

NAME	ORGANIZATION/INDIVIDUAL	SUPPORT/OPOSE
GLADYS QUINTO MARRONE	BIA HAWAII	SUPPORT
RICHARD HOBSON	GENTRY HOMES LTD	SUPPORT
GARY OKIMOTO	HONOLULU WOOD TREATING	SUPPORT
COREY MATSUOKA	SSFM INTERNATIONAL	SUPPORT
DEAN UCHIDA	SSFM INTERNATIONAL	SUPPORT
MICHAEL P MATSUMOTO	SSFM INTERNATIONAL	SUPPORT
CARTY S CHANG	DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES	SUPPORT
BENJAMIN KUDO	ASHFORD + WINSTON LLP	SUPPORT
STANLEY H ROEHRIG	BICKERTON DANG LLLP	SUPPORT
ROGER SIMONOT	BUSINESS	SUPPORT
WESLEY K MACHIDA	DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & FINANCE	SUPPORT
MICHAEL YEE	ENVIRO SERVICES & TRAINING CENTER LLC	SUPPORT
AUDREY HIDANO	HIDANO CONSTRUCTION INC	SUPPORT
JIM LYON	LYON.US.COM	SUPPORT
BENJAMIN M MATSUBARA	MATSUBARA-KOTAKE	SUPPORT
CURTIS T TABATA	MATSUBARA-KOTAKE	SUPPORT
DICKSON CH LEE	TAKUSHI WONG LEE & YEE	SUPPORT
JIM COON	OCEAN TOURISM COALITION	SUPPORT
MARVIN AWAYA	PACIFIC HOUSING ASSISTANCE CORP	SUPPORT
MARK F ITO	SCHLACK ITO LLLC	SUPPORT
JON F YAMAGUCHI	YAMAGUCHI & YAMAGUCHI INC	SUPPORT
DEAN YAMAMOTO	YAMAMOTO CALIBOSO LLLC	SUPPORT
JODI YAMAMOTO	YAMAMOTO CALIBOSO LLLC	SUPPORT
JIM MEDEIROS SR	PROTECT KEOPUKA OHANA	OPOSE
MITCHELL IMANAKA	IMANAKA ASATO LLLC	SUPPORT
RAYMOND J HUTAFF	VALLEY ISLE EXCURSIONS INC	SUPPORT
WILLIAM HONG	WAIOLI RESEARCH FOUNDATION CORP	SUPPORT
JOHN BICKEL	AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION HAWAII	OPOSE
DEBRA KEKAUALUA	ATOOI	OPOSE
JERROD KOWALSKI	AQUA LUNG PACIFIC	OPOSE
BENJAMIN MARANTZ	BANYAN TREE FARM	OPOSE
DAVID PAUL	BIG ISLAND NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY	OPOSE
CITIZENS UNITED FOR LANAI	CITIZENS UNITED FOR LANAI	OPOSE
PAULA RESS	COLDWELL BANKER PACIFIC PROPERTIES	OPOSE
BRYNA STORCH	COMMERCIAL FARMER	OPOSE
SAM PULETASI	DEMOCRATIC PARTY	OPOSE
LESLIE WINGATE	EARTH LOVERS OF PUNA	OPOSE
JERRI PATTON	FOL BOOK CLUB	OPOSE
FRIENDS OF LANA'I	FRIENDS OF LANA'I	OPOSE
STEVE SAKALA	HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED, KONA CHAPTER	OPOSE

JOHN MOORE	HAWAIIAN SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION	OPPOSE
PUANANI ROGERS	HO'OKIPA NETWORK - KAUAI	OPPOSE
DEMONT R D CONNER	HO'OMANA PONO LLC	OPPOSE
RACHEL KAILIANU	HO'OMANA PONO LLC	OPPOSE
BRADFORD LUM	HULUMANU FOUNDATION	OPPOSE
MOANA WIETECH	KAPUNA FARMS LLC	OPPOSE
HOB	KAUAI ALBATROSS NETWORK	OPPOSE
MARVIN FELDMAN	KONA SONGBIRD FARM	OPPOSE
RENE SIRACUSA	MALAMA O PUNA	OPPOSE
JIM ALBERTINI	MALU'AINA	OPPOSE
MEGAN LAMSON	MEHANA CONSULTING	OPPOSE
WILLIAM W STEINER	PACIFIC AGRICULTURAL LAND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	OPPOSE
STEPHEN HOLMES	SIERRA CLUB HAWAII CHAPTER	OPPOSE
THE LYDGATE FAMILY	STEELGRASS FARM	OPPOSE
DOORAE SHIN	STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COALITION OF HAWAII	OPPOSE
BIANCA ISAKI	KAHEA - THE HAWAIIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCE	OPPOSE
CHARLES A PRENTISS	KAILUA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD	OPPOSE
GRAYDON KEALA	LOKO IA CONSULTING	OPPOSE
IRENE BOWIE	MAUI TOMORROW FOUNDATION INC	OPPOSE
NELSON HO	SIERRA CLUB BIG ISLAND	OPPOSE
LINDA OBRIEN	ADOPT A BEACH HAWAII	OPPOSE
DA	HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY	COMMENTS
CARMILLE LIM	COMMON CAUSE HAWAII	COMMENTS

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gqm@biahawaii.org](mailto:gqm@biahawaii.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 3:11:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [150311 WTL GM 514 Confirmation of Carleton Ching.pdf](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/19/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gladys Quinto Marrone	BIA Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

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## **Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land** **Wednesday, March 11, 2015** **10:00 a.m.** **State Capitol - Conference Room 229**

### **RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514, SUBMITTING FOR** **CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE** **DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL** **NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Chief Executive Officer for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the Voice of the Construction Industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii **strongly supports** the confirmation of Mr. Carleton Ching as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. Ching was a Board member of the BIA-Hawaii and we provide this testimony in support of Mr. Ching's qualifications to lead the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The DLNR's Mission Statement is to:

"Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors."

The DLNR is comprised of the following nine (9) Divisions, one (1) Office and two (2) independent Commissions:

- Aquatic Resources Division (DAR)
- Bureau of Conveyances (BOC)
- Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR)
- Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE)
- Engineering Division (ENG)
- Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW)
- Land Division (LAND)
- State Parks (SP)
- State Historic Preservation (SHPD)
- Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL)
- Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM)
- Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC)



Honorable Laura H. Thielen  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land  
G.M. 514, Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
March 11, 2015  
Testimony of BIA-Hawaii

The DLNR is responsible for the management of all state owned lands, which is approximately 1.4 million of the total 4 million acres in the State, and does not include all of the submerged lands within the State waters. DLNR is also responsible for the management of the Conservation District, which is comprised of approximately 1.9 million acres, or roughly half, of the land in the entire state.

These two areas of responsibility illustrate the need to have responsible, balanced, and transparent leadership in this department. As an owner of state lands, the DLNR is tasked with receiving the "highest and best" use of its lands in commercial operations. The DLNR must also weigh what uses could, or should, be allowed in the Conservation District through the Conservation District Use Application process. The focus here is not on the highest and best use, but on protecting and conserving our natural resources.

Diverse perspectives are needed in managing the States' natural and cultural resources. The Board of Land and Natural Resources make most of the policy decisions for the Department, with the Divisions and staff offices implementing the policies. The Chairperson of the BLNR oversees the proceedings of the Board, but only has one of the seven (7) votes on the Board.

Each Chairperson of the DLNR has brought with them a wide range of experiences, perspectives, and personalities to manage the DLNR: Susumu Ono, William (Bill) Paty, Keith Ahue, Michael Wilson, Tim Johns, Gil Keith-Agaran, Peter Young, Laura Thielen, and William (Bill) Alia. They all managed the DLNR to the best of their abilities and dealt with the issues that came before them in a balanced and objective manner.

There is no difference in the experiences of the past DLNR Chairpersons and those of Mr. Ching. We believe he has the necessary temperament and intelligence to bring together contrasting views in seeking out the best decision for the Department. We strongly encourage the Senate to confirm Mr. Ching's nomination as the Chairperson of the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol - Conference Room 229**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Carleton Ching as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

The DLNR's Mission Statement is to:

"Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors."

The DLNR is responsible for management of all state owned lands, which is approximately 1.4 million of the total 4 million acres in the state and does not include all of the submerged lands within the State waters. DLNR is also responsible for management of the Conservation District which is comprised of approximately 1.9 million acres or roughly half of the land in the entire state.

These two areas of responsibility illustrate the need to have a responsible, balanced and transparent leadership in this department. As an owner of state lands, the DLNR is tasked with receiving the "highest and best" use of its lands in commercial operations. The DLNR must also weigh what uses could or should be allowed in the Conservation District through the Conservation District Use Application process. The focus here is not on the highest and best use but on protecting and conserving our natural resources.

We need diverse views expressed in managing the States' natural and cultural resources, that is why the Board of Land and Natural Resources make most of the policy decisions for the Department with the Divisions and staff offices left to implement. The Chairperson of the BLNR oversees the proceedings of the Board but only has one of the seven (7) votes on the Board.

Over the last few years, the Chairperson of the DLNR has brought with them a wide range of experiences and personalities: Susumu Ono, William (Bill) Paty, Keith Ahue, Michael Wilson, Tim Johns, Gil Agaran, Peter Young, Laura Thielen and William (Bill) Alia. All brought their own experiences and perspectives in managing the DLNR. They all managed the

Department to the best of their abilities and dealt with the issues that came before them in a balanced and objective manner.

I see no difference in the experiences of the past DLNR Chairpersons and those of Mr. Ching. I believe he has the right temperament and intelligence to bring together contrasting views in seeking out the best decision for the Department. I **strongly encourage** the Senate to confirm Mr. Ching's nomination as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this matter.

Richard N. Hobson, Jr.  
President, Building Industry Association of Hawaii  
Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Gentry Homes, Ltd.

**From:** [Gary Okimoto](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Carleton Ching  
**Date:** Friday, February 20, 2015 6:56:52 AM  
**Attachments:** [Ching appointment support letter.doc](#)

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Aloha,

Please see the attached letter regarding my support for Mr. Carleton Ching.

Mahalo,

Gary

*Gary Okimoto*

Vice President - Sales & Marketing



**HONOLULU WOOD TREATING**

91-291 Hanua Street / Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Direct: (808) 792-6421 / Facsimile: (808) 682-4436 / Cell: (808) 282-7673

Email: <mailto:gary@hwthawaii.com> | [www.hwthawaii.com](http://www.hwthawaii.com)

-  
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**From:** [Corey Matsuoka](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Dean Uchida](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of Carlton Ching  
**Date:** Sunday, February 22, 2015 4:31:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [150311 GM 514 Individual Confirmation of Carleton Ching.pdf](#)

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Please accept my testimony in support of Mr. Carlton Ching as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Thank you.

Much Aloha,  
Corey Matsuoka, PE, PMP, LEED AP  
Direct Line: 808-356-1270



501 Sumner Street, Suite 620  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
Office Line: 808-531-1308  
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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**State Capitol - Conference Room 229**

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the committee:

I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Carleton Ching as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

The DLNR's Mission Statement is to:

"Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors."

