

STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Febuary 23, 2015

Testimony on **GM 509**Confirmation of **JOBIE MASAGATANI**Chairperson, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Representative Lynn DeCoite

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

February 23, 2015 1:15pm, Room 224

Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Glauteria and committee members:

I respectfully request your support in confirming the appointment of JOBIE MASAGATANI as the Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Ms. Masagatani's background shows a career fully committed to the betterment of the Hawaiian community.

I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Masagatani over the past two years and it is clear that she has the best interest of all Hawaiian's on her mind. Ms. Masagatani was instrumental in formulating water policy to address the availability of water on homestead lands and in revamping the Revocable Permits program (month to month leases). She also was a driving force behind the development of the Lanikeha Community Center on Moloka'i.

Ms. Masagatani has a history of working with the Homestead Associations on issues and including them in the process. She is a firm believer in beneficiary consultation before she make decisions on their behalf.

For these reasons and so many more I ask for your full support in her confirmation.

Mahalo for your consideration.

- Du Corta

Lynn DeCoite

State House of Representative

District 13

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: <u>HWNTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>dkapua@gmail.com</u>

**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM509 on Feb 23, 2015 13:15PM

**Date:** Monday, February 23, 2015 12:43:30 PM

### GM509

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for HWN on Feb 23, 2015 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha HAC Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria Members, Mahalo for this opportunity to STRONGLY SUPPORT Governor Ige's nomination of Jobie Masagatani as the Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL). I believe that HHL lessee's will benefit by her continued leadership at one of the most contentious departments within the Governor's Cabinet. DHHI has experienced many challenges, obstacles and opposition, but Jobie is the right person to see DHHL thru it all. Under Jobie's leadership, headway has been made in envisioning a positive and beneficial future of the HHLs, and it's beneficiaries, under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. Now, she needs to continue her work with the beneficiaries to ensure its successful implementation. Thanking you in advance for passing GM509 out of committee and onto the full Senate floor for confirmation. Me ka ha'aha'a, Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai Waianae Valley Homestead Lessee and Beneficiary

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

## 745 Fort Street Topa Financial Center 9th Floor, Fort Street Tower Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 23, 2015

The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Chair and Committee Members Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Hawaii State Senate 415 S. Beretania Street, #222 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

RE: GM 509 Consideration and Confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Gubernatorial Nominee, Jobie Masagatani, for a term to expire 12-31-2018

I support Jobie Masagatani, as the Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

I have known and worked with Ms. Masagatani in her many different roles within government, most recently in her role as the Chairperson to the Department. Jobie has consistently shown that she has the skills necessary to continue to lead DHH into the future.

I believe that Ms. Masagatani has the knowledge, ability and desire to lead in the position as the Chairman to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and respectfully ask that you support Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully,

Karen Piltz

## Kekaha Hawaiian Homestead Association

### Via Email:

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Maile Shimabukuro, Chair Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair Lorraine Inouye, Member Gilbert Kahele, Member Sam Slom, Member

February 17, 2014

## LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RE-APPOINTMENT OF JOBIE MASAGATANI AS CHAIR, HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION AND EXECUTIVE HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Aloha Senate Committee Members:

Kekaha Hawaiian Homestead Association (KHHA), a 501(c)3 organization representing the beneficiaries and their supporters in west Kaua'i, strongly supports the gubernatorial nomination and reappointment of Jobie Masagatani as Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) and executive head of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

In her tenure, Ms. Masagatani has brought an extremely high level of executive ability and mature, deliberative approaches to the HHC.

In his vision statement, Governor Ige has pledged to work with those that "do the right things, the right way in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner" and "with the highest standard of transparency and accessibility to ensure there are no conflicts of interest." Jobie Masagatani has demonstrated through her leadership actions and demeanor that she possesses all of these qualities.

### Accountable and Institutionally Responsible.

Understanding that the effectiveness of an institution is based on the capacity of its leaders, Masagatani has consistently acted to ensure that Hawaiian Homes Commissioners are informed and fully understand their fiduciary duties, so that they can serve strongly as trustees. To improve their capacity, in her first months in office, Masagatani *spearheaded and has now completed* several statewide studies and policy analyses on fiscal, land use and water rights issues from a Native Hawaiian perspective, so that the Hawaiian Homes Commissioners and the Department of

Hawaiian Home Lands staff are now finally able to make well-informed, consistent decisions regarding Hawaiian home lands, going forward.

