

STATE OF HAWAII



**KING KAMEHAMEHA CELEBRATION COMMISSION**  
355 NORTH KING STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

April 15, 2025

Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts  
The Honorable Senator Lee, Chair  
And Members of the Committee

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 3:00 pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Aloha e Honorable Senator Lee and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Leina'ala Lopez who is being considered for confirmation to the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission for a term to expire on 06-30-2028.

As Executive Director of the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission, I strongly support the appointment of Leina'ala Lopez, representing the Island of Moloka'i, to the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission. Leina'ala has been an instrumental volunteer in spearheading the King Kamehameha Celebrations on Moloka'i and helped us move toward accomplishing our goals.

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of her appointment.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Hammond".

Amy Hammond  
Executive Director  
King Kamehameha Celebration Commission  
(808)223-6040/ (808)586-0333  
kkcc@hawaii.gov

**GM-506**

Submitted on: 4/14/2025 1:52:39 PM

Testimony for TCA on 4/16/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Trevor Kainoa Daines	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of Ms. Leinā‘ala Lopez’s nomination to the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission. Ms. Lopez is an integral and respected member of the Moloka‘i community whose dedication to the perpetuation of Hawaiian culture is deeply evident in her leadership and involvement in the King Kamehameha Celebration festivities on Moloka‘i. Through her efforts, these important cultural events have not only continued but have grown in meaning and reach, serving as a source of pride and unity for the community.

Her appointment to the Commission brings a long-overdue voice from Moloka‘i—an island that has been underrepresented for many years in this important body. Ms. Lopez’s perspective and experience are vital to ensuring that the unique history, traditions, and contributions of Moloka‘i are meaningfully reflected in the planning and execution of celebrations that honor one of Hawai‘i’s most revered ali‘i.

Beyond her work with the King Kamehameha festivities, Ms. Lopez has consistently demonstrated her commitment to community empowerment, cultural preservation, and civic engagement. She is a valuable, effective, and collaborative contributor to the broader Hawaiian and local community, and I have every confidence in her ability to serve with integrity and excellence on the Commission.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to confirm Ms. Leinā‘ala Lopez to the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support.

**GM-506**

Submitted on: 4/15/2025 11:27:08 AM

Testimony for TCA on 4/16/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strong support as a former Commission of myself I know the work on how much the celebration is revered and the organizational skills that it takes to make it a success. I hope she will continue. She has been such a blessing to serve our Island of molokai during the observance for King Kamehameha Celebration Commission.

Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts



Testimony of Jame K. Schaedel

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

**Support** for Governor’s Message No. 506 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, LEINĀ‘ALA LOPEZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2028.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support** for Governor’s Message No. 506.

I offer this testimony as a private citizen, and not in my capacity as a commissioner of the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission.

I have had the privilege of working with Leinā‘ala on the commission for several months. I strongly believe that she has the experience, expertise and heart to represent Moloka‘i on the commission and I look forward to continuing working with her to fulfill our mission.

Thank you for considering my testimony in **strong support** for Governor’s Message No. 506. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Respectfully,

Jame K. Schaedel  
Kapolei, Hawai‘i

**LATE**

**GM-506**

Submitted on: 4/16/2025 2:48:30 PM

Testimony for TCA on 4/16/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
J. Moanikeala Whittle-Wagner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Leinaala Lopez nomination to KKCC for Molokai seat.