

April 27, 2008

Honorable Norman Sakamoto  
Chair, Education Committee  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dar Chair Sakamoto and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

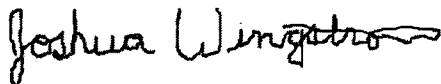
**RE: GM656**

This letter is in SUPPORT of the confirmation of Joshua Wingstrom for nomination to the University of Hawaii's Board of Regents.

Mr. Wingstrom has three primary strengths. First, his experience with the University of Hawaii Student Caucus gives him a system wide perspective and a network of people throughout the state that he can utilize in making decisions. Additionally, he has approximately six years of experience with student government at multiple Universities and in a wide variety of capacities (including two years of experience on a judiciary board). The fact that he has also served on the executive board of his church youth group, Kokokahi Sail and Yacht Club, UH ICS Club, the Graduate Student Organization (GSO), and the UH Student Caucus is testament to others confidence in his ability to lead. Finally, assuming that the P-20 initiative is critical to the University of Hawaii's success, his experience with the University of Hawaii's Laboratory for Information and Learning Technologies provided him with the opportunity to work with rural schools to help enable educators to collaborate on Unit and Lesson plans. Also, he has a substitute teaching certificate from the DOE. The sum of all these experiences provide him with a wide institutional perspective and a deep K-12 through graduate school perspective.

Thank-you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua Wingstrom". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Joshua Wingstrom

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**From:** Katie Barry [katieba@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2008 4:22 PM  
**To:** Sen. Norman Sakamoto; Sen. Jill Tokuda; Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland; Sen. Clayton Hee; Sen. Clarence Nishihara; Sen. Brian Taniguchi; Sen. Sam Slom; Sen. Mike Gabbard  
**Cc:** katieba@hawaii.edu; agbayani@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** UH Student Regent Nominee Graduates 1 Month After Appointment Starts  
**Attachments:** Picture 1.png; 08-candidateswingstrom.pdf

Dear Honorable Senators of the Senate Education Committee,

As a former student leader at the University of Hawaii, I write to notify you that the current nominee for the student seat on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents will reportedly graduate 1 month after his term starts on July 1, 2008. This means that he would only serve one month as the Student Regent as an actual student.

The biography he wrote for the Regents Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC [www.hawaii.edu/rcac](http://www.hawaii.edu/rcac)) explicitly states that he intends to graduate in August of 2008. I have attached a .pdf copy of his biography. It probably is not the best allocation of resources to train this individual in the complexities of Board matters for one month's work.

In addition, as a regent he will represent the University. And on this count his MySpace page is horrendous. He lists "naked parties" and "beer pong" as his favorite activities. His cover picture is a picture of him "beer bonging." Its a little disappointing that this person is now the Chair of the University of Hawaii Student Caucus, an organization I use to work for.

You can find his myspace page at: [http://www.myspace.com/dakine\\_josh](http://www.myspace.com/dakine_josh)

Please use your best judgement to decide if this person should sit on the Board of Regents.

Best regards,

Katie Barry  
Former Secretary, University of Hawaii Student Caucus  
Former ASUH Senator

# Presentation before the Senate Committee on Education

April 28, 2008

Nominee: Howard H. Karr

Board Position: Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii

Chair Sakamoto, members of the Senate Committee on Education, thank you for this opportunity to present testimony about myself in your consideration of my confirmation to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATED**

I was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii and educated in Hawaii's public school system. I graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1961. I attended and graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1966 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in accounting and a minor in economics.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

In 1966, I joined the Big Eight accounting firm of Coopers and Lybrand, the predecessor firm to PricewaterhouseCoopers as a staff accountant. I received my Certified Public Accountant certificate in 1968. My audit clients included the University of Hawaii, real estate developers, financial institutions, governmental entities, wholesale and retail businesses and not-for-profit organizations. I resigned and joined First Hawaiian Bank as an Assistant Controller in 1973.

At the time of my retirement in July 2002, I was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of BancWest Corporation (a \$33 billion financial institution) and Vice Chairman of the Administration and Finance Group (which included the Controller's, Legal and Information Technology Divisions) of First Hawaiian Bank. During my career at the Bank, I was quite involved in the acquisitions of Hawaii Thrift & Loan, First Interstate Bank of Hawaii, Pioneer Federal Savings & Loan, and the merger with Bank of the West and the acquisition of BancWest Corporation by BNP Paribas, a \$2.5 billion transaction. The BNP Paribas/BancWest transaction was the largest in Hawaii history.

### **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER**

I have been involved with numerous community and not-for-profit organizations and presently serve on eight volunteer boards and committees although retired. The extent of my involvement in volunteer boards is enumerated in my resume. As to the University of Hawaii, I have served in various capacities with the University of Hawaii Foundation for 14 years and served as Chairman of this private fund raising arm of the University for three annual terms. I presently serve on several committees of the Foundation and with my wife, Audrey, serve on the Foundation's \$250 million Centennial Campaign Cabinet.

### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

I have received the prestigious Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette from the Government of Japan "for outstanding services and achievements in strengthening the bonds of friendship between Japan and Hawaii." I have also been recognized by the University of Hawaii Alumni Association with the Distinguished Alumni Award and have been inducted into the Alumni Hall of Honor at the University of Hawaii's Shidler School of Business Administration.

