

# GM730

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, ISAAC HARP, for a term to expire 6-30-2016.

Report Title: Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: THA

Introducer(s):

<a href="#">Sort by Date</a>		Status Text
3/25/2013	S	Received.
3/25/2013	S	Referred to THA.
4/3/2013	S	The committee(s) on THA has scheduled a public hearing on 04-10-13 2:45PM in conference room 224.

## TESTIMONY LIST

William Aila	<b>DLNR</b>	SUPPORT
	<b>OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS</b>	SUPPORT
Riley Smith	<b>LANIHAU PROPERTIES</b>	SUPPORT
Kehau Abad		SUPPORT
Annie Au Hoon		SUPPORT
Bianca Isaki		SUPPORT
Cynthia Nazara		SUPPORT
Gretchen Anna Currie		SUPPORT
Jonathan Likeke Scheuer		SUPPORT
Rafael Ramirez		SUPPORT
Puanani Rogers		SUPPORT
Michael Ikeda		COMMENTS

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
601 KAMOKILA BLVD., RM. 555  
KAPOLEI, HI 96707

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ESTHER KIAAINA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
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  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
TOURISM AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Tuesday, April 10, 2013  
2:45 P.M  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 730  
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND  
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ISAAC HARP  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2016.**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports the gubernatorial appointment of Mr. Isaac Harp to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawaii, to expire 6-30-2016.**

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. With regard to previously known burials, the Councils determine whether to leave the burial in place or remove it, recognize lineal and cultural descendants and provide counsel and advice to the Department.

Mr. Harp is the owner of Makamaka Enterprises, providing cultural consulting to developers and others on Hawaii Island. Mr. Harp serves as the Vice-President for Makani Hou o Kaloko-Honokohau, a non-profit set up to manage a Native Hawaiian cultural live-in center at the Kaloko-Honokohau National Park. He has served as Vice-President for the Pasifika Foundation Hawaii.

Mr. Harp has exhibited strength in connections between people of Hawaii and the broader Pacific. He practices developing partnerships with the community and agencies participating in perpetuating the living cultural.

Mr. Harp is knowledgeable about Hawaiian culture and history, and is aware of and sensitive to the cultural kuleana (responsibility) of na iwi kupuna (ancestral remains). A Senate confirmation of Mr. Harp to the Hawaii Island Burial Council will greatly enhance that Council's work to uphold the state burials law.



**GM730**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI‘I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ISAAC HARP, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2016**

Senate Committee on Tourism & Hawaiian Affairs

April 10, 2013

2:45 p.m.

Room 224

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The **Office of Hawaiian Affairs** (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM730, which would confirm Isaac Harp as a Kona regional representative to the Hawai‘i Island Burial Council.

Mr. Harp is a recognized lineal descendant of ancestors from Ke‘ei to Kohala. He has been working with the National Park Service to repair his ‘ohana ilina pā located within the Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park and to prepare it to kanu his mother and future deceased family members. Mr. Harp has also demonstrated his dedication to protecting iwi kūpuna in the region and served as the vice president of Makani Hou o Kaloko-Honokōhau, assisting in creating the Spirit Report for the area. Mr. Harp has appeared before the Hawai‘i Island Burial Council to help protect a burial he discovered. Finally, Mr. Harp is a cultural practitioner and is often called upon for advice on the treatment of cultural artifacts.

For these reasons, OHA urges the committee to **advise and consent** Mr. Harp’s nomination to the Hawai‘i Island Burial Council. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

# Lanikai Properties, LLC

P.O. Box 9032

Kailua-Kona, HI 96745

Phone: (808) 936-7129 • Fax: (808) 443-2404

Email: [rsmith@lanikai.net](mailto:rsmith@lanikai.net)

April 9, 2013

## Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs

Honorable Senators Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Gilbert Coloma-Agaran, Vice Chair

Via email: [sengaluteria@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sengaluteria@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[senhee@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senhee@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkahele@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[sensolomon@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sensolomon@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
[senslom@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senslom@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Subject: **GM 730: Letter of Support**  
**Isaac Harp, Hawaii Island Burial Council**

I understand that Isaac Harp has been nominated to be a member of the Burial Council for Hawaii Island. We respectfully urge the Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs to confirm Mr. Harp to the Council.

I have personally known Isaac for the past four years, during my employment with Lanikai Properties/Palani Ranch. However, I have known of him for the last ten years, as he has been very active in the big island community when it comes to native Hawaiian rights.

Although I don't always agree with all of the initiatives that Isaac is involved in, I truly respect him for his hard work, clarity of purpose and integrity in what he does. He definitely is engaged in what he believes in.

During our entitlement work within our lands within the ahupuaa of Honokohau 1 and 2; Isaac was designated as the family's representative/cultural descendant to monitor our efforts to comply with our approved Burial Treatment Plans. He has been extremely fair, yet firm in our dealings and ensuring that we comply with all the provisions of the approved treatment plans.

Also, in his volunteer work at Kaloko-Honokohau National Park, where he is constructing a number of thatched hale; we worked closely with Isaac and Makani Hou o Kaloko-Honokohau, in their gathering of ohia logs from our Palani Ranch properties. Isaac (and his wife Tammy), personally led the work crews to harvest these logs on our property. He is definitely someone that exemplifies his beliefs, through his actions.