Under her two-year leadership, DHHL and HHC have strengthened greatly as institutions. Ms. Masagatani has been excellent in keeping Commission meeting discussions focused and deliberate, while also encouraging and responding constructively to feedback by Commissioners and Native Hawaiian beneficiaries. From the outset, she has shared information openly and visibly with the public and with legislators. Masagatani also made this data readily and easily accessible to all via the DHHL website, active beneficiary consultations and regular communications to beneficiary organizations.

Prior to her tenure, DHHL and HHC decisions were often made haphazardly, on a "one by one" basis, without the aid of reliable, unbiased statewide research and transparent deliberations. As all policy experts know, solid baseline data and research are critical to making land use and resource planning decisions. In creating this baseline, she has instilled greater trust among native Hawaiians in HHC and DHHL leadership overall.

## **Solution Oriented and Open to Innovation.**

In her questions to Commissioners, staff and beneficiaries at HHC's monthly meetings, Ms. Masagatani has also shown that she is tenaciously solution-oriented as well as fair, open and responsive to feedback. Most importantly, Masagatani has encouraged innovative problem-solving while also being accountable to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and the law. Her proven ability to innovate and propose collaborations with other agencies, such as the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the NAHASDA program is absolutely critical, as DHHL enters into a new phase of limited resources.

### A Team Player, Collaboration-Focused.

We would hope that Ms. Masagatani can continue the agency collaborations she has set in motion, by serving another term under the Ige administration. Masagatani has also earned wide respect from leaders across the health care, education, housing, and cultural fields. Very importantly, her key staff respect her as an effective and approachable leader. We believe that the high level of peer and collegial respect for Masagatani will open many more doors for resource partnerships, if Masagatani is given the opportunity to continue her service as Chair.

### Fiscally Resourceful.

As DHHL and HHC face increasing pressure to finance its operations, Masagatani has done a remarkable job at both steering DHHL from the brink of fiscal distress and creating new, exciting inter-agency and other resourcing possibilities to generate new revenues for the department. DHHL has performed remarkably on many levels under her stewardship through the past two years. Her exceptional ability to express her

thoughts and information clearly and calmly and in a fact-based manner has helped greatly in this regard.

## Commitment to Serving All Native Hawaiians vs. Special Interests.

Ms. Masagatani also strongly supports the active placement of Hawaiians on Hawaiian home lands, and, at HHC monthly meetings, is always attentive to ensuring that HHC actions and proceedings are consistent with provisions of the Hawaiian Homes Act. Several new home lands projects have been launched and/or completed on all islands under Masagatani's leadership, all of which required great sensitivity to the diverse interests of local Native Hawaiian communities. Her ability to remain graceful, thoughtful and logical under pressure has been a tremendous asset in this Chair role that historically draws controversy.

## Quality Leadership.

Jobie Masagatani represents the level of professionalism and forward-looking vision that transcends political myopia. This quality of effective leadership is also noticeably reflected in many of Governor Ige's other agency appointments, and we commend the new administration and Senate panels for their care in the appointment process.

We therefore urge you to confirm the reappointment of Ms. Masagatani as a truly capable, thoughtful public servant leader. Having demonstrated that she is dedicated to the Hawaiian people and is free from agendas, she has steered DHHL and the HHC well through this time of great transition.

Masagatani is the kind of above-board, professional and highly educated leader that we as Native Hawaiians have needed for so long. She will help navigate the state into a Hawaiian future that honors the hopes and rights of our people.

Please confirm Ms. Masagatani for continued service as Chair of the HHC and executive head of DHHL.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Nan Kavii Wan

Kawai Warren

President, Kekaha Hawaiian Homestead Association

## KEAUKAHA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PO BOX 5146, HILO, HAWAII 96720

The Senate of the State of Hawaii

**State Capitol** 

### LETTER OF STRONG SUPPORT WITH RESERVATIONS

I am Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa a native Hawaiian as defined by the HHCA, 1920 as amended July 9, 1921 and the current President of the Keaukaha Community Association and we wish to submit this letter of **strong support**, with reservations, for Governor David Ige's nomination for Director of Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL): **Ms. Jobie Masagatani**.