The DLNR is responsible for management of all state owned lands, which is approximately 1.4 million of the total 4 million acres in the state and does not include all of the submerged lands within the State waters. DLNR is also responsible for management of the Conservation District which is comprised of approximately 1.9 million acres or roughly half of the land in the entire state.

These two areas of responsibility illustrate the need to have a responsible, balanced and transparent leadership in this department. As an owner of state lands, the DLNR is tasked with receiving the "highest and best" use of its lands in commercial operations. The DLNR must also weigh what uses could or should be allowed in the Conservation District through the Conservation District Use Application process. The focus here is not on the highest and best use but on protecting and conserving our natural resources.

We need diverse views expressed in managing the States' natural and cultural resources, that is why the Board of Land and Natural Resources make most of the policy decisions for the Department with the Divisions and staff offices left to implement. The Chairperson of the BLNR oversees the proceedings of the Board but only has one of the seven (7) votes on the Board.

Over the last few years, the Chairperson of the DLNR has brought with them a wide range of experiences and personalities: Susumu Ono, William (Bill) Paty, Keith Ahue, Michael Wilson, Tim Johns, Gil Agaran, Peter Young, Laura Thielen and William (Bill) Alia. All brought their own experiences and perspectives in managing the DLNR. They all managed the Department to the best of their abilities and dealt with the issues that came before them in a balanced and objective manner.

I see no difference in the experiences of the past DLNR Chairpersons and those of Mr. Ching. I believe he has the right temperament and intelligence to bring together contrasting

views in seeking out the best decision for the Department. I **strongly encourage** the Senate to confirm Mr. Ching's nomination as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Matsuo". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first name "Corey" is written with a large, looping 'C', and the last name "Matsuo" follows in a similar fluid script.

**From:** [Dean Uchida](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#); [Sen. Brickwood Galuteria](#); [Sen. Laura Thielen](#); [Sen. Les Ihara, Jr.](#); [Sen. Gil Riviere](#); [senrudeman@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senrudeman@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of GM 514 Nomination of Carleton Ching  
**Date:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 6:49:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM 514.pdf](#)

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Senator Thielen and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

Attached is my testimony in support of Mr. Carleton Ching as the Chairperson for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thanks, dean



Dean Uchida, Deputy  
Project Management Group  
501 Sumner Street, Suite 620  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
Direct Line: (808) 628-5836  
Mobile: (808) 282-5753  
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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**State Capitol - Conference Room 229**

**SUBJECT: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION  
AND CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the committee:

My name is Dean Uchida and I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Carleton Ching as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

As a former Division Administrator in DLNR, I am familiar with the type of skills necessary to manage the Department. The person should be a good listener who understands that the consequences of decisions made today will be felt by our future generations. The person also needs to be able to balance the various competing interests in making decisions that fulfill the Departments constitutional and statutory obligations.

Some believe that the Departments sole mission is to preserve and protect the natural resources of the State. While that may be true for the Conservation District and the Natural Area Reserves, the Department is also responsible for "management" of the natural resources which include commercial timber operations, commercial fishing, marinas, industrial parks, commercial and agricultural leases.

Over the last few years, the Chairperson of the DLNR has brought with them a wide range of experiences and personalities: Susumu Ono, William (Bill) Paty, Keith Ahue, Michael Wilson, Tim Johns, Gil Agaran, Peter Young, Laura Thielen and William (Bill) Alia. All brought their own experiences and perspectives in managing the DLNR. They all managed the Department to the best of their abilities and dealt with the issues that came before them in a balanced and objective manner.

I see no difference in the experiences of the past DLNR Chairpersons and those of Mr. Ching. I have known Carleton from his days working at the Hawaii Housing Authority. I believe he has all the characteristics, intelligence and commitment to Hawaii's future to provide the proper leadership at the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I strongly encourage the Senate to confirm Mr. Ching's nomination as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this matter.



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February 23, 2015

**Senate Committee on Water and Land:** Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the committee:

Subject: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT of Mr. Carleton Ching**  
Gubernatorial Nominee to Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Hearing: Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 229

I am respectfully submitting this written testimony in support of Mr. Carleton Ching's nomination to Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I have personally known Mr. Ching in his past role as Vice President for Community and Government Relations with Castle & Cooke Hawaii, Senior Project Manager with SSFM International, and Operations/Project Manager with Molokai Ranch.

He has a wide range and years of experience that include public and community service as well as experience in Hawaii's construction and development industry. I believe that he will be an asset to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I believe he has the right temperament and intelligence to bring together contrasting views in seeking out the best decision for the Department. I **strongly encourage** the Senate to confirm Mr. Ching's nomination as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

SSFM INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Michael P. Matsumoto, P.E., FACEC  
President/CEO

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov](mailto:amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 09, 2015 10:43:04 AM  
**Attachments:** [GM514\\_LNR\\_03-11-15\\_WTL.pdf](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/9/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

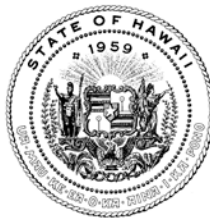
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carty S. Chang	DLNR	Support	Yes

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of the  
CARTY S. CHANG  
Interim Chairperson**

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

**Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
10:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE No. 514 -  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message No. 514 on the appointment of Mr. Carleton Ching to serve as the Chairperson of the Department for a term to expire December 31, 2018.

The mission of the Department is to "Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors." The question at hand is, "Can an individual with a development background support and enact this mission?"

The Department believes this is the wrong question, one that fails to comprehend the broad range of responsibilities inherent in the position of the Chairperson. The Chairperson of the Department is a high level administrative position, requiring a myriad skill set. As the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Commission on Water Resource Management, the incumbent is responsible for administering their respective laws and policy on their behalf. As the Chairperson of the Department, the incumbent needs the ability to work within a department with over 900 positions and 10 divisions, representing diverse issues and interests. This requires a willingness to seek input, to collaborate, to hear diverse points of view and to think beyond the obvious to see solutions in the best interest of the State. The Department feels that Mr. Ching has the skill set to lead and administer a large and diverse organization such as the Department, one with a wide

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**DANIEL S. QUINN**  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
ACTING 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

variety of highly skilled employees willing and able to move issues forward to protect our natural, cultural, and historic resources.

Mr. Ching was born and raised in Hawaii, graduated from Kaimuki High School, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Boise State University. We believe his previous work experience provides a sound foundation of management, financial analysis, land/facility asset management and varying degrees of land stewardship that transitions to many areas within the Department. While the Department has a broader mission and purpose, Mr. Ching's past work history has shown that he has the willingness to listen, and understand policy and process, and to work with people who have different interests in seeking to resolve complex issues. We believe that given the opportunity he will do the same at the Department.

As to whether Mr. Ching has the passion for this kind of work, his core beliefs are grounded by his `ohana, friends and mentors who have provided him guidance and help set his personal foundation; not by one specific employer, or group, or organization that provided varied perspectives and purposes. His commitment to serve is genuine; our precious land and natural resources are for our families, our future, in honor and respect of our host culture, for all of Hawaii.

The Department believes that Mr. Ching can support and enact the mission of the Department, therefore, respectfully requests this Committee's favorable consideration for Mr. Carleton Ching as its next Chairperson.

**From:** [Stephanie H. Tanaka](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** WTL: Testimony for GM 514 (Carleton Ching)  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 25, 2015 10:37:44 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[C. Ching Letter in Support.pdf](#)

---

Attached is testimony for GM 514 for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, Carleton Ching.

Testifier: Benjamin Kudo  
Position: Support  
Committee Hearing: WTL  
Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.

Thank you.

Stephanie H. Tanaka  
Secretary to Benjamin A. Kudo



First Hawaiian Center, Suite 1400  
999 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Telephone No. (808) 539-0816  
Facsimile No. (808) 533-4945  
E-mail: [stanaka@awlaw.com](mailto:stanaka@awlaw.com)  
Website: [www.ashfordwriston.com](http://www.ashfordwriston.com)

***\*\*Please note our new address effective 10/14/2014: First Hawaiian Center, Suite 1400, 999 Bishop Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813***

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ASHFORD + WRISTON  
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP LLP

BENJAMIN A. KUDO  
Telephone: (808) 539-0400  
Fax: (808) 533-4945  
[bkudo@awlaw.com](mailto:bkudo@awlaw.com)

February 25, 2015

To: The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
The Honorable Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

From: Benjamin A. Kudo  
Ashford & Wriston  
999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM-514 – Consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, CARLETON CHING - **SUPPORT**.  
Hearing date: Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
Hearing time: 10:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee:

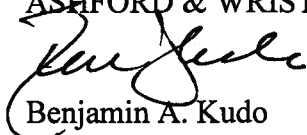
I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and the support of your Committee members on the appointment of Mr. Carleton Ching as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Carleton for over twenty years. He has always been a considerate and honest person. He will carry out his responsibilities to take care of our state's resources and fulfill the obligations of the public trust.

Based on the foregoing, I recommend with no reservation your favorable consideration of Mr. Carleton Ching for the aforementioned position. He is a person who will prove to be worthy of your support.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully urge your Committee's support to confirm his nomination.

Very truly yours,

ASHFORD & WRISTON



Benjamin A. Kudo

MAILING ADDRESS  
Post Office Box 131 / Honolulu, HI 96810

STREET ADDRESS  
First Hawaiian Center / 999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400 / Honolulu, HI 96813  
T 808.539.0400 / F 808.533.4945 / E [atty@awlaw.com](mailto:atty@awlaw.com) / [www.ashfordwriston.com](http://www.ashfordwriston.com)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [shroehrig@bsds.com](mailto:shroehrig@bsds.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:52:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [S.ROEHRIG.SUPPORT.TESTIMONY.C.CHING.DLNR.pdf](#)

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanley H. Roehrig	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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**BICKERTON ■ DANG**  
**A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP**

March 4, 2015

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chairperson  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania  
Honolulu, Hawaii

RE: CARLETON CHING

Consideration and Confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of  
Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee

Dear Chairperson Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and Committee Members:

My name is Stanley H. Roehrig. I am a board member for the Board of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawaii. I was confirmed by the Senate of the State of Hawaii at the 2014 legislative session. I have served on the board now for almost eight months.

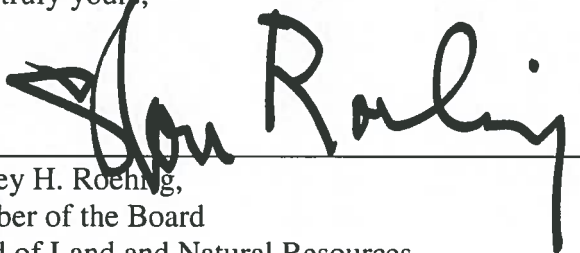
I support Carleton Ching as Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. This may come as a surprise to my friends and former legislative colleagues. I have had a long career as an attorney in the State of Hawaii involved in litigation against the Big Five plantations starting in the early 1960s on behalf of Native Hawaiian claimants against the plantations for taking their land by adverse possession, and other less than laudatory means. When we fast forward from the 1960s to 2015, we discover that all the plantations on the Big Island are gone.

