



STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

MEDIA RELEASE April 5, 2011 MEDIA CONTACT: Jim Boersema/479-9013 Caroline Julian/586-6261

EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO BEGIN HEARINGS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION NOMINEES

HONOLULU – The Senate Committee on Education, chaired by Senator Jill Tokuda, will begin confirmation hearings on the governor's appointments to the Board of Education this week at the State Capitol, Room 225.

On Wednesday, April 6 at 1:15 p.m. the nominees are:

>>**Don Horner**, chief executive officer and chairman of First Hawaiian Bank. Governor Abercrombie chose Horner to serve on the elected BOE to fill a vacancy on Feb. 9, and has designated him to serve as chair of the BOE.

>>Brian De Lima, attorney and former Hawaii County Council Member

>>Wesley Lo, chief executive officer at Maui Memorial Medical Center.

>>Kim Gennaula, philanthropy director at the Kapiolani Health Foundation

>>Jim Williams, administrator and CEO of the Hawaii Employer-Union Benefits Trust Fund (retired)

On Friday, April 8 at 1:15 p.m. the nominees are:

>> **Nancy Budd**, attorney and a member of the Kauai Planning and Action Alliance Public Education Action Team

>>Charlene Cuaresma, associate director of the UH Manoa Graduate Professional Access Program

>>Cheryl Kauhane Lupenui, former chief executive officer of the YWCA on Oahu

>>Keith Amemiya, executive administrator and secretary of the Board of Regents

"We take our advise and consent role very seriously. As members of the initial nine that will serve on an appointed Board of Education, we are looking forward to engaging them in thoughtful discussions on the role of the board members and what they see as the future of public education in Hawaii," said Tokuda.

Following the Senate Committee on Education hearing, the committee will make its recommendations to the full Senate. A floor vote will take place shortly thereafter.

Act 5, which was signed into law by the governor on March 14, 2011, gives the governor the authority to appoint nine members, which would consist of: one member from the county of Hawaii, one member from the county of Maui, one member from the county of Kauai, 3 members from the city and county of Honolulu, and three at-large-members; provided that the governor select an at-large member as the chairperson.

For more information on the hearing:

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/hearingnotices/HEARING_EDU_04-06-<u>11_.pdf</u> <u>http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2011/hearingnotices/HEARING_EDU_04-08-</u> 11_.pdf

Committee contact: Erin Conner Office of Senator Jill N. Tokuda Phone: 587-7215