Our <u>strong support</u> is based upon the facts that current projects underway would be unduly disrupted and native Hawaiian beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act trust (Trust) would suffer another setback if leadership changes occurred at this point.

With due respect to Ms. Jobie Masagatani's credit KCA believes that we must also make the record clear that presently we recognize the positives of her administration whereby is has:

Committed \$6m in NAHASDA funding for home repairs in East Hawaii & Molokai;

Committed \$45m in homeowner financing of Homesteads on Hawaii, Molokai, Oahu, & Kauai;

Committed \$1.5m for HALE service to include home buyers education & lease cancellations;

Committed \$8.3m in CIP for Undivided interest lessees in East Kapolei II for lot development;

Committed \$9m in CIP for undivided interest lessees in Laiopua V for land development;

Committed \$9m in CIP for undivided interest lessees in Keokea Waiohuli for lot development

Our reservations are based upon the following facts **directly** connected to Ms. Masagatani's decisions as an administrator at DHHL and perpetuated failures of the DHHL.

- 1. Sufficient information is not now being provided to the beneficiaries for the monthly meetings of the Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) agenda. Present practice allows the Department's staff submittals to be distributed at the time of the Commission meetings, giving inadequate time for the beneficiaries to review information on pertinent issues if the beneficiaries had the wherewithal to travel to the site of the meeting. This practice allows difficult and/or controversial issues and/or concerns to pass with *Commission approval* because Commissioners themselves at times do not thoroughly understand the subject matter and beneficiaries do not have all the information at their disposal to respond to their respective Commissioner and to the Department's pending actions prior to Commission action in a timely manner. With technology as it is now it is inconceivable that the uses of electronic mail or other means are not employed to have the trust corpus involved in the decision making processes of a Department of the State of Hawaii whose SOLE RESPOSIBILIY IS TO BETTER THE CONDITIONS OF THE (n)ATIVE HAWAIIANS.
- 2. DHHL's responses and recommendations to the HHC regarding the highly criticized REVOCABLE PERMIT PROGRAM (RP) fails to give native Hawaiian beneficiaries "preference" to

## KEAUKAHA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PO BOX 5146, HILO, HAWAII 96720

the lands which were set aside for their rehabilitation. DHHL recommendations awards RP's to the highest bidder, <u>regardless of beneficiary qualifications</u>. While this may benefit DHHL and the State of Hawaii with regard to revenue generation, but this policy <u>fails to meet the mission</u> of the Trust, which is to "rehabilitate native Hawaiians."

- 3. DHHL has an administrative policy, recommended by DHHL and approved by the HHC that violates and denies the Trust provision of authorizing the beneficiary **use of their tract** for **mercantile** related leases/licenses pursuant to Section 207(c)1(b) HHCA, 1920 as amended July 9, 1921. The justification for this **administrative action** is that <u>native Hawaiian businesses</u> (mercantile) have a high rate of failure thereby exposing DHHL to financial risk. This administrative policy <u>failed to address the long term responsibility and goals of the trust</u>, which is to "rehabilitate native Hawaiians."
- 4. DHHL's current practice is awarding leases with homes built on the land which causes many native Hawaiians to become <u>ineligible</u> for the lease awards because they <u>do not qualify</u> for the mortgage loans attached to the lease. This is a major cause for the many beneficiaries remaining on the wait list over 20 years, aside from the lack of homestead development. This practice does not serve native Hawaiians whose incomes <u>disqualify</u> them for conventional mortgages, and for whom the Trust was established. The HHCA, 1920 has only two (2) requirements for being <u>awarded a leasehold</u> and to <u>transfer a leasehold</u> that being the native Hawaiian applicant be: ½ <u>the blood of the race inhabiting these islands prior to 1778 and be 18 years of age</u>. It is then the process of that awardee to find financing help such as homeowner builder and other avenues to help to sustain his or her ohana (family).

For the above stated reasons both pros & cons, <u>we declare our strong support</u> for Governor Ige's nomination for Director of DHHL, in Ms. Jobie Masagatani, but we would fail ourselves and future generations by not articulating clearly our reservations. We have provided these critical issues as a means to measure the nominee's ability to develop sound policy consistent with the HHCA, <u>to work with beneficiaries</u> to correct present deficiencies in the Department's policies & practices, and plans to prioritize fulfilling the mission of the Trust which we believe Ms. Masagatani is <u>capable of achieving</u>.

Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa		

Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa

'Owau me ka ha'aha'a (I humbly remain)

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am Yama Kaholohaa, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

We address our full support of Jobie Masagatani to continue as Chair for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. She brings to the table fresh ideas and innovative ways for this Department. I have been through many chairs and Jobie stands out as the person we look to.

Since being in office for two short years Chair Jobie Masagatani, has created a water policy; a streamlined refinance program; a revamping of the Revocable Permit Program (RPP); the geothermal rights on Hawaiian homelands and were determined at 100%; a new pilot project (rent to own); moving forward with development of the Ka Makana Ali'i project; and secured the fiscal budget 2015, determining (sufficient funds) from the State. These are a few monumental accomplishments competed during her first term.

As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

Yama Kaholohaa, Community Member

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am Edwin Kaausa, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

I address our full support of Jobie Masagatani to continue as Chair for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. She brings to the table fresh ideas and innovative ways for this Department. I have been through many chairs and Jobie stands out as the person we look to.

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Respectfully submitted,

Atta Que Community Member

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am Winon a Kaawa, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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Respectfully submitted,

Williama Millaum Community Member

I am Shaw Social, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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Respectfully submitted,

I am Jose Faraon \_\_\_\_\_\_, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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Community Member

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

Comn	nittee on Appointr	nent for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair
	Rollanda	•
I am_	Faraon	, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and wel
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As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

MUCULE RUST

I am Bohannen Faran, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am SHALLU KARHAYA homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am Carrie DeCoite, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

Casie K. DeCote

Community Member

02/19/15

I am Lindbey Well a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

I address our full support of Jobie Masagatani to continue as Chair for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. She brings to the table fresh ideas and innovative ways for this Department. I have been through many chairs and Jobie stands out as the person we look to.

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As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

I am Kanu hui hui Kapuni, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

I address our full support of Jobie Masagatani to continue as Chair for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. She brings to the table fresh ideas and innovative ways for this Department. I have been through many chairs and Jobie stands out as the person we look to.

Since being in office for two short years Chair Jobie Masagatani, has created a water policy; a streamlined refinance program; a revamping of the Revocable Permit Program (RPP); the geothermal rights on Hawaiian homelands and were determined at 100%; a new pilot project (rent to own); moving forward with development of the Ka Makana Ali'i project; and secured the fiscal budget 2015, determining (sufficient funds) from the State. These are a few monumental accomplishments competed during her first term.

As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

I am known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am Faith Tuipulotu, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

We address our full support of Jobie Masagatani to continue as Chair for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. She brings to the table fresh ideas and innovative ways for this Department. I have been through many chairs and Jobie stands out as the person we look to.

Since being in office for two short years Chair Jobie Masagatani, has created a water policy; a streamlined refinance program; a revamping of the Revocable Permit Program (RPP); the geothermal rights on Hawaiian homelands and were determined at 100%; a new pilot project (rent to own); moving forward with development of the Ka Makana Ali'i project; and secured the fiscal budget 2015, determining (sufficient funds) from the State. These are a few monumental accomplishments competed during her first term.

As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith Tuipulotu, Community Member

Committee on Appointment for Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair

I am James Boswell, a homesteader, volunteer, community advocate, leader and well known in my community of Hoolehua, Molokai.

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As a homesteader we need someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people that is why we support Chair Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

James Boswell, Community Member

## Testimony of Linda Mokuau

To the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)
In support of Gubernatorial Nominee, JOBIE MASAGATANI, For Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (GM 509)

MONDAY February 22, 2015

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Jobie Masagatani and the confirmation of her appointment to lead the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As a native Hawaiian, I support other qualified Hawaiians who are given the opportunity to serve and lead our community. Ms. Masagatani's background shows a career fully committed to the betterment of our Hawaiian community. She is a leader that our community and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands need now.

I know Ms. Masagatani's leadership is good for our trust and our Hawaiian homestead program. If you consider the accomplishments of the DHHL under her administration for the last two years as well as her work as the deputy at the DHHL from 1995 to 2002, you will understand that we will all gain from her leadership over the next four years. Because Ms. Masagatani knows this program completely, she will continue to lead efficiently, competently, and resourcefully to stabilize the program and move it forward.