Over the passage of time the significance of labels placed on leaders in our community we discover to be quite fluid. People change and their passions for changing society change as well. Carleton Ching wants to change the way the Department of Land and Natural Resources functions. I think that is a good idea. I think he will make an excellent leader of the board. I have spoken to him at length about his passion for leaving something for our grandchildren who will benefit from the legacy of hard work by this department. Like Carleton Ching, my wife and I have a Chinese/Hawaiian grandchild. Like Carleton's granddaughter, hopefully our grandson Kawelo will benefit from our hard work.

As we go through life, the skills we develop in one context benefit our efforts in all the rest that come thereafter. The Department of Land and Natural Resources can be a strong beneficiary of Carleton's expertise in public housing. We can all see the homeless people along the sidewalks as we drive to and from the Honolulu International Airport. In the end, society will judge us not by how well we take care of top business leaders of Hawaii, but rather by how we provide care and support for those in our society who don't have a roof over their heads. It is a pressing problem. It comes before the Land Board frequently as the City of Honolulu, and all Hawaii counties wrestle with this intractable problem.

Carleton Ching has a reputation as being a consensus builder who knows how to make hard decisions when it is time to act. Those of you who have served on the Board of Land and Natural Resources, including Madam Chairman, know this is a difficult task. We have a good board; we are there to help. We need a Chairman who can put his foot down when necessary to make the hard decisions that are constantly coming before the board in the next four years. I think Carleton Ching is that man. I urge support of his confirmation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan Roehrig". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Stanley H. Roehrig,  
Member of the Board  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
*Of Counsel*  
*BICKERTON DANG LLLP*

*SHR/jmm*

**BICKERTON ■ DANG**

**A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP**

Topa Financial Center • Fort Street Tower • 745 Fort Street, Suite 801 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Phone: 808.599.3811 Fax: 808.694.3090 Web: [www.BSDS.com](http://www.BSDS.com)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [south246@gmail.com](mailto:south246@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Friday, March 06, 2015 11:38:22 AM

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/6/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
roger simonot	Business	Support	No

Comments: We fully support the appointment of Mr. Ching. Lets have a leader who can see the bigger picture in working with the public and business. Mr. Ching would be a great asset to the DLNR.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

AND BY RODERICK K. BECKER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
ON  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 514

March 11, 2015  
10:00 A.M.

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

We support the confirmation of Carlton Ching to the position of Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Governor Ige's administration is committed to addressing the many issues facing our state in a direct and forthright manner. We will strive to do the right thing, the right way to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable economy to support our kupuna, ourselves, and our children.

Mr. Ching is an integral part of a team that is committed to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner. Therefore, we support his confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**From:** [Bianca Martin](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony Submission: Nomination of Carlton Ching for Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 03, 2015 8:59:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [Written Testimony Form\\_MY.rtf](#)

---

Good Morning,

Attached please find Michael Yee's testimony form in support of Carlton Ching.

Thank you,  
Bianca M.

--

Bianca Martin  
EnviroServices & Training Center, LLC.  
505 Ward Avenue, Suite 202, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Phone: (808) 839-7222 x223 Fax: (808) 839-4455  
[www.gotoetc.com](http://www.gotoetc.com)



Michael Yee  
Managing Principal  
505 Ward Avenue, Suite 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

March 3, 2015

The Honorable Laura Thielen, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Written Testimony in Support of GM 514  
Confirmation of Carleton Ching's Nomination as Chairperson  
Of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Dear Chair Thielen and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I am writing in support of Carleton Ching's nomination as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I urge your support and confirmation of Carleton's nomination.

Sincerely,

*Michael Yee*

Audrey Hidano  
1620 Hau Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
February 20, 2015

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol - Conference Room 229

**RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CARLETON CHING**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the committee:

My name is Audrey Hidano, Office Manager for Hidano Construction, Inc. and I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Carleton Ching as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

I've known Mr. Ching for about 20 years while serving in a number of capacity positions wearing various "hats" in our industry. That being said, I support his qualifications to lead the Department as he is responsible, has a balanced and transparent leadership style and is capable of still protecting and conserving our State's natural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this matter.

**From:** [Jim Lyon](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Carlton Ching, DLNR Director Support email  
**Date:** Monday, March 02, 2015 4:42:46 PM

---

Aloha,

We support Carleton's appointment to DLNR Director;  
He is the right person at the right time for Hawaii.

DLNR receives less than 1% of the annual State budget;  
Carleton understands how to set budgets and ask for resources.

DLNR needs a manager versed in extremely wide areas of expertise;  
Carleton's career in property management & government affairs is exactly what we need.

Having heard him speak to a group of 20;  
You can never question his sincerity to do what is best for each community.

Mahalo,

**Jim Lyon, P.E., LEED AP, CFM**





**From:** [Benjamin M. Matsubara](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM514 - Letter of Support of the Confirmation of Nominee Carlton Ching  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 04, 2015 2:26:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [03-04-2015 \(2\).pdf](#)

---

Dear Chair Thielen and Members

Please find attached my written testimony in support of the Confirmation of Carlton Ching. Thank you.

Benjamin M. Matsubara, Esq.  
Matsubara - Kotake  
888 Mililani Street, 8th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Telephone: (808) 526-9566  
Fax: (808) 538-3840  
[bmatsubara@m-klawyers.com](mailto:bmatsubara@m-klawyers.com)

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Thank you.

BENJAMIN M. MATSUBARA  
MERVYN M. KOTAKE  
CURTIS T. TABATA  
WYETH M. MATSUBARA  
KOJI KATO

## MATSUBARA ▪ KOTAKE

Attorneys At Law  
A Law Corporation  
CHARLES R. KENDALL BUILDING  
888 MILILANI STREET, EIGHTH FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
E-MAIL: [bmatsubara@m-klawyers.com](mailto:bmatsubara@m-klawyers.com)

TELEPHONE  
(808) 526-9566

FACSIMILE  
(808) 538-3840

March 4, 2015

Chair Laura Thielen, Vice-Chair  
Brickwood Galuteria, and  
Members of the Water and Land  
Committee  
State Capital  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814

Re: GM514 - Letter in Support of the Confirmation of Nominee, Carlton Ching, To  
Serve as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Hearing: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., Conf. Room 229

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice-Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting this written testimony in support of Carlton Ching, to serve as Chairperson of the Department of land and natural Resources.

The Chairmanship of such a large Department of the State involves such a wide range of knowledge that it is impossible to assume that any individual, initially, can possess expertise in all areas of responsibility.

What you look for initially is basic intelligence, good character, integrity, compassion and the ability to work with people.

I believe Carlton possesses all of the foregoing qualities that will enhance his ability to direct and manage the Department. This is coupled with his ability to retain an open mind and the willingness to listen to all points of view.

Carlton's desire to preserve and protect our resources for future generations in a collaborative manner will serve him well in fulfilling his responsibilities as Department Chair.

Carlton possesses all the qualities to be the Director of a diverse and complex Department and I urge you to confirm him.

Chair Laura Thielen, Vice-Chair  
Brickwood Galuteria, and  
Members of the Water and Land  
Committee

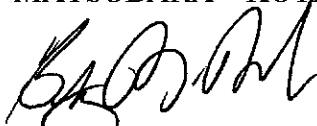
March 4, 2015

Page Two (2)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my views.

Very truly yours,

MATSUBARA – KOTAKE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. M. Matsubara', written over the printed name.

Benjamin M. Matsubara

**From:** [Curtis Tabata](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony in Support of GM 514; Confirmation of Carleton Ching  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 04, 2015 2:26:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [03-04-2015.pdf](#)

---

My written testimony is attached hereto. Thank you.

Curtis T. Tabata  
Matsubara - Kotake  
A Law Corporation  
888 Mililani Street, Eighth Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Telephone: (808) 526-9566  
Mobile: (808) 291-3565  
Facsimile: (808) 538-3840

Curtis T. Tabata  
98-111 Naalii Place  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

March 4, 2015

The Honorable Laura Thielen, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Written Testimony in Support of GM 514  
Confirmation of Carleton Ching's Nomination as Chairperson  
Of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Dear Chair Thielen and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I am writing in support of Carleton Ching's nomination as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known Carleton for approximately ten years while serving as one of the attorneys representing Castle & Cooke. Carleton's many qualifications have been discussed and acknowledged. There is no question that Carleton has the talent and intelligence to serve in the intended capacity.

He has, however, been criticized for having a development background. I believe the question is one of integrity. To put it succinctly, if Carleton says that he will uphold the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, then he will. I have always known Carleton to be an honest and honorable man.

I urge your support and confirmation of Carleton's nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CT', written over a horizontal line.

Curtis T. Tabata

**From:** [Dickson Lee](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Date:** Thursday, March 05, 2015 11:15:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [150304 Re Carleton Ching- Conf DLNR Ch Appt.pdf](#)

---

Senator Thielen and Members of the Committee on Land and Water:

Attached is a copy of a letter in support of the appointment and confirmation of Carleton Ching as the next Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Dickson C.H. Lee  
Takushi Wong Lee & Yee - ALC  
841 Bishop Street, Suite 1540  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel. No. (808) 543-9803; FAX (808) 791-0063  
E-mail: [lee@twly.org](mailto:lee@twly.org)

March 4, 2015

Senator Laura Thielen  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Letter in Support of the Governor's Appointment and Senate's Confirmation of  
Carleton Ching as Chair of Department of Land and Natural Resources

Time and Date of Hearing: 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Honorable Senator Laura Thielen and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

This letter is in support of the appointment and confirmation of Carleton Ching, as the next Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Carleton on a professional basis for almost 35 years.

His life and work experiences make him highly qualified to be the next Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Carleton grew up in Kaimuki. After graduating from Kaimuki High School, he went to Boise State University where he played football. He returned home to Hawaii to start a family and a career in housing.

Carleton began his career at the Hawaii Housing Authority (which is now known as the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, a public body and a body corporate and politic of the State of Hawaii) where he was involved with developing affordable housing opportunities for the people of Hawaii. Significantly, while at HHA, he worked with the community in preserving the agricultural and rural nature of Waiahole Valley. In the private sector, he continued to be involved with the development of affordable rental and homeownership opportunities for the people of Hawaii. In his current position at Castle & Cooke, he has had to be mindful of the public interest when seeking approvals of various administrative agencies and to present compromise positions which made sense and addressed the public's interest. Little is known, including, perhaps, by those who oppose his appointment, that while he has been at Castle & Cooke, he has served as a public spirited volunteer member of the boards of several nonprofit organizations. Most recently, he served as president of a nonprofit housing corporation which developed over 1,000 dwelling units that provide affordable rental housing opportunities for persons and families of very low and low incomes.

As Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Carleton would be taking an oath of office to carry out the public interest and trust and, among other responsibilities, to be a steward of State lands. No one has questioned his fairness and integrity.

