

GM 579



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
235 S BERETANIA ST. SUITE 702
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Tel. (808) 586-4185
Fax. (808) 586-4186
Email: oeqc@doh.hawaii.gov

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Environmental Council,
Gubernatorial Nominees**

GM 579 – ALVIN L. CHAR
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 580 – SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 581 – JOHN A. RICHARDS
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 612 – GILL G. BERGER
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2011

Testimony of Katherine Puana Kealoha
Interim Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control

Thursday, April 10, 2008, 3:00 p.m.
Room 414

1 The Office of Environmental Quality Control strongly supports the appointments of Mr.
2 Alvin Char, Ms. Susan Matsushima, Mr. John Richards, and Mr. Gill Berger to the
3 Environmental Council.

4 Mr. Char has held various positions within the environmental industry. He has worked in
5 the past as an Environmental Protection Specialist with the Army in Hawaii, and he is currently
6 the Acting Deputy Director, Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army Garrison. He has extensive
7 knowledge in federal laws and regulations pertaining to the environment, endangered species,
8 archaeological site management and protection.

1 Ms. Matsushima is currently the Program Manager for the Pacific Tropical Ornamental
2 Fish Program and has held various positions in the agricultural industry.

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4 is currently the Operations Manager for Kahua Ranch on the Big Island. He has held various
5 volunteer conservation and safety positions.

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8 removal, green construction, and recycling. He is also involved in various local faith-based
9 boards and initiatives.

10 All of their combined experience will help the Council's efforts to educate the public
11 about business, environmental, and cultural issues in Hawaii.

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13 professions such as the natural and social sciences, the humanities, architecture, engineering,
14 public health, planning, agriculture, real estate, visitor industry, construction, media, and
15 community and environmental groups.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

menor4

From: Lea Hong [Lea.Hong@tpl.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2008 2:24 PM
To: menor4
Subject: Alvin Char nomination to the Environmental Council

Aloha Chair Menor and members of the committee -

I strongly support Alvin Char's nomination to the Environmental Council. I have worked with Alvin in his capacity as a civilian employee of the Army in charge of the U.S. Army's environmental program in Hawai'i. He is truly dedicated to protecting Hawai'i's unique natural and cultural resources, and well versed in state and federal laws requiring environmental protection, review, and public involvement.

Alvin's support and hard work was key in the completion of three major land conservation projects on O'ahu which were partially funded through the Army's Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) zone program.

1. Waimea Valley, which protected one of the last intact ahupu'a'a on the island - over 1,800 acres of land, including scenic waterfalls, meandering streams, important cultural and historical resources, endangered water-birds, native vegetation, and a vast botanical garden.
2. Moanalua Valley, which protected over 3,700 acres of watershed land that serves as habitat for the endangered Hawaiian flycatcher, the 'Elepaio forest bird, symbol of Hawaiian canoe-making. The valley contains important native plant and animal species, important cultural resources for la'au lapa'au (Hawaiian healing), and miles of hiking trails ten minutes from urban Honolulu.
3. Pupukea-Paumalu, which protected 1,129 acres of coastal bluff along O'ahu's famed North Shore, the natural backdrop to world-wide surf contests at Sunset Beach and 'Ehukai (Pipeline), and mauka of the Pupukea Marine Life Conservation District.

Without Alvin's dedication and commitment, these projects could not have been completed. He will make a thoughtful, balanced, and worthy addition to the Environmental Council.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify -

Lea Hong

Lea Hong
Hawaiian Islands Program Director
Trust for Public Land
212 Merchant Street, Suite 320
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-524-8563 (direct)
808-783-3653 (mobile)
(808)-524-8565 (fax)

The Trust for Public Land - Celebrating 35 years of conserving land for people--2 million acres and counting.
www.tpl.org

4/2/2008

Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment (ENE)

Alvin L. Char

Nominee for the Environmental Council

Chair, Ron Menor and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment, thank you for the opportunity to present background information about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Environmental Council.

