

LATE TESTIMONY

GM24

ULALIA WOODSIDE
Natural Area Reserves System
Commission

L.A.T.E



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Administrative Testimony

Testimony of Kamanaʻo pono Crabbe, Ph.D.

Ka Pouhana, Chief Executive Officer

GM24

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Natural Area Reserves System
Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ulalia Woodside**
Senate Committee on Water and Land

October 30, 2013

2:30 p.m.

Room 225

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM24, which would confirm Ulalia Woodside to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission, for a term to expire on June 30, 2016.

Ms. Woodside is being nominated to serve as the newly created member of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission (commission) who possesses a background in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, as required under Act 4 of the 2013 Regular Session. Until now, the commission has not had a member specifically qualified to provide insight as to the cultural value and significance of existing and potential future natural area reserves, or the many cultural resources they may contain. As a cultural expert who also possesses substantial experience in land management and environmental stewardship, Ms. Woodside would be a highly appropriate selection for this new position.

Ms. Woodside's broad range of personal and professional experiences makes her highly qualified to serve on the Commission. Since 2002, she has worked for Kamehameha Schools' Land Assets Division as the Regional Asset Manager for Natural and Cultural Resources. In this capacity, she helps to manage 200,000 acres of land on three islands, and develops and implements environmental and cultural stewardship programs on more than 340,000 acres of Kamehameha Schools' conservation and agricultural lands. Ms. Woodside also serves on the boards of various non-profit organizations, including the Lālākea Foundation, Kauahea Inc., and the Ka'ūpūlehu Foundation, which work to advance Hawaiian cultural practices and the preservation of the Hawaiian relationship to the environment.

These professional experiences are accompanied by Ms. Woodside's distinguished academic endeavors, which include bachelor's degrees in political science and Hawaiian studies, a certificate in Hawaiian language, and a master's degree in urban and regional planning, as well as her recent qualification as a certified planner. Ms. Woodside has also contributed to several publications on cultural ecosystem services and indigenous natural resources management.

As a cultural practitioner, Ms. Woodside is a kumu hula completing her 'uniki rites under Kumu Hula Hōkūlani Holt at Pā'ā O Hi'iaka, where the knowledge of, respect, care, and use of natural resources is of vital importance. She is also a student of lua or Hawaiian martial

arts. These activities are built on a foundation of her upbringing in a family that actively maintained cultural traditions, including fishing, growing kalo, and gathering from the mauka region.

These experiences should amply inform Ms. Woodside's capacity to fulfill the mission and carry out the responsibilities of the commission, and the particular seat she is being nominated to fill. If confirmed, Ms. Woodside will provide a wealth of experience and insight to help the commission conserve, protect, and manage our natural and cultural resources.

Therefore, the OHA Administration urges the committee to **PASS** GM24. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.