

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



# LAND USE COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM  
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DANIEL ORODENKER  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Statement of  
**Daniel E. Orodener**  
**Executive Officer**  
State Land Use Commission

Before the  
**Senate Committee on**  
**Water and Land**

Monday April 11, 2022  
1:30 PM  
State Capitol, Room 229 Virtual Video Conference

In consideration of  
**GM 855**

**REGARDING THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF KU'IKEOKALANI  
KAMAKEA-'OHELO TO THE LAND USE COMMISSION, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-  
2022**

Chair Inouye; Vice Chair Keith-Agaran; and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Kamakea-'Ohelo's appointment to the Land Use Commission. Mr. Kamakea-'Ohelo has the experience and background to be a land use commissioner. Not only is he an active cultural practitioner with a wealth of understanding of cultural issues, but he is a working farmer. At present the LUC does not have any representation from the agricultural industry. Mr. Kamakea-'Ohelo will bring a much-needed balance to the Commission at a time when both cultural issues and agricultural issues are being identified as key elements in the future of land use.

Mr. Kamakea-'Ohelo is also well respected in the community and has developed a reputation for being respectful, considerate, and understanding. He has a capacity for being a "good listener" and for taking a broad approach to the needs of the community. We look forward to having him on the Commission both for his cultural perspective and as a representative of the agricultural community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Kamakea-‘Ohelo’s appointment. We are honored to have him and look forward with pleasure to his participation.



**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 Water and Land

April 11, 2022  
1:30 P.M.

**Support for Governor Message 855 – Ku’ikeokalani Kamakea-‘Ohelo  
Land Use Commission**

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Water and Land Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer strong support for Governor Message 855, Ku’ikeokalani Kamakea-‘Ohelo. This message is submitted for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2025.

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

The Hawaii State Aha Moku, works with participants of all eight main Hawaiian Islands – Moku O Keawe (Hawaii), Moku O Pi’ilani (Maui), Moku O Kanaloa (Kaho’olawe), Nana’i Kaula (Lana’i), Moloka’i Pule O’o (Moloka’i), Moku O Kakuhihewa (O’ahu), Manokalanipo (Kaua’i), and Ka ‘Aina O Kawelonakala (Ni’ihau), as well as the forty-six (46) Moku and six-hundred and six (606) ahupua’a encompassed within these islands.

The Land Use Commission (LUC) is a vitally important component of Hawaii State Law. It establishes an overall framework of land use management where all lands in the State of Hawaii are classified into one of four land use districts: Urban, Rural, Agricultural, and Conservation. To be a member of the LUC, one must have skills in Land Stewardship.

We believe that Mr. Kamakea-‘Ohelo is knowledgeable and skilled in all four of these mandates. He is an exceptional in Aloha ‘Aina and is extremely well respected as a community leader and organizer. Most importantly, Mr. Kamakea-‘Ohelo is known for his conflict-management skills. He understands and works with cultural diversity as he is fluent in ‘Olelo Hawai’i and American English. This is important as there must be a member of the LUC who is an expert in native Hawaiian cultural practices. Because he truthfully understands cultural diversity, he can work with all cultures.

Aha Moku strongly supports Ku’ikeokalani Kamakea-‘Ohelo as a member of the Land Use Commission and urges this Committee to confirm Governor Message 855.

Respectfully yours,

Kawaikapuokalani Hewett, Ka Mea Ho’okumu  
Hawaii State Aha Moku  
808-640-1214  
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# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

April 11, 2022

1:30 PM

CCR229

### In **SUPPORT** of **GM855** and **GM856**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, KŪ'IKE KAMAKEA-ŌHELO, for a term to expire 06-30-2022

and

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Land Use Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, KŪ'IKE KAMAKEA-ŌHELO, for a term to expire 06-30-2026

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Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

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 Kū'ike Kamakea-Ōhelo to the Land Use Commission ("LUC").

The LUC has the critical, long-standing responsibility to identify and protect the public interest in Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, climate resiliency, food security, housing security, employment opportunities, and other important areas that may be affected by large-scale land use changes or certain exceptional activities on agricultural and rural lands. The LUC further oversees the designation of important agricultural lands, which may help to ensure the the long-term agricultural security and self-sufficiency of our islands. To properly carry out these responsibilities, the LUC must possess members with expertise in relevant subjects, including Native Hawaiian land use and agricultural practices, and who have demonstrated the strongest personal commitment to the community and the public interest.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly believes that Mr. Kamakea-Ōhelo has the expertise, experience, and character to make him an exceptionally well-suited member of the LUC. His extensive background in local and diversified agriculture and Native Hawaiian land management practices will provide the LUC with a depth of knowledge that can ensure that its decisions appropriately uphold and promote the public's interests in Native Hawaiian cultural perpetuation, sustainable land use, and our islands' food self-sufficiency. Moreover, his clear commitment to the Waimānalo and larger communities demonstrates a level of integrity and care for our islands that will be essential to the fulfillment of the LUC's important role, in appropriately balancing developers' interests with the needs and concerns of the public. The Sierra Club of Hawai'i particularly and deeply appreciates Mr. Kamakea-Ōhelo's years of community service, and can directly attest to the invaluable contributions he has made in protecting the public trust in water,

preventing the desecration of cultural resources and sites, and supporting the ongoing community effort to shut down the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club respectfully urges the Committee to recommend that the Senate **ADVISE AND CONSENT** to the nomination of Kū'ike Kamakea-Ōhelo to the LUC. Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.

