



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:
Web:

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 451-6648
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Friday, April 5, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
GM 594

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director,
Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, RYAN
KANAKA'OLE, for a term to expire December 7, 2026.**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports GM 594, which submits for consideration and confirmation as the Deputy Director, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Gubernatorial Nominee, Ryan Kanaka'ole, for a term to expire December 7, 2026.

Mr. Kanaka'ole has demonstrated a personal and professional commitment to public service and giving back to Hawai'i; two qualities HSEO believes are key for the DLNR Deputy Director position. Mr. Kanaka'ole's experiences at the Hawai'i County Office of the Corporation Counsel, Hawai'i Office of the Auditor, Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General, First Circuit Court of Hawai'i, and Nā Mamo o Kāwā exemplify his ability to successfully blend his legal and cultural expertise in pursuit of holistic, community-based resource management strategies. His desire to incorporate traditional resource management practices and empower communities who are most experienced in the stewardship of their land speak to Mr. Kanaka'ole's role as a community-centric leader.

HSEO is encouraged by Mr. Kanaka'ole's commitment to enhance operational effectiveness and efficiency through detailed program evaluation – an approach that should help DLNR develop a well-informed strategic framework to meet its legislative mandates. Mr. Kanaka'ole's abilities to navigate complex legal and cultural systems, develop critical decision-making processes, and uplift community voices and cultural traditions will strongly support DLNR's mission of conserving and managing Hawai'i's natural resources. Mr. Kanaka'ole's legal education at the University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law provides a foundation steeped in the Public Trust doctrine, which is so crucial to the management of and access to Hawai'i public land, water, and coastal resources.

Mr. Kanaka'ole's direct involvement in environmental and community projects in Kā'u demonstrate his capacity to fully appreciate the proper consideration of Hawai'i's place-based archeological resources and protected species. We respectfully ask that you confirm Ryan Kanaka'ole as Deputy Director of DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.