**Isaac Harp and Nainoa Perry asking permission before harvesting ohia.**



**Harvesting logs from Honokohau mauka (Palani Ranch)**



**20'x40' hale during construction at Kaloko Honokohau National Park**

For the above reasons, I believe that Mr. Harp would be an asset to the Hawaii Island Burial Council and should be confirmed by your Committee. Should you have any questions, please contact me via phone or email.

A hui hou,

**Riley W. Smith, P.E.**  
President/Chief Executive Officer

**Kēhaunani Abad, Ph.D.**

91-1168 Kūhaimoana Pl.  
Honolulu, HI 96818  
(808) 839-4299  
sean.permito@gmail.com

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs

Honorable Chair, Senator Brickwood Galuteria  
Honorable Vice Chair, Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Testimony on **GM 730**

Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i, Gubernatorial Nominee, Isaac Harp,

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support** of Isaac Harp's gubernatorial nomination to the Hawai'i Island Burial Council.

Having served 12 years on the O'ahu Island Burial Council, and thus understanding what is required to be a strong contributing burial council member, I am certain that Isaac Harp would be an invaluable asset to the Hawai'i Island Burial Council.

Mr. Harp is strongly connected to Hawaiian cultural practices in his own personal life, is dedicated to serving his community, and has a strong understanding of the legal frameworks that come into play in those contexts, especially as they relate to historic sites and burials. He has demonstrated this through his long involvement with groups advocating from Hawaiian perspectives regarding Pōhakuloa, Mauna Kea, the Ali 'i Highway widening project, Kaloko-Honokohau, and other fronts.

Beyond his skills, experience, and dedication to serve our Hawaiian community, Mr. Harp has earned the trust and respect of many, allowing him to work successfully with key leaders in the Hawaiian community. Such an ability is essential for a council member to fulfill the responsibilities of being an island burial council member.

For all of the above reasons, I strongly believe that Mr. Harp would greatly enhance the strength of the Hawai'i Island Burial Council. I urge you to please confirm Isaac Harp's nomination to the council.

**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/4/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Annie Au Hoon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/8/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bianca Isaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm writing in support of Isaac Harp's application to serve on the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i (GM 730). I am familiar with Mr. Harp's work both as a colleague and in social interactions. In all venues, he has demonstrated a canny ability to cohere cogent analyses of timely issues and, crucially, an enduring compassion for Hawai'i – its peoples, histories, and the land itself. His deep knowledge and broad experiences with communities across Hawai'i and on Hawai'i Island in particular is an invaluable asset. I am heartened by his willingness to serve and am honored to be able to support his application. Sincerely, Bianca Kai Isaki, Ph.D.

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**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/7/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cynthia Nazara	Individual	Support	No

Comments: aloha I am sending my warmest support in favor of Issac Paka Harp. I have worked with him on many different organizations,community project and have a personal relationship with Issac. He is very trust worthy and puts action to his words, this is a trait that isn't a rare commodity. He is a man of his word,has a great aloha for his culture and believes in hearing everyone and being fair.He would be a great candidate to sit on the HIBC to represent the island of Hawaii. pumehana

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**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/7/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gretchen Ana Currie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the nomination of Isaac Harp to the Hawaii Island Burial Council.

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April 8, 2013

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: GM 730, Support for nomination of Isaac “Paka” Harp to the Hawai`i Island Burial Council (HIBC)**

Aloha Chair Galuteria, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

My name is Jonathan Likeke Scheuer. I have served on the O`ahu Island Burial Council since May 2011 as one of the two representatives for the Kona district, and have also been serving as the Vice Chair since January 2012. The purpose of this letter is to offer my personal support the Governor’s nomination of Isaac “Paka” Harp to the HIBC.

While I am from Kona, O`ahu, I have over the years had the opportunity to work with and get to know Paka in various capacities. I am humbled to even offer testimony for him in this role, as I know he knows more than I do about these issues. There is no question in my mind that he has not only the requisite knowledge of burial issues, but he has the community relationships, passion, and determination to serve well in this role.

I urge Paka’s confirmation. Please do not hesitate to seek further information from me.

Mahalo nui,

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Ph.D.  
Scheuerj001@hawaii.rr.com

**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/7/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rafael Ramirez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Isaac Harp's nomination to the Hawaii Island Burial Council.  
Mahalo.

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**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/9/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Puanani Rogers	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I testify in support of the nomination of Isaac Harp to the Hawaii Island Burial Council. He has been an asset in our Kanaka maoli communities as an advocate to protect our `aina and resources. We have a lot of respect for Mr. Harp and know he will serve well in this position. Mahalo a nui loa! Puanani Rogers

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**GM730**

Submitted on: 4/8/2013

Testimony for THA on Apr 10, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Ikeda	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Isaac is an excellent candidate to sit on the Hawaiian Burial Council. He has been a supporter of Hawaiian Rights and promoter of Hawaiian Cultural Beliefs, Traditions, and Practices.

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