**GM-855**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 11:32:39 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl N Prince	Testifying for Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club supports the confirmation of KU'IKEOKALANI KAMAKEA-'OHELO to the Hawaii State Land Use Commission. We are very grateful for your positive consideration of this request.

Mahalo,

Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club



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VICE CHAIR  
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**LATE**

April 11, 2022

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of **GM855**, in consideration of the confirmation of Kū'ikeokalani Kamakea-'Ohelo as a member of the Land Use Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

The Land Use Commission oversees important land use issues in our state, including the designation of important agricultural lands, which provide important financial and cultural value to the State of Hawai'i. As a farmer and community organizer, that has experience in traditional Hawaiian land use and knowledge of Native Hawaiian cultural land practices, Kū'ike will provide an important perspective to the Land Use Commission and help the commission in its decision making.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.



**GM-855**

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 1:32:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jonathan Likeke Scheuer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members,

On June 30, 2022, I will be concluding my eight years of service on the Land Use Commission (LUC), including the last four years as the Chair. I am submitting this testimony in my individual capacity but based on that experience.

Ku`ikeokalani Kamakea-`Ohelo reached out to me in preparation for his hearing before your committee. While I have not known him personally until now, I have been familiar with his and his `ohana's legacy of aloha `āina. I believe his knowledge of aloha `āina cultural practices, his deep experience with agriculture and farming, and his relationships across our islands will be an asset to the work of the LUC, and I urge your favorable consideration.

Mahalo for the consideration of my tesimony.

--

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Ph.D.

Kahālāwai Consulting - Managing Environmental Conflict

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/likeke>

Water and Power In West Maui (2021) is available now from the University of Hawai`i Press

**GM-855**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 9:45:29 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Leimana DaMate	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Water and Land Committee,

I strongly support Ku'ike Kamakea-'Ohelo as a member of the Land Use Committee. His committment to the people of Hawai'i, no matter their ethnic or economic status is deep. He has shown a profound understanding of how important it is to respect and care for the land, and the communities that live within them. He is compassionate yet formidable when needed. He can walk in the two worlds of native Hawaiian and western. He will be an asset to the Land Use Commission and is supported by different communities. This skill with diverse cultural diversity is critical in todays world of conflict. I ask that Mr. Kamakea-'Ohelo be given the Advise and Consent to GM 855.

Respectfully

Leimana DaMate

**GM-855**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 12:02:07 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ida Hanohano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the appointment of Kū'ike Kamakea-Ohelo to the Land Use Commission. He is a keiki o ka aina and was raised with deep connections and concerns for Hawaii and its people. Active in the community of Waimanalo & Hawaii, he has emerged as a compassionate leader concerned with a future for the generations to come. He honors the practices of ancestors that used sustainable practices to take care of the environment. The investments he commits to is sustainable capacity to allows all to live in pono (harmony) in this space we share in Hawaii.

He will fully educate himself about issues and weigh then select the options that allow prudent implementation of decisions. He lives the lifestyle of careful use of resources as a farmer & fisherman providing for his family & ohana. He is invested in Hawaii.

The Land Use Commission protects and enhances these lands and natural resources by issuing leases for use or development, providing public access, resolving boundaries between public and private lands.

**LATE**

**GM-855**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 1:38:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/11/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wayne Tanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Water and Land Committee.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT the nomination of Kū'ike Kamakea-Ōhelo to the Land Use Commission. His extensive expertise in cultural practices and local and diversified agriculture will be critically necessary to ensure that the LUC has the knowledge and understanding to fulfill its important responsibilities, to safeguard the myriad public interests that may be impacted by land use changes here in Hawai'i. Moreover, working directly with Kū'ike on various activities relating to the Red Hill Fuel Facility has demonstrated to me his personal integrity and commitment to doing what is right for our residents and communities, things that are essential for all LUC members to possess.

Kū'ike Kamakea-Ōhelo is a solid and selfless individual who will serve the LUC and our communities exceptionally well in his role as a commissioner. Please recommend that the Senate ADVISE AND CONSENT to his nomination.

Mahalo nui,

Wayne Tanaka



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**LATE**

April 11, 2022

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of **GM855**, in consideration of the confirmation of Kū'ikeokalani Kamakea-'Ohelo as a member of the Land Use Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

The Land Use Commission oversees important land use issues in our state, including the designation of important agricultural lands, which provide important financial and cultural value to the State of Hawai'i. As a farmer and community organizer, that has experience in traditional Hawaiian land use and knowledge of Native Hawaiian cultural land practices, Kū'ike will provide an important perspective to the Land Use Commission and help the commission in its decision making.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.