I am keiki o ka aina. I was born in Honolulu. Shortly thereafter, my family moved to Kailua where at an early age I was fortunate to enjoy all that that "country environment" had to offer. I lived a true Huck Finn-type boyhood: surfing, hiking, swimming, and fishing almost daily. The State was a lot less crowded then. Although it's not quite the same, I'm happy to say that through thoughtful management by the State of Hawaii, many of those same opportunities to appreciate and enjoy the environment that is the "Hawaii experience" still exist today.

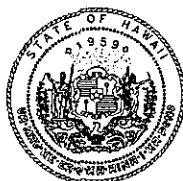
I attended and graduated from Kailua High School and the University of Hawaii at Manoa, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Biology. With the encouragement of my mentor at the University of Hawaii, Jackie Miller at the UH Environmental Center, I enrolled in the School of Public Health focusing on water quality and Environmental Health.

I then began a long 30-year career protecting the environment in Hawaii. Working as the Chief of the U.S. Army's environmental program in Hawaii, I had the unique opportunity to leverage the resources of the Federal government to reduce pollution, protect our State's fragile natural and cultural resources, and work towards planning a more sustainable future. During that time I managed many Hawaii Department of Health environmental permits and worked on many controversial environmental impact assessments/statements (EA's/EIS's) including the Makua Valley EIS and the Stryker/Army Transformation EIS. In the last few years, the Army's brokered many partnerships with the community, including purchases of Waimea Valley, Pupukea-Paumalu, and Moanalua Valley parcels. In addition, I've worked closely with the Federal High Way Administration and the State Department of Transportation, on the Saddle Road Improvement Project on the Big Island. I believe that it is possible to balance growth, economic vitality, and an environmentally sustainable future with preservation of those environmental qualities that define what it means to live and grow up in Hawaii.

There is no doubt that the State faces many challenges with regards to future growth and sustainability, and I feel I can bring a wealth of experience working in the military/Federal sector to the table. If my appointment to the Environmental Council is confirmed, I look forward to serving the Legislature and the people of the State of Hawaii to forge a sustainable future for my children and my children's children. I ask for you to support my nomination to the Environmental Council. Thank you.

GM 580

LINDA LINGLE
Governor



SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DUANE K. OKAMOTO
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512

TESTIMONY OF SANDRA LEE KUNIMOTO
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008, 3:00 P.M.
ROOM 414

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 580
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012

Chairperson Menor and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support for the consideration of Ms. Susan T. Matsushima to the Environmental Council.

I have known Ms. Matsushima for over 10 years. She cares deeply for Hawaii. She is inclusive by nature and listens to all sides of an issue, then thinks it through in forming her position. She is fair, balanced and open-minded. She served on the Board of Agriculture for two terms ending in 2005 and was a valued member of the Board.

Ms. Matsushima is the owner and CEO of Alluvion, a highly successful agribusiness that she has built over the last twelve years on 20 acres along Oahu's North Shore. Ms. Matsushima's company includes a nursery, full florist operation, gift basket business and plant rentals.

Ms. Matsushima earned a Bachelor of Education and a Professional Teaching Certification from the University of Hawai'i. She and her husband moved to Seattle where she received a Professional Certification from the University of Washington and taught in the Renton School District for five years. Ms. Matsushima returned to

Honolulu in 1976 and was an elementary school teacher for the Department of Education. Ms. Matsushima worked for Amfac Garden Hawai'i, Inc. from 1978-1990, rose to president and general manager, and is credited with expanding the nursery's stock from seven plant varieties to more than 500. In 1990, Ms. Matsushima and a business partner started the Aloha Pacific Farms nursery business in Ka'a'awa. In 1995 Ms. Matsushima bought the nursery from her partner, renamed it Alluvion, and moved the operation to Kawaiiloa.

Ms. Matsushima also serves on many boards and councils including consultant for the Biosystems Technology Program; member of the University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Advisory Board; past president Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii; and past chair of the Western Region, Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), Administrative Council.