Very truly yours,



DICKSON C.H. LEE

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [clewis@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:clewis@hawaiiantel.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 02, 2015 2:30:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [OTC-GM 514 - Carleton Ching.pdf](#)

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/2/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Coon	Ocean Tourism Coalition	Support	No

Comments: Please deliver on behalf of Jim Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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**COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 11, 2015

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 229

James E. Coon Speaking **in Support of**  
Carleton Ching [GM 514](#)

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, CARLETON CHING, for a term to expire 12-31-2018

Aloha Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition. The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. Most of these are family businesses which are locally owned and operated. Many of them have been in business for several decades and are an important and valued part of their respective communities.

We depend on the DLNR to both protect and preserve our natural resources and to effectively manage these resources. We support the nomination of Carleton Ching to be the next Chair of DLNR with a term expiring 12-31-2018. It is our opinion that Mr. Ching has the experience to manage this complex agency.

We humbly ask you to favorably consider Mr. Carleton Ching's nomination as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President

[Captcoon@gmail.com](mailto:Captcoon@gmail.com)

808-870-9115

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [m-awaya@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:m-awaya@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:46:37 PM  
**Attachments:** [C Ching 02-19-2015.pdf](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/3/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marvin Awaya	Pacific Housing Assistance Corp,	Support	No

**Comments:**

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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## **PACIFIC HOUSING ASSISTANCE CORPORATION**

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888 IWILEI ROAD • SUITE 200 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • (808) 523-5681

March 3, 2015

To: The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair and  
Members of the Hawaii State Senate Committee on Water and Land

From: Marvin B. Awaya, Executive Director  
Pacific Housing Assistance Corporation

Hearing: March 11, 2015; 10:00 AM

Subject: GM 514 GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE CARLETON CHING AS THE  
CHAIRPERSON TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Dear Chair Thielen and Members:

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Mr. Carleton Ching as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

My name is Marvin Awaya and I serve as the Executive Director the Pacific Housing Assistance Corporation, a Hawaii 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation that was established in 1980. We are the developer and owner of a number of affordable rental housing projects. We have had the privilege of having Carleton serve as a director and officer of the corporation since 2005 and most recently as President/Chair of Pacific Housing.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Carleton since his first stint in government service at the Hawaii Housing Authority (HHA). One of the responsibilities he had while serving at HHA was as the lead liaison between HHA and the Waiahole-Waikane community. This relationship was quite contentious but he was able to finally get leases for the farming community and sort through conflicting water issues between the farmers and DLNR and the Department of Agriculture through listening and achieving all that was desired. He has a unique personality and character that makes people feel comfortable and trusting and is able to bring people together to achieve success.

Behind his casual and playful demeanor lies a very intelligent man with sharp analytical skills balanced with abstract reasoning and an uncanny ability to adapt to different situations. People who don't know him don't take him seriously and underestimate him. He is a quick study and is studious. I believe he purposely projects an air of casualness to make them feel at ease and not intimidate them because of his intellect or because of his immense size. At HHA he was the "gentle giant" who was a sucker for his children

and even more so now that he a grandfather and empathizes with people, especially the underdog. His size served him well as a successful offensive lineman at Boise State and this taught him the importance of team building and team work.

A lot has been said that he is unqualified to be the Chairperson of DLNR, that he doesn't know the work of the entire department, but who does? The department is filled with experienced, qualified, and dedicated employees who diligently go about their work and accomplish their program goals. The Chair/Director of DLNR is not expected to do the professional work of the Department's employees but is appointed to provide leadership so that they can do their jobs. What he doesn't know he'll ask the qualified department specialists and consultants. His sharp analytical skills and adaptability will serve him well in this regard.

As Chair of the Board and Director of the department Mr. Ching is expected to provide leadership and manage the budget and human resources provided. Through this leadership and management the DLNR will be able to effectively fulfill their constitutional and statutory mandate.

Also because of these dual roles he is expected to tread a fine line between making policy making and executing it. As President and Chair of the Board of Directors I have observed that he is very careful to not micro manage the staff and is keenly aware of the difference between creating policy and executing it.

During this era of limited budgets (and sometimes shrinking operating budgets) having a business background and a degree in business administration and his extensive positions in the private sector is a positive qualification. He understands budgets, balance sheets and has a critical eye to measurable goals and objectives and how it affects finances. He will provide a valuable perspective to the DLNR that was provided by predecessors, like Bill Paty and Tim Johns. He is a proven leader and has contributed much to the community. In this regard Carleton is very qualified. Carleton "will stand where he sits". As the leader of DLNR I believe he will be effective and loyal to the department's constitutional and statutory mission.

**From:** [Emily Kumpe](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Mark Ito](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony in Support of GM 514  
**Date:** Monday, March 02, 2015 11:56:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [Written Testimony in Support of GM 514.pdf](#)

---

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached you will find a written testimony from Mark F. Ito in support of Carleton Ching or GM 514.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact Emily Kumpe by telephone or email noted below.

Emily Kumpe



Topa Financial Center • 745 Fort Street, Suite 1500 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Direct:** (808) 526-4451 • **Fax:** (808) 523-6030 • **Email:** [EKumpe@schlackito.com](mailto:EKumpe@schlackito.com) • **Website:** [www.schlackito.com](http://www.schlackito.com)

This e-mail is confidential and may be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately delete this e-mail and notify the sender by telephone or reply e-mail. Dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail is prohibited. Thank you.

Mark F. Ito  
1576 Ulupuni Street  
Kailua, HI 96734

March 2, 2015

The Honorable Laura Thielen, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Written Testimony in Support of GM 514  
Confirmation of Carleton Ching's Nomination as Chairperson  
Of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

Dear Chair Thielen and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:


I am writing in support of Carleton Ching's nomination as Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I have known and worked with Carleton for over 20 years. He is a straight shooter, humble and respectful. He grew up in Hawaii and is keenly aware of island issues and our precious, limited land and natural resources. I am confident he will be sensitive to the various perspectives of all members of our community.

I urge your support and confirmation of Carleton's nomination.

Sincerely,

Very truly yours



Mark F. Ito

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jon@yamaguchiinc.com](mailto:jon@yamaguchiinc.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 25, 2015 1:38:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [Carleton Ching Recomendation Letter- 2015.pdf](#)

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon F. Yamaguchi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Yamaguchi &  
Yamaguchi, Inc.**  
Real Estate Appraisal &  
Consulting Services

February 25, 2015

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
The Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
Committee on Water and Land

Re: NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, March 11, 2015  
TIME: 10:00 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

The Honorable Chair Thielen:

I am writing this letter in favor of the appointment of Mr. Carleton Ching for the position of the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have been an independent businessman in the State of Hawaii for over 40 years as a professional, neutral, third party appraiser and arbitrator. I have followed Carleton's career and observed him as a student-athlete at Kaimuki High School and Boise State University, and as a businessman in various related real estate entities over 35 years.

Carleton is an honest, intelligent and compassionate person who sees the *whole picture of the greater good for everyone in the State of Hawaii*. I have observed this gentle giant of a man listen to all sides of the controversy, mediate and direct decision making independent of political pressure. He is a local boy who loves the outdoors and thinks often of what is best not only for his children but for all of Hawaii's youth. He has told me many times, "We must look at what we are leaving for our next generation, not what is only good for special interest groups." While working for various companies in his career he always looked at both sides of the coin and after thoroughly studying the facts, formed his own opinion and stood by it.

His tenacious work ethic and experience of the land use process is invaluable and working with all types of people is definitely a plus. The State of Hawaii needs a leader that sees the forest and not only the trees.

The people of Hawaii are fortunate to have such a qualified individual. Carleton Ching will be an asset to the Governor's Administration and I highly recommend his appointment to the position of Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon F. Yamaguchi



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [nshiroma@ychawaii.com](mailto:nshiroma@ychawaii.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Thursday, March 05, 2015 4:20:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter fr DTY to Sen Thielen and Galuteria re in support Carleton Ching for DLNR Chair \[signed\] \(GM 514\) \(00284699\).pdf](#)

---

### **GM514**

Submitted on: 3/5/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Yamamoto	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

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March 5, 2015

Writer's Direct Dial: (808) 540-4501  
Writer's Email: [dyamamoto@ychawaii.com](mailto:dyamamoto@ychawaii.com)

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Water and Land Committee  
Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **GM 514 – CARLETON CHING, Gubernatorial Nominee, to serve as  
Chairperson for the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2015, at 10:00am**

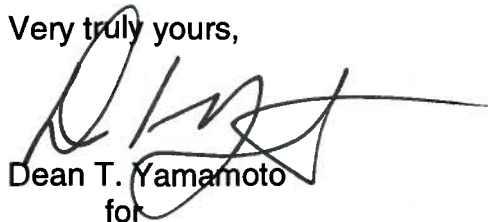
Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to provide testimony before the Senate Committee on Water and Land in strong support of the nomination and confirmation of Carleton Ching as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources ("DLNR"). I am an attorney in private practice and my practice includes the representation of individuals and companies who work with the DLNR and who appear before the Board of Land and Natural Resources on matters relating to land, conservation districts, water and permitting.

I have known Mr. Ching for close to 30 years, meeting him first in the late 1980s when he worked to develop affordable housing for Hawaii residents while at the Hawaii Housing Authority. More recently, I have worked extensively with Mr. Ching on various renewable clean energy projects that benefit our state. Mr. Ching has extensive experience working with land and environmental issues, and I have found him to be thoughtful, fair and compassionate. Moreover, Mr. Ching's reputation for maintaining the highest degree of honesty, integrity and ethics is essential for one who will be entrusted to administer our state's public lands.

For the foregoing reasons and more, I urge this Committee to confirm Mr. Ching's appointment as Chairperson of the DLNR.

Very truly yours,



Dean T. Yamamoto  
for

**YAMAMOTO CALIBOSO**  
A Limited Liability Law Company

**From:** [Jodi Yamamoto](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Letter in Support of Carleton Ching for DLNR Chair (GM 514)  
**Date:** Monday, March 09, 2015 11:15:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter fr JSY to Sen. Thielen and Galuteria in Support of Carleton Ching for DLNR Chair \(GM 514\) \(00285059\).pdf](#)

---

Hello. Please see the attached letter in support of the nomination of Carleton Ching for DLNR Chair. If you could confirm receipt of the letter, I would appreciate it.  
Thanks, Jodi.

**Jodi Shin Yamamoto**

**Yamamoto Caliboso**  
**A Limited Liability Law Company**  
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2100  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
*Main:* (808) 540-4500  
*Direct:* (808) 540-4503  
*Fax:* (808) 540-4530  
*Email:* [jyamamoto@ychawaii.com](mailto:jyamamoto@ychawaii.com)  
*Website:* [www.ychawaii.com](http://www.ychawaii.com)

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March 9, 2015

Writer's Direct Dial: (808) 540-4503  
Writer's Email: [jyamamoto@ychawaii.com](mailto:jyamamoto@ychawaii.com)

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Water and Land Committee  
Conference Room 229  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **GM 514 – CARLETON CHING, Gubernatorial Nominee, to serve as  
Chairperson for the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2015, at 10:00am**

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony before the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination and confirmation of Carleton Ching to serve as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources ("DLNR"). As an attorney in private practice, I have known Mr. Ching for over 10 years. In working with Mr. Ching, I have always known him to be well-reasoned, collaborative and solution-oriented.

