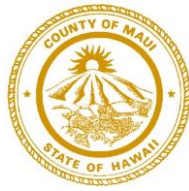


**MICHAEL P. VICTORINO**  
Mayor

**SANANDA K. BAZ**  
Managing Director



COUNTY OF MAUI  
**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

September 23, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I write to express my strong support for protecting the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument (PRIMNM). I stand with the Pacific Remote Islands (PRI) Coalition and respectfully urge you to expand the PRIMNM boundaries to the full extent of the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone, to rename the monument to reflect its cultural and historic significance, and to create a new form of co-management that allows indigenous people from throughout the Pacific to help steward the monument's lands and waters.

As Mayor of Maui County, I know that the health of our ocean and the health of our islands are deeply intertwined. I have seen firsthand how manmade threats such as over-extraction, pollution, and climate change are impacting communities that rely on the ocean to sustain their lifestyles and livelihoods. I have also seen how impactful large scale Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), such as Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, can improve the health of our island communities. Therefore, I support expanding the PRIMNM boundaries to the full extent of the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone and creating the largest highly-protected MPA in the world. I believe this proposal is a win for our people and the planet.

Additionally, I appreciate your administration's commitment to creating a working group or commission to evaluate naming practices for marine national monuments and national marine sanctuaries, with a particular emphasis on PRIMNM. Names hold a lot of meaning, and this monument deserves to have a name that reflects its unique history and character. I encourage you to engage with Pacific Islanders in the renaming process to ensure that the significance of

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this place is properly expressed and people are able to create deeper connections to this special place through its name.

Finally, I can attest to the benefits of integrating indigenous knowledge into policymaking, and am confident that establishing a new form of indigenous co-management will allow for PRIMNM to receive the best possible care. Pacific Islanders have intimate knowledge of the region's natural and cultural resources, an understanding of its needs, and a history of sustainable stewardship. I support the PRI Coalition's request to ensure that Pacific Islanders are properly represented at the highest levels of management and decision-making for PRIMNM.

Mr. President, thank you for your commitment to safeguard our ocean for future generations and consideration of this request to protect the PRI Marine National Monument.

With Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P Victorino". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor

MPV: tkm: lnm