I am honored to submit my testimony in strong support of Ms. Masagatani, and I ask your committee to advise and consent to her nomination. Mahalo nui loa.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Mokuau, Homesteader

## Testimony of Bobby Mokuau

To the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)
In support of Gubernatorial Nominee, JOBIE MASAGATANI, For Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (GM 509)

MONDAY February 22, 2015

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Jobie Masagatani and the confirmation of her appointment to lead the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As a native Hawaiian, I support other qualified Hawaiians who are given the opportunity to serve and lead our community. Ms. Masagatani's background shows a career fully committed to the betterment of our Hawaiian community. She is a leader that our community and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands need now.

I know Ms. Masagatani's leadership is good for our trust and our Hawaiian homestead program. If you consider the accomplishments of the DHHL under her administration for the last two years as well as her work as the deputy at the DHHL from 1995 to 2002, you will understand that we will all gain from her leadership over the next four years. Because Ms. Masagatani knows this program completely, she will continue to lead efficiently, competently, and resourcefully to stabilize the program and move it forward.

I am honored to submit my testimony in strong support of Ms. Masagatani, and I ask your committee to advise and consent to her nomination.

Mahalo nui loa.

Bobby Mokuau, Homesteader

## Testimony of Carl Adolpho

To the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)
In support of Gubernatorial Nominee, JOBIE MASAGATANI, For Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (GM 509)

MONDAY February 22 2015

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Jobie Masagatani and the confirmation of her appointment to lead the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As a native Hawaiian, I support other qualified Hawaiians who are given the opportunity to serve and lead our community. Ms. Masagatani's background shows a career fully committed to the betterment of our Hawaiian community. She is a leader that our community and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands need now.

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I am honored to submit my testimony in strong support of Ms. Masagatani, and I ask your committee to advise and consent to her nomination. Mahalo nui loa.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl Adolpho Homesteader

## Testimony of George Mokuau

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Mahalo nui loa.

George Mokuau, Homesteader

## Testimony of Caroline Adolpho

To the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)

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As a native Hawaiian, I support other qualified Hawaiians who are given the opportunity to serve and lead our community. Ms. Masagatani's background shows a career fully committed to the betterment of our Hawaiian community. She is a leader that our community and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands need now.

I know Ms. Masagatani's leadership is good for our trust and our Hawaiian homestead program. If you consider the accomplishments of the DHHL under her administration for the last two years as well as her work as the deputy at the DHHL from 1995 to 2002, you will understand that we will all gain from her leadership over the next four years. Because Ms. Masagatani knows this program completely, she will continue to lead efficiently, competently, and resourcefully to stabilize the program and move it forward.

I am honored to submit my testimony in strong support of Ms. Masagatani, and I ask your committee to advise and consent to her nomination.

Mahalo nui loa.

Caroline Adolpho, Native Hawaiian, Molokai resident

Ahupua'a O Molokai P.O. Box 159 Ho'olehua, Hi 96729 Phone: 808-567-9234

February 22, 2015

Chairman Maile Shimabukuro and Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria and members: Lorraine Inouye, Gilbert Kahele and Sam Slom.

Re: Committee for the Appointment, Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair Jobie Masagatani

Ahupua'a O Molokai represents 7 Molokai Homestead Associations we humbly submit this letter in support of Jobie Masagatani to continue as the chair for Hawaiian Homes. These past 2 years we were honored and privileged to work directly with her and her staff. Though there were many issues that needed addressing. Some that hit home for us was, intervention of our Molokai Irrigation system by the chair to assure that our water rights were protected. Making sure that Lanikeha went back to a homestead association to better our community, and helping to secure funds for its equipment, having a water policy program in place, and yes geothermal rights on Hawaiian Homelands. She has also helped to secure funds for Kalamaula through NAHASDAH monies of 50 million dollars to provide housing. More so the securing of the fiscal budget for 2015.

She has done a lot in such a short period of time, always making sure that she protects the Hawaiian Homeland trust. Never have we seen so much accomplished in so little time. Imagine what could be done in 4 years.