Born and raised in Hawaii, Mr. Ching is deeply rooted in the community and truly cares about Hawaii and the proper stewarding of Hawaii's natural resources. Mr. Ching is fair and balanced, having worked for over 35 years managing and stewarding land in both the private and public sectors. He has a strong moral core that will be critical to balancing the needs of the department and the State.

For these reasons, I believe that the State would be fortunate to have Mr. Ching serve as the Chairperson of DLNR and wholeheartedly support his nomination and confirmation.

Very truly yours,



Jodi S. Yamamoto  
for

**YAMAMOTO CALIBOSO**  
A Limited Liability Law Company

**From:** [Walter Kelly](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony re: Hearing WTL 03-11-15, Ching  
**Date:** Sunday, March 08, 2015 1:42:24 PM

---

Protect Keopuka Ohana  
P.O. Box 166  
Honaunau, Hawaii 96726

Testimony of Jim Medeiros Sr., President of Protect Keopuka Ohana, to the

[COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND](#)

Senator Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

Re: GM 514

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, CARLETON CHING, for a term to expire 12-31-2018.

Hearing to be held:

DATE:

Wednesday, March 11, 2015e

TIME:

10:00 AM

PLACE:

Conference Room 229

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Members of Protect Keopuka Ohana, a coalition of native Hawaiian practitioners and environmental advocates, firmly reject the nomination of Carlton Ching as Chairman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mr. Ching's career in building and development does not in itself disqualify him.

Everyone recognizes that development will occur. But how development occurs, and the extent to which it complies with the law and the spirit of our Hawaiian culture, are the keys to our success as a people.

Accepting cultural destruction as a necessary by-product of development degrades our humanity and weakens our spirit.

Mr. Ching's track record shows clearly that he is in favor of unbridled development of both private and state lands. In the past, he has been openly hostile to the State Historic Preservation Division itself.

As a key player with the Land Use Research Foundation from 2006 to 2008, Ching worked to gut and minimize the state Land Use Commission.

Ching supported the establishment of a Public Lands Development Corporation, a proposal that was soundly rejected by the citizens of this state. The PLDC would have traded away public trust resources, privatized state recreational facilities and leased coastal lands to private parties in exchange for a few pieces of silver.

Governor Ige's nomination of Ching reflects either an incredible lack of historical perspective regarding the mission of DLNR, or a well-planned assault on public trust resources, the state

land use law, the Native Hawaiian culture and the will of the people. Will Governor Ige be remembered as the servant of the big money development community, of the powerful special interests who have spent years fighting and subverting the spirit and intent of the DLNR, SHPD, and the implementation of HRS 6E? He will, if Carlton Ching becomes the next Chairperson of DLNR. Governor Ige has quickly arrived at his own "Abercrombie Moment." Under the last two DLNR Chairpersons, Senator Thielen and William Aila, great strides were made in the State Historic Preservation process, in staffing, and in the agency's response to the federal government's demand for improvement. All these gains were achieved even with minimal funding.

Governor Ige and the legislature would do well to fund SHPD to levels that would facilitate landowners' moving through the process. The stronger the Division, the faster reviews would move and the more certain citizens would be of the process. But members of the Land Use Research Foundation, building industry proponents like Ching, and even the legislature itself at times, have all worked to starve the division of funds and undermine its fundamentally important work.

It's time for a change of perspective about the role of preservation in the development process. The good people who work for DLNR, for SHPD, who dedicate their lives to this work with little thanks, deserve a lot better than Carlton Ching.

Mahalo,

Jim Medeiros Sr.  
President, Protect Keopuka Ohana





IMANAKA ASATO

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

February 23, 2015

Topa Financial Center  
Fort Street Tower  
745 Fort Street Mall  
17th Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

T: 808.521.9500  
F: 808.541.9050

Chair Laura Thielen,  
Vice-Chair Brickwood Galuteria,  
And Members of the Water and Land Committee  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Re: GM514 - Letter in Support of the Confirmation of Nominee,  
**Carleton Ching**, To Serve As Chairperson of the Department of Land  
And Natural Resources

Hearing: **Wed., March 11, 2015 @ 10:00 AM**, Conf. Rm. 229

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this letter in **strong support** of the nomination of **Carleton Ching** to serve as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I have known Mr. Ching for over thirty years. He previously served in the Hawaii Housing Authority as a young professional, and worked his way up professionally to become a Vice President at Castle and Cooke Hawaii.

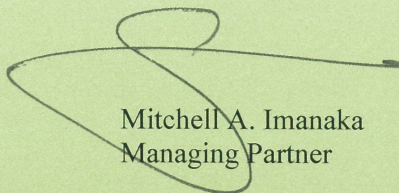
Mr. Ching is a person of integrity. He brings to the table a wealth of knowledge and experience in land matters, and the people of Hawaii will be well served if he is chosen as Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Having lived here all of his life, and with numerous family and friends in Hawaii, Mr. Ching is deeply committed to upholding the mission and purpose of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, as he has a vested interest in assuring the preservation of our *aina* for future generations.

I am pleased to submit this letter in **support of Carleton Ching's** nomination and stand ready to answer any questions should they arise.

With Aloha,

IMANAKA ASATO LLLC



Mitchell A. Imanaka  
Managing Partner

MAI:ssk

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [vie@maui.net](mailto:vie@maui.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Friday, March 06, 2015 1:12:49 PM

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/6/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raymond J Hutaff	Valley Isle Excursions, Inc	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I believe that CARLETON CHING is the perfect person to Chair the DNLR. I know he has the management skills and understands the needs of our community, cultural resources, and our valued visitors to be a benefit to all concerned. Please approve his appointment and let that appointment stand.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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## Wai'oli Research Foundation Corp

245 Lumahai Place, Honolulu, HI 96825

[waiolifoundation@gmail.com](mailto:waiolifoundation@gmail.com)

(808) 223-2398

RECEIVED  
MAR 09 2015

March 5, 2015

Chair Laura H. Thielen, Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria,  
and members of the Water and Land Committee  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 231  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Re: GM514 - **Letter in Support** of the Confirmation of Nominee, Carleton  
Ching. To Serve as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Hearing: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 10:00am, Conference Room 229

Good morning Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Buzz Hong and I am retired from the Honolulu Police Department and currently on the Advisory Board of Pasha Hawaii Shipping Lines and Waioli Research Foundation.

I am here this morning to **testify in support** of Carleton Ching's nomination as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

My acquaintance with Carlton goes back to his athletic endeavors at Kaimuki High School. As an athlete, Carlton was sometimes referred to as the "Gentle Giant", never overbearing, always kind, considerate of others, and extremely polite.

Upon returning from college like most graduates, he entered the local workforce and eventually landed a job in the private sector with Castle and Cooke. I applaud Carlton's affiliation with Castle and Cooke, one of the most responsible developers in the history of Hawaii because of their commitment to responsible and sensible development.

Today this "Gentle Giant" has made a major career decision to leave a very secure position in the private sector and accept a reduce rate of compensation to enter the public sector and support the purpose and mission of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

I am confident of Carleton's ability to serve the people of Hawaii fairly and impartially in this capacity.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

William "Buzz" Hong

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jbickel15@yahoo.com](mailto:jbickel15@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 1:18:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [ADA 15 C Ching DLNR.docx](#)

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bickel	Americans for Democratic Action Hawaii	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

John Bickel, President  
Chuck Huxel, Vice-President  
Fritz Fritschel, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Juliet Begley  
Josh Frost  
Brien Hallett

Jan Lubin  
Stephen O'Harrow  
Jim Olson

George Simson  
Bart Dame (Alt)  
Marsha Schweitzer (Alt)

MAILING ADDRESS

PO. Box 23404  
Honolulu  
Hawai'i 96823

March 1, 2015

Chair Senator Laura Thielen and WTL Committee Members

Re: Carleton Ching Nomination as Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)

Testimony in Opposition

Hearing on March 11, 2015

Dear Senator Thielen and Members of the Committee:

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

With regret and with respect, we oppose the nomination of Mr. Ching to head DLNR. We understand that he is a good man and has a good heart.

Unfortunately this is not enough for a person who is asked to head the agency whose mission is to "enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural, and historic resources held in public trust."

We need someone with a record of defending the public lands and other public resources, not someone who has long served the Land Use Research Foundation and the Building Industry Association. Their missions have been to weaken protections for public land and promote their commercial use.

Mr. Ching's move from Castle and Cooke to DLNR raises serious ethical questions. He may be a good man, and he might render valuable service to the public in another capacity, but we seriously doubt he is the best person for this position.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel  
President

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dkekaualua@yahoo.com](mailto:dkekaualua@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 22, 2015 8:38:14 AM

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
debra kekaualua	Atooi	Oppose	No

Comments: JUST say NO to DLNR leave Aila in that seat because Aila has no clue how to help DHHL

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jerrod\\_kowalski@yahoo.com](mailto:jerrod_kowalski@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, February 23, 2015 6:36:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [GM514.doc](#)

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerrold Kowalski	Aqua Lung Pacific	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**Re: Oppose SB 470**

- I am Jerrod Kowalski and I am the General Manager for Aqua Lung Pacific in Aiea.
- **I strongly oppose** Carleton Ching's nomination to chair DLNR.
  - He is not qualified for the job.
  - He has too many conflicts of interest to hold the position.
  - His confirmation will severely compromise the state of Hawaii.

Thank you,

Jerrod Kowalski  
General Manager  
Aqua Lung Pacific  
808-485-0100

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [beamiracle@acrosage.org](mailto:beamiracle@acrosage.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 22, 2015 4:37:22 AM

---

**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Marantz	Banyan Tree Farm	Oppose	No

Comments: He his unqualified and there is a conflict of interest

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/5/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Paul	Big Island Native Plant Society	Oppose	No

Comments: The nomination to appoint Charleton Ching as Chair of the DLNR by Governor Ige is highly inappropriate. The Chair of the DLNR needs to have experience in natural resources protection and care, which Mr. Ching does not possess. Rather Mr. Ching has a history of working for organizations that oppose natural resource protection. This nomination is a bad precedent for our new governor.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Citizens United for Lanai	Citizens United for Lana'i	Oppose	No

Comments: Mr. Ching is completely unqualified to lead the State's agency most responsible for protecting our natural resources. He has neither the professional experience nor the volunteer participation in most of DLNR's mission-ordered work. His leadership with BIA and LURF will call many of his decisions into question for a potential conflict of interest. Surely, in this State, we can find a better qualified leader for DLNR.

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If the life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness, what happens when all the land is developed?