Ms. Matsushima is highly regarded in the agricultural community and is characterized as a collaborative, innovative, forward-looking, and astute agri-businessperson. Ms. Matsushima's experiences in agriculture and education have provided her with an understanding to take into account both economic and environmental concerns in finding the balance that will assure Hawaii's well-being into the future. Ms. Matsushima would be an invaluable asset to the Environmental Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support for Ms. Susan T. Matsushima's confirmation to the Environmental Council.



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Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921

APRIL 10, 2008

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 580
SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA

Chair Menor and Committee Members:

My name is Alan Takemoto, Executive Director, of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, which is the largest non-profit general agriculture organization representing approximately 1,600 farm and ranch family members statewide.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation strongly supports the nomination of Ms. Susan T. Matsushima to the Environmental Council.

Ms. Matsushima has been actively involved in agriculture and environmental issues for nearly 30 years. As a former member of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture and as President of Alluvion, Inc., Ms. Matsushima has addressed agricultural and environmental issues statewide. Her experience and familiarity with local farming practices will help her provide valuable input to the efforts of the Environmental Council. Ms. Matsushima is committed to the belief that agriculture production and environmental stewardship are compatible and mutually dependent.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to support the nomination of Susan T. Matsushima to the Environmental Council. We hope that you will give Ms. Matsushima's nomination to this position serious consideration.



Maui County Farm Bureau

*An Affiliate of the American Farm Bureau Federation and Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation
Serving Maui's Farmers and Ranchers*

APRIL 10, 2008

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 580
SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA

Chair Menor and Committee Members:

My name is Warren Watanabe, Executive Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau, a non-profit general agriculture organization and an affiliate of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.

MCFB on behalf of our member farmers, ranchers and agricultural organizations, **supports GM580**, appointing Ms. Susan Matsushima to the Environmental Council.

As a successful entrepreneurial farmer, Ms. Matsushima has embraced the qualities of environmental stewardship in her day to day activities at Alluvion Farms. We believe her practical knowledge will add value to the deliberations before the Council.

We strongly urge your support towards the appointment of Ms. Susan Matsushima. Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this matter.

Personal Testimony Presented before the
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
April 10, 2008
3:00 p.m.
by
Dr. Andrew G. Hashimoto

GM580: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Environmental Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Hashimoto. I serve as the Dean of UH Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) and an ex-officio member of the Board of Agriculture. I am pleased to provide this personal testimony on GM 580. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawai'i or of CTAHR.

I strongly support the confirmation of Susan Matsushima to the Environmental Council.

I have worked with Susan for many years. She is a member of our college's Board of Advisors and a valued member of Hawai'i's agricultural community. She is a committed advocate for land and water conservation and sustainability. Through her involvement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program, the Food Alliance, and the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, Susan supports environmentally sound growing practices. She has managed grants for a variety of federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency. Susan brings remarkable energy and dedication to all her endeavors. I am certain that the Environmental Council will benefit from her diverse experience in the fields of education, farming, business, and public service, and I wholeheartedly endorse her confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Alfredo Lee
98-1960 D Kaahumanu Street
Pearl City, HI 96782

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

April 10, 2008
3:00 p.m.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 580
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,

SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2012

Chairperson Menor and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in **strong support** of Ms. Susan Matsushima's consideration and confirmation to the Environmental Council.

Ms. Matsushima is well known in the agricultural industry and in her community. She has a very extensive background in education, agriculture, and business. I have known her since she was a vice-president at Amfac. Currently she is the owner of Alluvian Farm, a nursery operation on the north shore of Oahu. For many years she was a member of the Board of Agriculture.

I find Ms. Matsushima a very creative thinker and have come up with fresh ideas to resolve old problems. She will be a very valuable member of the Environmental Council. Thank you.

