NAME ORGANIZATION/INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT/OPPOSE

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KEVIN CHANG	INDIVIDUAL	SUPPORT
LISA CATES	INDIVIDUAL	SUPPORT
MILTON HOLT	INDIVIDUAL	SUPPORT
TAMMY MARIE HOLT	INDIVIDUAL	SUPPORT

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: WTLTestimony
Cc: changkwaix@aol.com

**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM868 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM

**Date:** Friday, April 17, 2015 8:47:13 AM

## **GM868**

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Senators, My name is Kevin Chang and I submit this testimony in support of our Governor's nomination (GM 868) of Mr. Jonathan Scheuer to our State Land Use Commission. I have served as a Land Manager at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs under Mr. Scheuer's aegis and have knowledge of him as friend, a scholar and policy expert, a father and also his capacity as a public servant and community member. I would like to offer my current thoughts on the guidelines we provide public officials and Mr. Scheuer's place therein. In some of the hearings these past month(s) regarding the capacity of some candidates to serve our community on various commissions or agency leadership I feel we have focused on background and "leadership" qualities but have overlooked candidates understanding or desire to understand and pledge to observe the parameters of their decision making capacity. For example, some candidates have been criticized by some merely because they are too pro or anti-business, too conservationist or not and/or not understanding of the needs of our subsistence, commercial or recreational community. I believe a candidate can be a business person, a hunter, a fisherman, conservationist, economist, realtor, janitor, sales clerk and still come with a desire to learn and understand the parameters of their decision making on any subject. It is okto make decisions based on differences in regards mandated fundamentals (broad versus narrow view). It is not ok for public fiduciaries to make decisions that neglect them when they are mandated. I do believe in the idea of having diversified decision making bodies. I am concerned however when we approve candidates based on their background with little credence given to their understanding of the parameters in which they have to make decisions. For example, I believe some candidates have professed little if any knowledge or desire to learn or even acknowledge the public trust doctrine in regards to natural resources. It is clear that Article XI of our community's constitution adopts the public trust doctrine as a fundamental principle of our constitutional law. It is fundamental. Regardless of the fiduciary's background they must wear the lense the community has prescribed. As a community we set these parameters to be sure our trusted officials follow a process, do not go beyond their jurisdiction or do not make decisions that are arbitrary, capricious or conflicted. It is also a reason OHA has chosen to offer post-appointment training in the duties and parameters public servants must observe when addressing Native Hawaiian and public trust issues. I believe anyone from any background can come to understand

these parameters. I can say that Mr. Scheuer takes seriously his role in any capacity he takes on, especially when it is serving the public. Mr. Scheuer will wear the lense our community has prescribed. Despite those lenses he will not simply agree, he will still see things that he will ask questions on and will dig deep into. No doubt he will have disagreements and engage in discourse on these issues with his fellow fiduciaries. He will bring healthy discourse to the democratic process. He as all people will bring a background that has a certain view through the lenses. But I am assured he will put them on. Lastly, Mr. Scheuer has also accumulated a broad understanding of the public trust doctrine, through his passion for our community and his experience with Native Hawaiian issues and land and water use policy and law and will take seriously these principals in the important decisions he helps our community to make. I urge you to move this nomination forward for full Senate approval. Aloha 'Aina Momona Kevin

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: WTLTestimony
Cc: lisacates@hawaii.rr.com

**Subject:** Submitted testimony for GM868 on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM

**Date:** Friday, April 17, 2015 8:13:25 AM

## **GM868**

Submitted on: 4/17/2015

Testimony for WTL on Apr 17, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Cates	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Jonathan Scheuer's nomination to the Land Use Committee. His vast experience with various agencies of government and other natural resource related organizations makes him a great candidate for the position. Jonathan also has a deep respect for our islands and shares a concern for protection and conservation that is vital for the health of our resources. Please vote in favor of Jonathan's nomination for the LUC. Mahalo!

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April 17, 2015



The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair Senate Committee on Water and Land State Capitol Room 231 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Chair Thielen, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of Governor's Message 868, relating to the nomination of Jonathan Scheuer to the Land Use Commission.

I have known Jonathan for more than 15 years through his work with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Pua Ali'l Ilima. Jonathan has an extensive list of community accomplishments, and I am most impressed by his enthusiasm, communication skills and professional demeanor that he has displayed as an effective leader. He has been very active in water and land issues, and has the skills and experience necessary to be an effective member of the Land Use Commission. He played a significant role on resolving conflicts over water (in Na Wai Eha on Maui and the Wailua River on Kaua'i) and land (the protection of Waimea Valley, O'ahu; Muole'a Point, Maui; and Wao Kele O Puna, Hawai'l Island). Jonathan is organized and diligent, and has been outstanding in his level of service, professionalism, and follow-through.

Jonathan is very reliable, dedicated and eternally upbeat. He consistently demonstrates all of these qualities and more, and I heartily endorse him as a member of the Land Use Commission. He has my highest recommendation, and I am confident that you will give his nomination meaningful and positive consideration.

Mahalo.

Milton Holt

From: <u>tammy holt</u>
To: <u>WTLTestimony</u>

Subject: Support of GM 868 Nomination of Jonathen Scheuer as a Member, Land Use Commision

**Date:** Friday, April 17, 2015 7:43:00 AM

Aloha Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Committee Members,

I support Jonathan Scheuer's nomination to the Land Use Commission. I will not be able to offer testimony in person, due to work.

I have known Jonathan Scheuer for fourteen years through his work at Pua Ali'l Ilima and as a parent in my class at Waikiki Elementary School.

I support Jonathan's nomination because he has the skills and experience necessary to be an effective member of the Land Use Commission. He has demonstrated success in resolving long standing conflicts in Hawai`i. This has included playing a significant role on resolving conflicts over water (in Na Wai Eha on Maui and the Wailua River on Kaua`i) and land (the protection of Waimea Valley, O`ahu, Muole`a Point, Maui, and Wao Kele O Puna, Hawai`i Island). He showed excellent leadership while serving for three years on the O`ahu Island Burial Council, where developments were able to proceed while protecting burials. He is an articulate advocate of public trust interests in land and water, but also has a fair and balanced approach to his duties on the Land Use Commission.

Please vote in favor of Jonathan's confirmation to the Land Use Commission.

Mahalo,

Mrs. Tammy Marie Holt