Paula Ress (R)  
Coldwell Banker Pacific Properties  
970 N. Kalaheo C-215  
Kailua, HI 96734  
808-384-9439

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryna Storch	Commercial Farmer	Oppose	No

Comments: Both the public trust doctrine and local businesses depend on sound natural resource management (such as tourism & sustainable ag) . We need an administrator capable of protecting our natural resources. Chings background is in exploitation and trying to change or circumvent laws for shortsighted unsustainable development models for largely offshore profits. Under his leadership much that makes Hawaii unique and precious would be destroyed. Including positive and mutually beneficial relationships between conservation and commercial enterprise (which is the future of growth economics). Please nominate someone who has a background in protecting the environment. There are many to choose from who wont cause such polarity and scandal as Ching. Moreover consider how costly it would be to clean up after the litigation Ching is very likely incur. The people are awake and watching every move, we want someone trustworthy to care for our public trust assets.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sam puleyasi	democratic party	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Wingate	Earth Lovers of Puna	Oppose	No

Comments: He is unqualified and has a conflict of interest The land in Hawaii needs more protection from development

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerri Patton	FoL Book Club	Oppose	No

Comments: CARLETON CHING is unqualified and has a conflict of interest. Please do not confirm Carleton Ching as the Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Thank you for your service.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Friends of Lana?i	friends of Lana?i	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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March 4, 2015

Big Wind was Castle & Cooke's effort to develop a huge (22,000 acres — 1/4 of Lana'i) industrial wind power plant for O'ahu on Lana'i. The project created a painful, long-lasting, almost irreparable divide in the previously-harmonious fabric of our small, rural community.

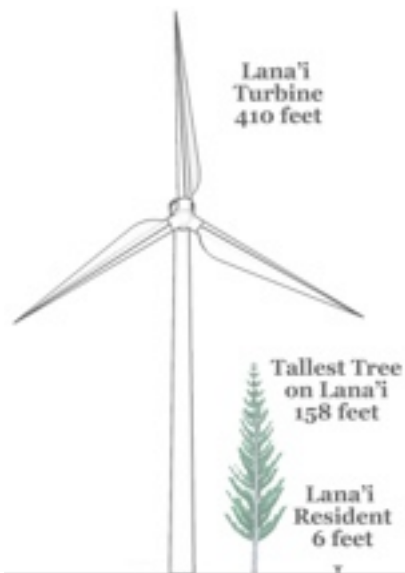
Carleton Ching was employed by Castle & Cooke then, working for Harry Saunders. Both men worked hard to push Big Wind on the Lana'i community. Early in the project, I had a meeting with Harry Saunders to talk about their Big Wind project. I asked Harry this: "What would you do if there was a community vote on Lana'i about Big Wind, and the community overwhelmingly said "No?" Harry's response, indicative of Carleton's perspective for his work on Lana'i, was: "It may cost us more money, and it may take us more time, but it's our land and we'll do what we want."

Carleton Ching was a Castle & Cooke's (C&C) representative to C&C's "Makani" group, the sole purpose of which (from 2009 to 2011) was to push C&C's Big Wind agenda on Lana'i. The agendas were set by C&C, questions posed were selectively answered by them, if at all, and the entire process was frustrating and demeaning. Mr. Ching's work on this project was essentially to exacerbate the deep divisions in our community. He did NOT work to bring our community together, to find a common balance. Instead, he worked to push the very project that caused so much pain here; some neighbors and friends on Lana'i are just now beginning to talk to each other again.

It was a money-making development project, pure and simple. Mr. Ching's boss needed a quick fix of money (since his luxury homes idea was an abysmal failure) and he needed the community to get out of his way. Carleton was his "lobbyist on Lana'i" for that destructive project, which, if it had gone through, would have destroyed or disrupted over one hundred identified Native Hawaiian cultural and natural resource sites. And, perhaps more relevant to this nomination, would have endangered the statewide use of 30,000 acres of land leased to DLNR for their state hunts.

I see Mr. Ching's past work and track record on Lana'i as a complete rebuttal to the Gov's comments that Ching "helps bring communities together. "

At a January, 2015 meeting on Maui, I asked Mr. Ching directly if he still supported Big Wind - a project that today, according to both DBEDT and HECO is "no longer needed." Mr. Ching's reply was a developer's dream: he would still support it "if it pencils out."





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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Sakala	Hawaii Farmers Union United, Kona Chapter	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Committee Members, Thank you for taking time to read these comments. I am writing to oppose the appointment of Carleton Ching's to Chair of DLNR. He is not qualified for this position and has a clear conflict of interest. Thank you in advance for taking these comments into consideration. Mahalo, Steve Sakala

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Moore	Hawaiian Sustainability Foundation	Oppose	No

Comments: He is not only incompetent, but he does not represent the values of Hawaii, will not protect the Aina, and will defile our precious land and seas which will destroy our health and our tourism!!!

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network - Kauai	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha mai kakou, For the record, my name is Puanani Rogers and I live in the ahupua`a o Kealia, Mokupuni o Kaua`i. I am testifying in strong OPPOSITION to the appoint of Carleton Ching as Head of our Department of Land and Natural Resources. He is not qualified and because of who he worked for it is a conflict of interest. Mr. Ching should not accept the appointment but step down instead.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We STRONGLY OPPOSE the confirmation of Carlton Ching as Director of DNLR as his appointment is a direct conflict of interest, as the lobbyist from Castle & Cooke, he lobbied hard for Koa Ridge. Now the Governor wants to put Mr. Ching in charge of the henhouse? Absolutely Not! What makes Mr. Ching so qualified? Not even the Governor himself could articulate his qualifications, other than "I know his heart". This is absurd & we will never vote for Governor Ige again. Do not confirm Mr. Ching.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Kailianu	Ho'omana Pono, LLC	Oppose	No

Comments: We Strongly Oppose the appointment of Mr. Carlton Ching to head DLNR. In Governor Ige's own words, the "qualifying" evidence for Mr. Ching was that he saw Mr. Ching's heart & that he has a good heart. There are over a million people in Hawaii, most with good hearts. Unlike a Governor Ige's arbitrary & capricious appointment, our opposition is "fact based". The fact is this: There exists an obvious conflict of interest that exists here. Mr. Ching is a lobbyist for Castle & Cook, & more significantly a pro-development over agriculture lobbyist. A case in point is his success in lobbying for the Koa Ridge development that went in favor of the developer over the overwhelming opposition of the people! There is no evidence that Mr. Ching has any concern for the desires of the people. The clear evidence is that Mr. Ching is pro-developer. Giving him the keys to this wolf over the henhouse does not bode well for the hens. i.e. The People! Mr. Ching must be rejected as Director for DLNR.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bradford Lum	Hulumanu Foundation	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the nomination of Carleton Ching's as DLNR chairman.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
moana wietecha	Kapuna Farms LLC	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose Carleton Ching's nomination to chair DLNR. The conflict of interest is so transparent. We need someone who wants to protect our land and naturally resources, not defile.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hob Osterlund	Kaua`i Albatross Network	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the nomination of Carleton Ching due to lack of qualifications and conflict of interest.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marvin feldman	Kona Songbird Farm	Oppose	No

Comments: Mr. Ching is unqualified. He also have a conflict of interest based on his prior employment and the terms of his separation from is employer. The head of DLNR must has the interests of protecting the public trust resource of Hawaii. He is the wrong person for the job.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Siracusa	Malama O Puna	Oppose	No

Comments: The candidate, Mr. Ching, does not have sufficient background in the natural/cultural protection sphere that a DLNR chair needs to do a proper job. He also has a conflict of interest. Please do not support his appointment. mahalo

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/2/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Albertini	Malu 'Aina	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha legislators, Our organization strongly opposes the nomination of Carleton Ching to head the DLNR. His pro-development background makes him unfit for a job to preserve Hawaii's precious resources. Surely there are better options among Hawaii's many talented people. Mahalo. Jim Albertini, president Malu 'Aina

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
megan lamson	mehana consulting	Oppose	No

Comments: The mission of DLNR is to “Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii’s unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.” I wholeheartedly oppose this nomination of Mr. Carleton Ching for DLNR Chairman. Mr. Ching is unqualified for this natural and cultural resource manager position and may also have conflicts of interest. The myriad natural and cultural resources of Hawai’i deserve a better leader. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 2/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William W. Steiner	Pacific Agricultural Land Management Systems	Oppose	No

Comments: Mr. Ching has obvious conflicts of interest with the DLNR position. As a developer he will not be especially favorable toward our endangered species which in some cases have halted development. As legislatures, you must continue to support our limited and endangered Hawaii environment. The path forward does not rely on development as much as preserving what remains for our future generations especially in a world threatened by global climate change and decline of oil production which will eventually affect tourism. Thank you for your consideration. Dr. William Moekahi Steiner, Owner and founder PALMS LLC former Dean, College of Agriculture Forestry and Natural Resource Management and former Director, USGS Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center

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**Date:** Saturday, February 28, 2015 2:37:49 PM  
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[ATT00001.txt](#)

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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO THE NOMINATION OF CARLETON CHING AS  
CHAIR/DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
GM 514 TO BE HEARD ON MARCH 11, 2015 AT 10:00 A.M.

Senator Thielen and members of the Committee on Water and Land:

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter and its members have had extensive experience dealing with the department of land and natural resources for decades. That experience dates back to the tenure of Christopher Cobb, and includes the tenures of Sus Ono, Bill Paty, Keith Ahue, Mike Wilson, Tim Johns, Gil Coloma-Agaran, Peter Young, Allan Smith, Laura Thielen, and William Aila, Jr. Our experience extends to all the divisions of DLNR except for the bureau of conveyances: DOFAW, DOCARE, DAR, CWRM, DOBOR, ENG, SHPD, LAND, OCCL, and Parks. We also have dealt with Carleton Ching over the years and in recent weeks, our members have spent hours talking with him.

These experiences have led us to conclude that the Senate should not confirm his nomination as Chair of the BLNR.

You don't hire a baseball coach to coach a football team. Not Division I football. As badly as things are run at UH, you just can't imagine them doing so. But that is what you are being asked to do here.

- The Water Commission must abide by constitutionally mandated public trust duties. The courts have repeatedly found that the Water Commission has violated this mandate in rendering decisions about streams. As of a few weeks ago, Carleton Ching confessed he knew nothing about the public trust doctrine. Putting Carleton Ching in charge of the Water Commission is like putting a baseball coach in charge of a football team.
- DLNR is charged with protecting our trails. Historically, it has accommodated large landowners at the expense of public trails. The courts have vindicated the public's interest in trails in South Kona and on Maui despite DLNR's willingness to sacrifice historic trails to Haleakala Ranch and Hokulia. DLNR has failed to stand up to landowners in Kohala, North Kona, and in Koloa and Lepeuli on Kaua'i, who are altering or blocking public trails. Given Carleton Ching's history working on behalf of large landowners, he is not the person to correct this problem.
- The DLNR chair is generally designated as the chief historic preservation officer for the State. The courts have repeatedly found that the state historic preservation division has violated the plain language of its own rules. Carleton Ching admits that he knows nothing about the historic preservation review process. If you don't know the rules of the game, it is hard to coach.
- In an administration that calls for collaboration, not a single member of the Governor's cabinet has any background in environmental policy. In fact, as a lobbyist for developer

Castle and Cooke, director of the Building Industry Association and President of the Land Use Research Foundation, Carleton Ching worked to undermine the very laws that he would be charged with implementing. He's been playing for the other team for so long that his perception of "balance" is skewed.

