was delighted to learn more about her. She has an outstanding track record for championing Hawaii's environmental resources. Moana works with passion and inclusion; she has made great strides as CCH's leader. Her knowledge, leadership skills and environmental network would make her an invaluable member of the Environmental Advisory Council.



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 702, HONOLULU, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 586-4185
Email: dbedt.opsd.erp@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony of the Environmental Advisory Council on GM 601
Before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
April 8, 2022 at 1:00 pm

David Y. Ige
Governor

Chairperson
Puananionaona Thoene

Vice Chair
Mary Begier

Members
Roy Abe
Stephanie Dunbar-Co
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom
Makaala Kaaumoana
Ian Robin Kaye
Theresita Kinnaman
Ron Terry
Michael Tulang
N. Mahina Tuteur

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

The State of Hawai'i Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is in strong **SUPPORT OF** GM 601 appointing Ms. Moanaoio Bjur. to the EAC for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

The EAC is established by HRS § 341-5.5, which also directs membership "to ensure a broad and balanced representation of educational, business, and environmentally pertinent disciplines and professions, such as the natural and social sciences, the humanities, architecture, engineering, environmental consulting, public health, and planning; educational and research institutions with environmental competence; agriculture, real estate, visitor industry, construction, and media; and voluntary community and environmental groups."

The functions of the EAC are to serve as a liaison between the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) Director and the general public, to make recommendations concerning ecology and environmental quality, and to monitor the progress of the State, county, and federal agencies in achieving the State's environmental goals and policies. The EAC also worked on and promulgated the administrative rules for implementing Chapter 343, HRS and now serves an advisory capacity in that respect.

Ms. Bjur's experience working in cultural preservation, program management, and extensively with the community will contribute to the EAC's broad and balanced representation of different perspectives in support of the EAC's roles. With respect to the EAC's functions, duties, and powers, and in consideration of Ms. Bjur's experience as demonstrated on her resume, the EAC strongly supports her nomination. The EAC respectfully requests that this Committee vote in favor of her confirmation to serve on the EAC.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Puananionaona Thoene
Chair
Environmental Advisory Council



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

April 8, 2022

1:00 PM

CCR224

In **SUPPORT** of **GM601**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Environmental Advisory Council,
Gubernatorial Nominee, MOANAOIO BJUR, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i offers the following testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the nomination of Moana Bjur to the Environmental Advisory Council ("EAC").

The EAC plays a critical role in guiding and facilitating the meaningful implementation of our environmental laws and policies. Accordingly, it is critical that the council possesses members who understand the critical importance of our native Hawaiian species and ecosystems, which not only define our islands' ecological and cultural identity, but that also may be critical to our socioeconomic stability and environmental resiliency in the era of climate destabilization. In addition, council members should also demonstrate the community connections and insight necessary to facilitate a broader public understanding of, and engagement in, the development and implementation of our environmental laws, policies, and processes.

Ms. Bjur's substantial experience with and demonstrated commitment to both community service and the protection of our native species and ecosystems make her a highly appropriate and valued member of the EAC. The Sierra Club is confident that she will provide the needed insight on management needs and advocacy efforts for the restoration and protection of our native flora and fauna, and that she will continue to uplift the importance of community participation in project planning and government decisionmaking that may impact the native species that are the foundation of our islands' identity and ways of life.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club respectfully urges the Committee to recommend that the Senate **ADVISE AND CONSENT** to the nomination of Moana Bjur to the EAC.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.