ALLUVION, INC.
P.O. BOX 820
HALEIWA, HI 96712
808-637-8835

Re: Environmental Council Nomination

My name is Susan Matsushima, CEO/Owner of Alluvion, Inc. on the North Shore of Oahu. I am an educator by training and upon my return to the Islands from Seattle, was not able to find employment in that field.

In 1979, I joined Amfac Garden Hawaii as the first sales person with 7 people. In twelve years became general manager of the operation with 67 people. In 1990 Aloha Pacific Farms in Kaaawa was started with a partner from Taiwan. Moved to Kawaihoa outside of Haleiwa on the North Shore and started Alluvion, Inc. in 1996.

Being deeply involved in agriculture for the last 27 years, in various capacities, I have been concerned about our Island State and the issues that need to be protected to preserve our delicate environment. Being on the Board of this Council, agriculture would have a voice that needs to be heard.

In looking at the list of members of the Board, agriculture has never had any input. With many issues coming forth, things like invasive species, erosion, and taking prime agricultural lands for development need to be scrutinized.

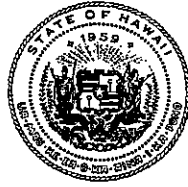
Hawaii needs to be very conscious about the environment we live in. We need to be more self sustaining in production of our food needs for the people of our state and issues that involve any part of our environment.

It would be an honor to present a voice for agriculture on the Council.

Best regards,

Susan Matsushima

GM 581



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16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

3 April 4, 2008

For: To Whom It May Concern

From: John A. Richards

Subject: Statement of interest for HAWAII ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

I would like to formally express my interest to serve on the HAWAII ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL.

I grew up here in Hawaii. I then went to Washington State University. I then served in the US ARMY for 5 years. I lived in Europe for over 3 years. Served and traveled in many different countries. I now have been back for over 10 years. I am the Operations Manager for Kahua Ranch on the Big Island. Family operated for 80 years. In my travels and work I have never found anywhere better.

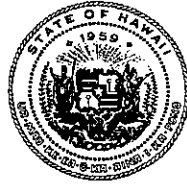
Today, Hawaii is facing some challenges. With my background in agriculture, visitor activities as well as security and experiencing other parts of the world's solutions, I feel I have a valuable perspective that may be helpful in facing these challenges. The Councils task of providing information and advisement by citizens offers a great opportunity to find solutions outside the normal channels.

Hawaii has invaluable natural assets as well as virtually limitless potential for business that are suited to this unique environment. The key is, and always has been, sustainable balance.

Thank you for your consideration

John A. Richards

GM 612



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A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

HAWAII FAMILY FORUM BOARD

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Austin Imamura
Vice-President

Gill Berger
Secretary

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D'Olier, H. Mitchell
Pace, Dr. Nancy
Papandrew, Tom
Paty, William
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Tsujimura, R. Brian
Young, Sandra

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Bishop of Honolulu

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Pilar, Prudencio
Larson, Betty Lou
Rauckhorst, Jerome
Tom, Myron
Yoshimitsu, Walter

Date: April 3, 2008

To: The Honorable Ron Menor
Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy & Environment

From: Walter Yoshimitsu
Representing both the Hawaii Family Forum &
Hawaii Catholic Conference

Re: **Strong Support for the Confirmation of
Gill Berger (GM 612) for the Environmental Council**

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my strongest possible support for the confirmation of Gill Berger to the Environmental Council.

Personally, I am very impressed with Mr. Berger's plans and ideas regarding the environment. I know from years of working with him, that he strongly believes that one of the most important issues to the people of Hawaii is the establishment and management of a sustainable environmental policy.

His work experience includes many years of regional and corporate managerial positions. This business experience — along with a strong networking ability — has proven highly effective in many aspects of his career. One of his greatest assets is his ability to mediate between parties of a differing viewpoint.

Because of his experience in the housing issue on the Waianae Coast, any endeavor he takes on will be successful. It was this effort that made it apparent that his commitment to the people of Hawaii extended beyond the walls of business. I was impressed with his determination and efforts in that endeavor.