In many respects, we have seen DLNR make marked improvements over the years. Vast improvements still need to be made. But the most pressing problems plaguing the department are ones that DLNR has no control over; and Carleton Ching is not equipped to solve:

Civil service. Rigid civil service requirements and antiquated job descriptions hamper DLNR's ability to quickly hire well-qualified personnel. No new DLNR chair can fix this systemic problem – although someone familiar with how government works would be in a far better position to mitigate these problems.

Bad legal advice. DLNR continues to suffer from bad legal advice. If you examine DLNR's record in court – particularly on appeal – you'll notice that DLNR's decisions are very often overturned. Carleton Ching knows very little about the laws that protect our natural and cultural resources and therefore is not equipped to bring about any of the change that is necessary.

Micro-managing interference from the governor's office. Too often, DLNR has been prevented from doing what needs to be done to protect our environment and cultural heritage by decisions that have come from the governor's office. Many Sierra Club members voted for David Ige because they believed that at least in this respect, he would bring about fundamental change to DLNR. Carleton Ching cannot change this practice; only the governor can.

Insufficient funding. DLNR does not have enough money to hire sufficient staff, or even to properly train the staff it has. Fixing this problem is the kuleana of the legislature – not Carleton Ching.

We have heard Carleton Ching's diagnosis for what ails DLNR – and they don't ring true. DLNR does not suffer from great inefficiencies. DLNR does not suffer from a lack of itemization of profits and losses. It does not need lessons in business culture. As the Hawai'i Supreme Court recently concluded:

Natural beauty, the value of nature, is necessarily intrinsic. It is not susceptible to valuation based on price in the marketplace. The value of Hawaii's forests is not the market value of its board feet. The value of Hawaii's coral reefs is different than the value of its harvest.

Carleton Ching has readily admitted that he has no substantive experience in protecting the natural resources that DLNR is charged with preserving: endangered species, watershed, streams, beaches, coral reefs, fish, trails and iwi. He has not even spent time volunteering to help protect these resources. Instead, he has volunteered his time for an organization that according to its website is "devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of the development community."



**From:** [Steelgrass Farm](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Opposition to GM514 -- Nomination of Carleton Ching to DLNR  
**Date:** Sunday, March 01, 2015 11:35:04 AM

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We do not believe that Mr. Ching is a fitting candidate for the DLNR job, and urge the legislature not to approve his nomination.

The Lydgate Family  
Steelgrass Farm  
P.O. Box 68  
Kapaa, HI 96746  
808-821-1857  
[info@steelgrass.org](mailto:info@steelgrass.org)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [doorae@hawaii.edu](mailto:doorae@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 04, 2015 3:52:45 PM

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/4/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
doorae shin	Student Sustainability Coalition of Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [bianca@kahea.org](mailto:bianca@kahea.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, March 08, 2015 3:46:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [2-15.03.09 GM514 KAHEA testimony against Ching.docx](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/8/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bianca Isaki	KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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March 8, 2015

To the Members of the Hawai'i State Senate Water and Land Committee:

Since 2000, KAHEA has worked to promote Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner rights and environmental protections. Our work is deeply invested in the proper functioning of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). We urge you not to confirm Governor Ige's nominee because he cannot forward DLNR's critical mission to protect, conserve, and properly manage Hawai'i's public trust resources.

We **oppose GM514** for many reasons, but here emphasize the nominee's failures to consider Hawaiian cultural practitioner gathering, access, and burial protection rights in his advocacy as a board president and vice-president of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai'i (LURF). In 2010, LURF criticized the seminal case on Hawaiian customary and traditional gathering and access rights, *Public Access Shoreline Hawaii v. County of Hawaii Planning Comm'n*, 903 P.2d 1246, 1268 (1995), cert. denied, 517 U.S. 1163 (1996) (*PASH*), as merely an example of the "erosion" of private property rights.

Further examples of advocacy that failed to account for impacts on Hawaiian cultural practices and was engaged under the nominee's watch include:

- lobbying for S.B. No. 1171 (2013), which delayed assessment of impacts on historic properties until after approval of certain projects -- making protection of historic sites more difficult - to the detriment of iwi kupuna;
- supporting S.B. No. 2728 (2014), which would have privatized many public trails recognized under Queen Lili'uokalani's Highways Act of 1892. These trails are necessary cultural resources for access, gathering, hunting, and huaka'i;
- supporting Senate Resolution No. 39 (2012), which hunters opposed because it imposed written landowner agreement requirements on their ability to cross lands to hunt;
- lobbying for the creation of a Public Lands Development Corporation (2011), which threatened many culturally important lands and most critically, Hawaii's public trust obligations to hold lands in trust for its people and Hawaiians in particular;
- opposing S.B. 981 (2011), providing for board member training by OHA, even though failure to properly consider native rights is one of the most common causes of litigation against Boards and Commissions;
- filing an amicus brief in 2010, calling on the U.S. Supreme Court to "review" *Maunalua Bay Beach Ohana 28 v. State of Hawai'i*, 22 Hawai'i 34, 222 P.3d 441 (App. 2009). *Maunalua Bay* held shoreline accretions going forward from 2003 were public property, and thus positively ensured landowners could not usurp widened areas facilitating Hawaiian nearshore gathering and access. LURF called the decision "the latest chapter in a long

PROTECTING

NATIVE HAWAIIAN

CUSTOMARY & TRADITIONAL

RIGHTS AND OUR FRAGILE

ENVIRONMENT

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877.585.2432

www.KAHEA.org  
kahea-alliance@hawaii.rr.com

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KAHEA: the Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance is a non-profit 501(c)3 working to protect the unique natural and cultural resources of the Hawaiian islands. KAHEA translates to English as "the call."

history of erosion of traditional common law property rights in Hawaii in favor of the public;”

- becoming the “strongest opposition” to S.B. No. 1162/ H.B. No. 17 (2013), which prevented beachfront property owners from growing artificial vegetation to encroach across shorelines, which would have restricted shoreline transit necessary for gathering limu, nearshore fishing, and other practices;
- opposing S.B. No. 1154 (2011), as an unconstitutional “taking” of private lands in the South Kona Wilderness Area, a 22,000 acre track from Miloli‘i south to Manuka, from the shore to 6,000 feet inland. Miloli‘i residents, by contrast, cited the area’s early Hawaiian history, intact archaeological sites, native plants and its rich cultural importance in their support of the measure;
- opposing designation of the Keauhou aquifer as a groundwater management area, without addressing threats of saltwater encroachment to anchialine ponds and other natural resources to historical and ongoing Hawaiian cultural practices.

The Director of DLNR chairs the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and the Commission on Water Resources Management (CWRM), and is the chief historic preservation officer. The Director is responsible for ensuring DLNR follows all public hearing and disclosure requirements and satisfies all constitutional requirements under the public trust doctrine. In recent meetings, the nominee failed to identify any vision or plan for DLNR; indicated he did not know what the public trust is; and said he would “balance” competing water users. Hawaii’s water code hierarchizes uses of water.

The University of Hawai‘i’s proposal to re-lease Mauna Kea summit lands under business as usual terms will soon come before BLNR. Later this year, CWRM will vote on designation of Keauhou aquifer as a groundwater management area, an action KAHEA supported as a prudent safeguard against the volume of water-thirsty development planned for North Kona. In these decisions, and others, we need an informed, experienced decision-maker at the helm.

DLNR needs a leader with a deep understanding of the histories and struggles from which Hawaii’s obligation hold natural resources in trust arose, the political courage to enforce this public trust, the vision to develop a plan to realize these crucial protections, and a demonstrated record to build trust amongst communities of differently situated stakeholders. Nominee Ching neither has these qualifications nor has he demonstrated a capacity to hit the ground running.

Mahalo nui for caring about Hawaii’s governance and management of its natural and cultural resources.

Me ke aloha,

Bianca Isaki  
KAHEA Board Secretary 2015

**From:** [prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** GM514 Oppose  
**Date:** Saturday, March 07, 2015 10:22:47 PM

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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION  
GM514 Confirmation of Carleton Ching  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 10 am Conference Room 229  
Kailua Neighborhood Board, Charles A. Prentiss, Ph.D., Chair

At its meeting of March 5, 2015 the 19-member Kailua Neighborhood Board adopted the following motion opposing the nomination of Carleton Ching as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources:

"The Kailua Neighborhood Board opposes the confirmation of Carleton Ching as Director of the State Department of Land and Natural resources."

Board discussion and resident testimony on the motion included the following: For our islands with limited land and fragile natural resources, no department is more important than DLNR. Our future depends on its wise management and fair balancing of competing interests. Carleton Ching's past work and experience does not qualify him for the job for which he has been nominated.

Mr. Ching's past career of promoting the interests of landowners and developers stands in stark contrast with the philosophy and duties of DLNR which are to protect and conserve our natural resources. In his past career Mr. Ching has been a continuous adversary of the policies, and of those who sought to ensure the public interest and the protection of our fragile natural resources and historic preservation. The distrust of him would be impossible to dispel. It would make for a poor working relationship between those seeking the protection of our natural resources and those seeking to exploit them for financial gain.

Discussion at our meeting portrayed Mr. Ching as a fox to guard the chicken coop. We already have a citizenry that distrusts government, and thinks that their vote does not matter. Perhaps the most unfortunate by-product of Ige's choice of Carleton Ching as director of DLNR is that it fuels further public cynicism about - and alienation from - the political process.

**From:** [Graydon](#)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony GM-514  
**Date:** Monday, March 09, 2015 11:46:33 AM  
**Attachments:** [GM 514.docx](#)

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Aloha

Attached is my testimony opposing Carleton Ching's nomination to the Chairperson of DLNR

mahalo

GRAYDON 'BUDDY' KEALA

Loko I'a Consulting  
PO Box 1428  
Kilauea, HI 96754  
808.828.1952 808.227.6648(c)

Free Hawaiian Fishpond Manual web link:

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/Loko%20I'a%20Full%20Publication.pdf>

Free Hawaiian Fishpond Curriculum Gr. 4-12 web link:

<http://nsgl.gso.uri.edu/hawau/hawaue03001/hawaue03001index.html>

# LOKO I'A CONSULTING

HAWAIIAN AQUACULTURE SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
SENATOR LAURA THIELEN, CHAIR  
SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA, VICE CHAIR

**RE: Testimony GM 514** Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chairperson of the Department of Land  
and Natural Resources, Gubernatorial Nominee, CARLETON CHING  
Hearing Date: MARCH 11, 2015 10:00 AM Conference Room 229

Aloha Senators,

My name is Graydon 'Buddy' Keala and have 30+ years as a Hawaiian Fishpond practitioner. I have worked with more than 30 loko i'a statewide and restored half a dozen including the permit processing and full restoration of several fishponds on Molokai during the same time that Mr. Ching was employed by Molokai Ranch.

While I do not know Mr. Ching personally, I do have issues with these nominees' qualifications. From the standpoint of a cultural practitioner, this nominee experience is too top heavy on the development side of where a DLNR Head should be, especially with regards to our Historic Sites and associated cultural practices.

