

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Friday, March 28, 2025
03:00 PM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 016, and Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 585
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE GAME
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
STANLEY RUIDAS, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2028.**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 585, nominating Mr. Ruidas to the Game Management Advisory Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2028.

Under Section 183D-4.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), the Game Management Advisory Commission (Commission) shall: 1) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board); and 2) Consist of nine members to be appointed by the Governor in the manner provided in Section 26-34, HRS. The Commission shall include a member from the County of Kaua'i, three members from the County of Maui (one member from each of the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i), two members from the County of Hawai'i (one member from East Hawai'i and one member from West Hawai'i), one member from the City and County of Honolulu, one at-large member, and the Chairperson of the Board or the Chairperson's designated representative. Other than the Chairperson of the Board, each member must be a hunter licensed in the State and have leadership experience in working directly with local hunters or shooting organizations. At least one member shall have knowledge, experience, and expertise in native Hawaiian cultural practices, and no more than three members shall represent, be employed by, or be under contract to any government sector.

Mr. Ruidas has been nominated as a member of the Commission from the County of Maui (Lānaʻi). Mr. Ruidas is an active licensed hunter in the State of Hawaiʻi and would like to utilize his professional skills to assist the County of Maui (Lānaʻi) in addressing issues related to public hunting, including advice on rules and regulations and exploring enhanced hunting opportunities. Mr. Ruidas is willing to meet with stakeholders to strengthen relationships that will, in turn, enhance game management policies and procedures.

Mr. Ruidas has served on the Game Management Advisory Commission multiple times, including as its Chair from July 2020 to June 2022. His leadership has resulted in open discussion and resolution of various hunting issues. The Department views his history with the Game Management Advisory Commission as a success and would recommend his return to a position representing the island of Lānaʻi under the County of Maui.