Please confirm Gill Berger to the Environmental Council. The people of Hawaii need his leadership and excellence in the area of environmental improvement.

Mahalo for your kind consideration.

**IMANAKA
KUDO &
FUJIMOTO**

A Limited Liability Law Company

April 3, 2008

Mitchell A. Imanaka
Benjamin A. Kudo
Wesley M. Fujimoto
Jon M.H. Pang
Richard T. Asato, Jr.
Naomi U. Kuwaye

The Honorable Ron Menor
Chair - Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Gubernatorial Nominee to the Environmental Council,
Gill Gillies Berger - GM 612

Dear Senator Menor:

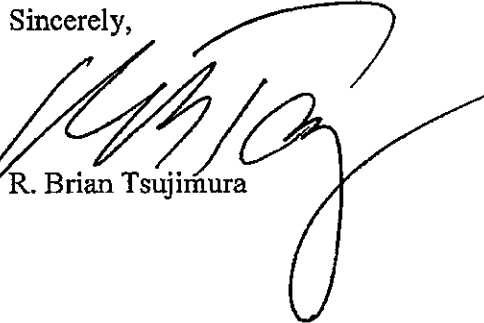
It is my honor to submit this testimony in strong support of my friend Gill Berger to the State Environmental Council.

I have served for many years with Gill on the board of the Hawaii Family Forum. I know him to be a trustworthy, dedicated and deeply concerned individual. I know that he will bring these talents to this board.

His extensive business experience will also bring a needed perspective to the Council. Gill has spent more than 40 years in the business world, of which 38 were with Sears. This gives Gill a particular sensitivity to the impact of business on the environment and the impact of the actions of government on the environment which impact business. This balance is a key attribute for any member on this important board. Gill understands, maybe more than most, how this tension affects both business and the environment. In this, I have faith in his ability and integrity to do the right thing, not because it is popular but because it is the right thing to do. His is a unique and precious gift for us in Hawaii.

I wholeheartedly and unequivocally endorse and support his appointment and request your and your committee's favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



R. Brian Tsujimura

TOPA Financial Center
Fort Street Tower
745 Fort Street, 17th Floor
Honolulu Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 521-9500
Facsimile: (808) 541-9050
info@imanakakudo.com
<http://www.imanakakudo.com>

Speech & Language Pathology Associates
40 Aulike Street
Suite 311
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

April 6, 2008

The Honorable Ron Menor
Chairman of the Energy & Environmental Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Senator Menor:

It gives me great pleasure to support the nomination of Gill Berger to the Hawaii State Environmental Council.

I know Mr. Berger to be an outstanding businessman, community volunteer and someone who is passionate about protecting our environment, while at the same time, advocating for recycling and developing renewable energy that will strike a balance between development and protecting the Aina.

Mr. Berger has been a leader in helping to acquire housing for the homeless, working with the local community to reach consensus, while at the same time, remaining sensitive to the culture and economic challenges for those in need.

I have served with Mr. Berger on the Endowment Committee for HIM – Hawaiian Islands Ministries and have found him to be an extremely skilled leader who interacts well with groups and individuals.

I believe that the Hawaii State Environmental Council would be fortunate to have someone of Mr. Berger's intellect, experience and caring attitude to be a member of its team.

Sincerely,

Miriam Hellreich, M.A. CCC-SLP
40 Aulike St. Suite 311
Kailua, HI 96734
808-284-3235

menor4

From: KKen116@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2008 3:01 PM
To: menor4
Subject: Recommendation in Support of Gill Berger ref: GM#612

Dear Senator Menor:

I am writing this email in strong support for the selection of **Mr. Gill Berger** to the State Environmental Council. I have known Gill for over 10 years, and can say without reservation that he holds himself to the highest standards of integrity and honesty. His hands on management style is legend. When he was the Ala Moana Sears store manager it was not unusual to see him on the floor daily encouraging his employees and ensuring the best level of customer service. His personal involvement with community projects such as the Waianae Project to provide the homeless with shelters is further evidence of his commitment to excellence and to helping our community.