This is what the Department needs someone in the Chair position to move items forward for our people. That is why we continue to support Jobie Masagatani.

Respectfully submitted,

Oene Bush

Ochie Bush Molokai Ahupua'a' Vice President President

TO: CHAIRMAN OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MAILE SHIMABUKROS

FROM: ROLLANDA FARAON

Aloha MAILE SHIMABUKROS,

Please accept these letters of support for Jobie Masagatani, Chairman and Director of Department of Hawaiian Homelands.

Our letters of support come from the island of Molokai, Hawaii.

Please let me know if, you have any questions.

Me ke aloha pumehana, Rollanda Fargon

## Testimony of Russell DeCoite

To the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs (HWN)
In support of Gubernatorial Nominee, JOBIE MASAGATANI, For Chairperson of the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (GM 509)

MONDAY February 22 2015

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Jobie Masagatani and the confirmation of her appointment to lead the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As a business owner, I support Hawaiians who are given the opportunity to serve and lead our community. Ms. Masagatani's background shows a career fully committed to the betterment of our the Hawaiian community. She is a leader that our community and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands need now.

I know Ms. Masagatani's leadership is good for the trust and the Hawaiian homestead program. If you consider the accomplishments of the DHHL under her administration for the last two years as well as her work as the deputy at the DHHL from 1995 to 2002, you will understand that we will all gain from her leadership over the next four years. Because Ms. Masagatani knows this program completely, she will continue to lead efficiently, competently, and resourcefully to stabilize the program and move it forward.

I am honored to submit my testimony in strong support of Ms. Masagatani, and I ask your committee to advise and consent to her nomination

Sincerely,

Russell DeCoite, V-8 Ranch, Owner, Molokai

Rusull 24 Conto

February 23, 2015

The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Chair The Honorable Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, Room 224

RE: GM509 Confirmation of Jobie Masagatani

My name is Ray Soon, and I come before you in strong support of the confirmation of Jobie Masagatani as the Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. Two years ago, you wrestled with this same appointment and you chose to confirm. It was a courageous choice as there was strong testimony for and against her appointment. The two years have been tumultuous, but her strength of character and leadership have confirmed the wisdom of that decision. I urge you make it again.

I have known and worked with Jobie Masagatani for over 20 years. It is remarkable how time flies. She has always been smart, well prepared, focused, and committed. But now she is also humble, understanding, fair; always in search of common ground. She never compromises on what she deems best for native Hawaiians, but now she is flexible, willing to make adjustments to the plans of others. I know this because we have been on opposite sides of the table for the last two years discussing issues that have been in contention between the City and the Department for decades. With her guidance we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel. We are not agreeing on everything, but the discussions are respectful and productive.

The Department and the Commission face very difficult times ahead. The waiting list isn't getting any shorter, the need for homesteading any less urgent. Individual claims, Nelson, water rights, beneficiary consultation, community empowerment are all terms you know well. Jobie Masagatani does too; there is no learning curve with this appointment. We forget that she has been in a leadership position at the Department for over ten years; longer than any Hawaiian Homes Deputy or Director since statehood. Her heart is deeply committed to the beneficiaries of the Trust. You will also need her experience, wisdom and the strength of character.

We have all heard the adage that the "best person for the job, is already on the job". That is certainly the case with the current Director and Chairwoman. Please re-confirm that appointment.

Ray Soon
Past DHHL Director and HHC Chairman, 1998-2002

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

Honorable Chair and Sen. Maile S. L. Shimabukuro and Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria, and Committee members, Aloha kakou!

Please accept this written testimony in support of both *Jobie Masagatani* as Director and Chairperson *William Aila*, *Jr*. as Deputy Director to the Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) under Governor David Ige Administration for the State of Hawai'i.

I firmly believe this is the right choice and have supported Jobie's past work as the previous Director and Chairperson of DHHL and know with William Aila, Jr. as her Deputy will work to improve the operations of the department.

