

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Thursday, March 10, 2022
1:00PM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 016, Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 704
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLANDS OF MAUI AND LĀNA'I, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE, VERNON KALANIKAU FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-23**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 704, nominating Mr. Vernon Kalanikau to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Maui and Lāna'i expiring June 30, 2023.

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.

Mr. Vernon Kalanikau was born and raised on the island of Maui. He is a graduate of Baldwin High School. While Vernon may not have received a post-secondary education in Hawaiian Studies like many other council members, Vernon's knowledge of the Hawaiian culture was passed to him by his parents and grandparents. In addition, Mr. Kalanikau has been participating (last four years) in the process of determining the final treatment of native Hawaiian skeletal remains discovered inadvertently. As a recognized cultural descendant, he has provided cultural consultation to landowners, the Maui Lana'i Islands Burial Council, as well as County, State, and Federal agencies. This involvement provided him the opportunity to learn the discipline of dealing with native Hawaiian skeletal remains.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Kalanikau's knowledge and perspective informs the deliberations of the Maui Lāna'i Islands Burial Council until June 30, 2023.



**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 10, 2022
1:00 P.M.

**Support for Governor Message 704, Vernon Kalanikau
Island Burial Council, Islands of Maui and Lana'i**

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 704, Vernon Kalanikau. This message is submitted for consideration and confirmation to the Maui and Lana'i Burial Council for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

Participants in the Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) Moku O Pi'ilani (Island of Maui) and Nana'i Kaula (Island of Lana'i) supports this submittal.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku works with participants of all twelve Moku of Maui – Hamakuapoko, Hamakualoa, Ko'olau, Hana, Kipahulu, Kaupo, Kahikinui, Honuaula, Kula, Lahaina, Ka'anapali, and Wailuku as well as many of the one hundred and forty (140) ahupua'a encompassed within these moku. We also work with the native Hawaiian families and the different communities on the Moku of Lana'i – Kona and Ko'olau. Although most of the residents of Lana'i live in Lana'i City in the Kona Moku, there are still generational kuleana in the eleven (11) ahupua'a on the island.

Mr. Kalanikau is a native Hawaiian who is a strong supporter of his culture. We believe he will be an asset to the Maui Burial Council.

Aha Moku supports Vernon Kalanikau as a member of the Maui and Lana'i Island Burial Council and ask that this Committee Advise and Consent Governor Message 704.

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

GM-704

Submitted on: 3/9/2022 2:00:20 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/10/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Marie Ka`onohi Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs. I am submitting testimony for: GM No. 704 in strong support of Maui and Lanai Burial Council Nominee ***Vernon Kalanikau***. Mr. Kalanikau has deep roots in the Native Hawaiian Culture and the Traditional Cultural Practices.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Me ka maluhia,

Ka`onohi Lee