Gill Berger will be a proactive member of the Council. I have never seen him do anything half way. I can think of no better person to fill this vacancy. I whole heartedly support the selection of Gill Berger to this position.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Best regards,

Kraig Kennedy
864-6609 (C)

Planning your summer road trip? Check out [AOL Travel Guides](#).

menor4

From: Sen. Ron Menor
Sent: Sunday, April 06, 2008 6:09 PM
To: menor4
Subject: FW: GM #612 State Environmental Council - G. Berger

From: Adele Chong [mailto:adelechong@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Sun 4/6/2008 3:29 PM
To: Sen. Ron Menor
Subject: GM #612 State Environmental Council - G. Berger

Senator Menor,

I am writing in support of Gill Berger's nomination to the State Environmental Council. I have known Mr. Berger for approximately 10 years. He is very conscientious in following up on all commitments. He is a good listener, and makes informed decisions. Since his retirement he has sought, and found, ways to be of service to Hawaii, his adopted state. He holds a leadership position (elder) at First Presbyterian Church, and in other not-for-profit organizations. I ask you to vote favorably on his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Adele Chong
654 Hind Iuka Drive
Honolulu 96821
808-373-2890

4/7/2008

testimony

From: Suzanne Maurer [suzanne.maurer@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 05, 2008 8:19 PM
To: menor4; testimony
Subject: Gill Berger--GM#612

Aloha,

My husband and I have had the privilege of knowing Gill and his wife, Laurelyn, for more than 25 years. We were neighbors for many years, then when they returned to the islands, we worshiped at the same church. Through church we were in a small group together and we have partnered in ministry for many events.

Gill is a man of integrity and deep good character. I can honestly describe Gill as a Godly man. He is a committed husband and father. He was a dedicated employer and is a dependable friend.

If selected as a member of the State Environmental Council he will diligently and honorably participate. Gill has a heart for the homeless and has a servant's heart, period!

Mahalo nui loa for letting me share my thoughts and please know that my husband would "ditto" the above. Both Gill and Laurelyn are remarkable people.

Aloha ke Akua ia 'oe,

Suzanne Maurer

**Personal Statement of John Gillies “Gill” Berger,
in consideration of candidacy to the Hawaii State
Environmental Council:**

**Members of the Energy and Environmental
Committee,**

**After serving 30+ years in the business world,
I have dedicated my remaining energy and gifts to
serving the people of Hawaii in varying public
service and non-profit roles. I serve on various
local faith-based Boards, and participate actively
in protecting these islands, the people, and the
environment.**

**Believe my serving on the State
Environmental Council will allow me to further
contribute to sustainable environmental policies,
processes and plans. There may be no more
important issue to the people of Hawaii than the
establishment, management of a sustainable
environmental policy. From alternate energy
sources, to recycling, to ‘green’ construction, and
more: these are critical times, and issues that
must be addressed. My personal environmental
philosophy is extracted from recent publications
on the subject: “A sustainable environment is one
in which the natural environment, the economic
development and social quality of life are viewed
as mutually dependent....**

The interaction between them contributes to the sustainability and enhancement of peoples lives, and the natural environment.”

Most recently, I have been active in facilitating solutions for the Homeless situation with an emphasis on “changing lives”, respectful of the culture of the people of the islands and the economic challenges facing all of us.

My business career involved managing varying aspects of a large retail business. This included store remodels, asbestos removal processes, green construction, the implementation of EMS systems, recycling of cardboard, and other logistic materials.

In addition, my management and leadership experience has provided me the opportunity to develop mature mediation skills. Allowing me to guide people from “confrontation to consensus”. I believe these are skills paramount to professionally, and ethically serving on the State environmental Council.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination,

J. Gill Berger