I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

Street address

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Name (print)

Signature

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui Ioa,
Radford V. Richards

Name (print)

41-155 Poliala St

Street address

Warman als H1 96795

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Name (print)

Signature

Street address

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Name (print)

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Mahalo nui loa,

Angelina Manginsay

Name (print)

Signature

91-1028 Mana olana St. #GA ENaBeach, HI 96206

Street address

City,	State a	nd Zip Code	3	

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

Street address

City, State and Zip Code

1,701

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Name (print)

Signature

Street address

Hon Hawaii 968 19

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cammencita Liunovas

94-919 (Caaholost

Signature

Canmount Tunorax

Name (print)

Street address

Waipahu Al 96797 City, State and Zip Code

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Statin ann mingshima

Name (print)

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/ //...

Name (print)

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Mahalo nui loa,

CANAM

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Signature

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Name (print)

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Name (print)

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Mahalo nui loa,

LEO ASUNCION	dag.
Name (print)	Signature
1155-D WAINIHA ST.	
Street address	
Horounu H 96825.	_

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

DAVID KATAMINI

Name (print)

Signature

413-A Wimpaina St

k I I i

City, State and Zip Code

Street address

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Name (print)

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation. Mahalo nui loa,

Delluch A. Fuß Name (print)

41-557 MEKIA STVEET
Street address

WAMPURIO, H196795

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS (DHHL)

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Seth A.K.P. Fung.

Name (print)

Signature

Signature

41-657 MexiaSt.

Street address

Warmanalo, H£ 96795

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Mahalo nui loa,

Claire Hughes Carre Hughes

Name (print)

Signature

1926 Awapuhi St.
Street address

Honolulu 96822

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Please accept this written testimony in support of both *Jobie Masagatani* as Director and Chairperson *William Aila*, *Jr*. as Deputy Director to the Chairperson of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) under Governor David Ige Administration for the State of Hawai'i.

I firmly believe this is the right choice and have supported Jobie's past work as the previous Director and Chairperson of DHHL and know with William Aila, Jr. as her Deputy will work to improve the operations of the department.

I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Analika Hahulu

Name (print)

Signature

89-215 Nanakuli AVV

Street address

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Joelvan K. Lono
Name (print)

Signature

Jule & Tome

Street address

Kailaa Hi 96734

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

4276

Street address

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation. Mahalo nui loa,

Lenove K. Goms Name (print)

Signature

d ----

104-3 B Wahra St Street address

City, State and Zip Code

Hon. 67 96822

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS (DHHL)

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm - Room 224

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Street address

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

en flur

Street address

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation. Mahalo nui loa,

ADRIALINA B. GUERERO

Name (print)

Signature

4240 KILAUEN AVENUE

Street address

HONOLULU, HI 96816

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

MILLIAM K PINAZOR, Mam KPINAZOR, Mame (print)

Signature

Street address

WAIMANALO, 4 96795

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Marvin Keopuhiwa Marin Keopuhing Name (print) Signature Name (print)

Street address

City, State and Zip Code

Waimanalo, Hi 96795

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

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Signature

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Street address

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Like Bersch

Signature

41-1687 KACANIANA OCE

Street address

WALMANAW, HI, 9670095

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

Street address

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

Jusar K. Kamalani

- -

41-1026 Nenue St.
Street address
WATMANALO, HI 96195

Senate Committee on Tourism and Hawaiian Affairs Hawai'i State Capitol Building Monday, February 23, 2015 1:15 pm – Room 224

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1

I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation.

Mahalo nui loa,

WILSON KEKOA HO	What		
Name (print)	Signature		
41-696 KALANIAMADLE HWY.			
Street address			
WAIMANAD, H 96795			
City, State and Zip Code			

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

Street address

WEST MENSON, HI 96-996

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41-346 MARAWAIDLA ST

WAIMANALO Hi 94195

MAROL M. KAHAWAIOHAA CORON M. Kakawaiohaa Signature Name (print)

Street address

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Name (print)

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Mahalo nui loa,

THYZRA-ANN LINDSEY	Mugga-ctron Lindse		
Name (print)	Signature	Jo	J

41-174 NAKINI STREET

Street address

WAIMANALO, HI 96795

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Mahalo nui loa,

Name (print)

Signature

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I humbly request the Committee to vote in support of their confirmation. Mahalo nui loa,

Steve Keswe

Name (print)

Signature

41-812 halquianacle law

Street address

Waimanala, H1 96795

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Name (print)

Signature

91-155 Policula St.

Street address

Waimanalo, HI. 96795

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Name (print)

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Street address

Waimanalo, HI 96795