The Molokai Ranch that the nominee was employed, tried very hard to develop an infrastructure for its new development including 5 new towns, doubling housing and population. Molokai Ranch was supported by then Mayor Lingle, to push past any regulatory or agency barriers until the request for water use for their development came into play. Without the water their dreams would not happen.

With Lingle's support, many of the hurdles for getting water to the Maunaloa development were moving forward. The one aquifer island had water limitation that the Ranch never considered. None the less, Water Use permit priority was 'given' to Molokai Ranch before Hawaiian Homes Lands and the public transfer water lines were made available to the Ranch, a private entity.

In 1997 and 1998 Molokai Ranch was taken to court on these issues and lost. I provided testimony as a loko i'a expert.

- State Water Commission Case no. CCH -M097-1 "Kukui Case" Contested Case Hearing on Water Use Permit application by Molokai Ranch. Provide Testimony as Expert in Hawaiian Fishponds. Native Hawaiian Legal Corp. Nov. 1998
- State Water Commission Case no. CCH -M096-1 "Waiola Case" Contested Case Hearing on Water Use, Well Construction & Pump Installation permit by Molokai Ranch Provide Testimony as Expert in Hawaiian Fishponds. Earth Justice Nov. 1997

I humbly ask that your committee withhold Mr. Carleton Ching's confirmation as DLNR Chairperson.

Respectfully,

Graydon 'Buddy' Keala  
PO Box 1428 Kilauea, HI 96754

*"Ho'olaulima ku na kupuna Malama no i ka loko i'a E ho'omau i neia waiwai ho'oilina"*  
"Let us work in the manner of our ancestors, let us preserve the fishpond to continue this part of our heritage"



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [director@maui-tomorrow.org](mailto:director@maui-tomorrow.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Sunday, March 08, 2015 12:18:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [GM\\_514\\_Ching\\_nomination.doc](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/8/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Irene Bowie	Maui Tomorrow Foundation Inc.	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

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March 8, 2015

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Chair Laura Thielen, Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria

**OPPOSE GM 514 – NOMINATION OF CARLETON CHING AS DLNR DIRECTOR**

Aloha Chair Thielen and Committee Members,

Maui Tomorrow Foundation, Inc. strongly opposes the nomination of Carleton Ching as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

If appointed as Director of DLNR, Mr. Ching will also serve as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Chair of the Commission on Water Resource Management, and head of the State Historic Preservation Division yet he has readily admitted, in recent meetings with the community, that he has no real experience in protecting the natural resources DLNR is charged with preserving. Urgent challenges face DLNR and Mr. Ching's appointment would only delay the agency's momentum in building community and public partnerships and programs to protect Hawaii's cultural, historical and natural resources.

We believe Mr. Ching is not qualified to serve as DLNR's Director. He has no demonstrated expertise, professional or volunteer experience, or apparent interest in the protection and stewardship of Hawaii's natural and cultural resources, including rare and endangered species, habitats, watersheds, historic sites, iwi kupuna and other burials, Native Hawaiian water rights, the Public Trust Doctrine, public shoreline access, mauka access trails, outdoor recreation, or any other programs under the DLNR.

Mr. Ching has spent most of his career working for large land development companies, lobbying for them, and serving on the boards of their lobbyist organizations. These organizations are committed to free enterprise, treating land and water as a commodity, and dismantling land use regulations and policies that protect the public interest and public trust.

Mr. Ching's perspectives are not aligned with DLNR's mission to "*Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.*"

Mr. Ching served on the board of directors of the Building Industry Association (BIA) for many years. We note that as of February 26, 2015 his name no longer appears on BIA letterhead used in testimony. It is inappropriate for Mr. Ching – a long-standing BIA

director – to serve as DLNR Director and BLNR Chair. The BIA not only opposes DLNR's mandates under historic preservation laws, but it also has shown no support for the State Historic Preservation Division within the DLNR.

Mr. Ching was also President, and is now a Vice President of the Land Use Research Foundation (LURF), which represents large private landowners and developers. LURF and BIA have consistently lobbied on bills that are contrary to protecting the public interest and the public trust, including ceded lands, conservation lands, and water resources.

It is inappropriate for a former President and current Vice President of LURF to serve as DLNR Director as LURF's major accomplishments include numerous attempts to weaken and dismantle environmental protection regulations.

1. LURF fought hard to convince the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reduce critical habitat designations and mandated recovery areas.
2. LURF successfully lobbied to reduce requirements for developer applicant reviews by the State Historic Preservation Division of the DLNR.
3. LURF successfully lobbied to require the Hawai'i Department of Health to delete various protections involving Native Hawaiian rights, historic preservation, coastal zone management, and environmental impact reviews for stormwater runoff permits.
4. LURF actively opposed the requirement of landowners to provide lateral access along the coastline.
5. LURF has been extremely active in what has almost become an annual effort to weaken HRS Chapter 343 (the state EIS law).
6. LURF supported the ill-conceived PLDC (Public Land Development Corporation) and numerous other efforts to exempt various development projects from environmental, health, planning, and public interest laws now in place.

For all the reasons listed above Maui Tomorrow Foundation asks this committee to deny the nomination of Carleton Ching as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Mahalo,

Irene Bowie

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Irene Bowie".

Executive Director

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**Cc:** [nho.hoku@gmail.com](mailto:nho.hoku@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 09, 2015 10:27:25 AM

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/9/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nelson Ho	Sierra Club Big Island	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Senate Committee Members, As a lifetime environmental advocate, I feel the DLNR position to be most important for the future of Hawaii's environment. It is not proper to put someone in DLNR with a long history of development advocacy above all. Mahalo, Nelson Ho

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**Cc:** [lobrien1192@gmail.com](mailto:lobrien1192@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Monday, March 09, 2015 10:38:14 AM

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/9/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda O'Brien	Adopt A Beach Hawaii	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose the appointment of Carleton Ching to the position of Head of DLNR as he has no working knowledge with this position, he does not have the experience with the DLNR to be an effective leader for this critical position. We at Adopt A Beach Hawaii had a good working relationship with William Aila, and he did have experience with the position as the former Harbormaster for Wai'anae. We need a person in this position who has a working knowledge of the problems faced in the state with the DLNR, such as flood control, ecology, conservation, illegal hunting, land and water use, punishment for gross polluters, punishment for littering, and the ability to have an oversight committee for this issues. Mr. Ching has none of the qualifications for this position, and we are worried that because he has no working knowledge he will not know what to do in a disaster situation, or respond in a timely fashion to our requests for assistance when issues arrive. Sincerely, Linda O'Brien  
Adopt A Beach Hawaii

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [hawaiian.affairs.caucus@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiian.affairs.caucus@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Friday, March 06, 2015 8:51:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [HAC Testimony Carlton Ching \(2\).docx](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/6/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Da	Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Comments Only	No

Comments: See Attachment

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**CONFIRMATION HEARING OF MR. CARLTON CHING, GM 514**

**NOMINEE FOR THE CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENT**

**OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Senate Committee on Water and Land**

**Wednesday, March 11, 10:00 a.m., Room 229**

Senator Laura Thielen  
Chair, Senate, Water and Land Committee

Senator Brickwood Galuteria  
Vice Chair, Senate, Water and Land Committee

Members of the Senate, Water and Land Committee

Aloha mai kākou,

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus recognizes the tremendous kūleana that the Department of Land and Natural Resources has to administer and manage our natural and cultural resources, from our fisheries to our streams and aquifers to our watersheds and sacred historic sites. For Native Hawaiians, our land and natural resources are at the crux of every Hawaiian issue.

Thus, we ask this committee, in deciding on Mr. Ching's confirmation to assure itself that he would be a strong "advocate" of the protection of the State's natural and cultural resources and that his priorities in leading the Department include the budget for the Department, 'iwi preservation, community based subsistence and management agreements, implementation of in-stream water flow standards, and complete and accurate accounting of public land trust revenues. We also expect that the head of the DLNR will give strong consideration to the host culture's traditional and customary



rights as required by the Hawaii State Constitution, Article XII in its deliberation of issues that come before the DLNR.

We had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Carlton Ching and found him to be an affable man with strong managerial traits, but limited background in natural and cultural resource management. However, if confirmed, we would be committed to collaborating with him and the department to ensure the priorities listed above are addressed.

Mahalo for your consideration of our comments.

Respectfully,

DAVIS PRICE  
Chair



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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM514 on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM  
**Date:** Saturday, March 07, 2015 8:14:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [CCHI testimony GM514 WTL.pdf](#)

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**GM514**

Submitted on: 3/7/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 11, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmille Lim	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: See attached.

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Senate Water and Land Committee  
Chair Laura Thielen, Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria

Wednesday 03/11/2015 at 10:00 AM in Room 229  
GM514 Nomination of Carleton Ching

SUBMITTED BY  
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

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Dear Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and members of the Committee:

Common Cause Hawaii is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening our democracy and public participation in government; curbing the excess influence of money in politics; and ensuring that government serves the common good, rather than special interests. We are writing to express concerns regarding Governor Ige's nomination of Carleton Ching as Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

**We do not take a position on the *qualifications* of appointees.** In this case, we assume that Mr. Ching is a good administrator and an honorable person.

Our grave concern is with the negative impact his appointment is likely to have on public faith in government. As you can see from over a dozen media reports, and a MoveOn petition with over 7,000 signers and growing, this process have already started. Common Cause Hawaii's goal is not only to prevent unethical behavior, but also to prevent the *perception* of unethical behavior. We fear that any decision by DLNR under Mr. Ching's leadership that would favor his current employer, Castle and Cook, or the members of the Land Use Research Foundation (LURF), where he has recently served as Board President or Vice President, would be perceived as biased. This would reflect negatively on Governor Ige, the Ige administration, Mr. Ching, and the senate body that is responsible for confirming Mr. Ching's appointment. Further, this would undermine public faith in government as a whole.

While we assume that Mr. Ching would recuse himself from any decisions directly impacting Castle and Cooke or other LURF members, many of the decisions to be made by DLNR over the coming years are ones that do impact major development corporations in the state. We question whether Mr. Ching would be able to be an effective administrator if he were to recuse himself from all of those decisions.

That said, even recusal would not be enough to ease the public perception that any decision favoring these corporations was impacted by Mr. Ching. That would very likely be the case, whether he attempted to influence a decision or not. The head of a public agency sets the tone and perspective of that agency, with employees reluctant to make decisions that would go against what they perceive their boss's opinion to be. We are aware of current employees who are afraid to speak their minds about this nomination for fear that Mr. Ching will become their boss.

As Common Cause Hawaii works to broaden participation in government by providing training to understand the legislative process, by making it easier to register to vote and to cast a vote, and

in many other ways, we see our efforts continually undermined by people's cynicism about government and its openness to ordinary people.

The 2015 State Senate, under Senate President Kim's leadership, is already earning a reputation for prioritizing the strengthening of Hawaii's standard of government ethics.

**We ask that in considering the appointment of Mr. Ching, you take into account your role in projecting and projecting the integrity of government.**

Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns on GM514.