### **COMMITMENT TO SERVE**

As stated above, I have the educational, work experience and background necessary for a Regent. Furthermore, I believe that I have the passion, commitment and vision to serve and to accomplish the important duties and responsibilities of a Regent. The University is the most important educational and economic engine in Hawaii and I would like to be a contributing member in the University's endeavor.

### **CONCLUSION**

I look forward to the opportunity of serving on the Board of Regents and ask for the Committee's support of my nomination. Thank you.

DANIEL K. AKAKA  
HAWAII

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
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**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1103

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April 25, 2008

Honorable Norman Sakamoto  
Chairman and Members of the  
Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

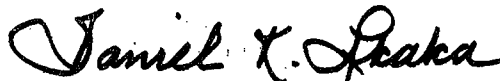
I am writing in strong support of Mr. Howard H. Karr who has been nominated to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Hawaii. He is also a CPA. After a distinguished career in banking where he reached the top rungs of the executive circle in the largest bank in Hawaii, he retired in 2002 and has devoted his time to volunteer activities.

Please note that among the several organizations that Mr. Karr has devoted his time and energy to is the University of Hawaii Foundation. He joined the foundation in 1993 and served as its chairman from 1997 to 1998 and 2003 to 2005. He continues to be a member of the board. Mr. Karr is a member of the Community Colleges Committee and served as its chairman from 2000 to 2003 and remains as a member. He also served on the Advisory Council and Board of Advisors of the University of Hawaii School of Accountancy.

I will not repeat here Mr. Karr's many other volunteer activities and contributions which are contained in his resume but feel that I should mention the honors and awards that he received. He was inducted into the University of Hawaii School of Business Administration Alumni Hall of Honor in 1997 and honored as a Distinguished Alumni in 2003. In 2004, the government of Japan honored Mr. Karr with its Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to write in strong support of the confirmation of Mr. Howard H. Karr to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. If confirmed, he will carry out his duties and responsibilities of this governing board with distinction.

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA  
U.S. Senator

**Subj: Personal Recommendation for Howard Karr to the Board of Regents at UH**  
**Date: 4/23/2008 4:45:02 P.M. Hawaiian Standard Time**  
**From: LilyBanker**  
**To: www.sakamoto2@capitol.hawaii.com**  
**CC: Howard5277**

Dear Senator Sakamoto, it has been a long time that I haven't seen you since my retirement from First Hawaii Bank on 7/1/2003. Today, I am delighted to hear that Governor Lingle has submitted my dear friend, Howard Karr as her nominee to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. I can't think of any other person who is more qualified and more deserving to have the Governor's nomination as Howard. As you will see in his resume, Mr. Karr has a wealth of business and community services experience which will contribute immensely to our University once he is confirmed by you and your committee members. I have worked with him for 10 years at First Hawaiian Bank, he is such a gentleman, a team player, a leader and an intelligent businessman. It was indeed my pleasure working with him in the past and I do treasure his friendship and my association with him very much. Therefore, as the Chair of Former Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, I am sincerely submit my personal recommendation to you to confirm Mr. Howard Karr as the incoming Board of Regent of the University of Hawaii. If there is anything I can be of help to you, please feel free to contact me at this email address as I will be leaving for Arizona for 8 days and will be back to Honolulu on May 2 or you can reach me at my cell phone #808-927-6733. With mahalo and aloha to you and your committee members, sincerely yours, Lily K. Yao, 683 Kaulana Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96821.

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April 23, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

State Capitol, Room 230

Honolulu, HI 96813

To the Honorable Chairperson and Committee Members:

I respectfully submit this written testimony in support of Mr. Howard Karr's confirmation as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

I have known Howard Karr professionally for over 15 years and have worked together with him on the Aloha United Way Planned Giving Committee during the last 7 years.

Howard Karr has integrity, is knowledgeable about the University of Hawaii, is respected by the members of this community, is a leader, contributes his time to the community, and will honor the trust that is bestowed upon him.

The University of Hawaii as well as the State of Hawaii will benefit from Howard Karr's strategic management expertise as the UH moves into its second century of operations.

I strongly urged the confirmation of Mr. Howard Karr as a member of the Board Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,



Warren Wee, Ph.D., C.P.A.

1541 Dominis St., #603

Honolulu, HI 96822



**Special Olympics**

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April 23, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto;

I am writing in support of Howard Karr's nomination to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Howard has been a board member of Special Olympics Hawaii since 1992. I know first hand of his commitment and dedication to the organizations he serves. Over the years he has continually contributed his time and expertise to our organization. Howard served as Board Chair for three years and on the Executive Committee of our board for five additional years. He is one of a handful of board members that have elevated the entire board to a higher standard, by his presence, and the work ethic he brings to the board. He has never just been "a board member", he has always been a *contributing* board member...active on committees and willing to assist in any way needed.

I believe that Howard Karr would make an excellent addition to the University of Hawaii's Board of Regents, and I ask you to approve his nomination. If you would like to speak with me further, I can be reached at 943-8808 ext. 22.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bottelo  
President and CEO  
Special Olympics Hawaii



April 24, 2008

WATANABE  
ING  
&  
KOMEIJI

LLP

Sender's E-mail:  
[jkomeiji@wik.com](mailto:jkomeiji@wik.com)

**VIA E-MAIL:** [sensakamoto@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sensakamoto@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **University of Hawaii Regent Nominee: Howard Karr**

Dear Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

I would like to enthusiastically support the confirmation of Mr. Howard Karr to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Having sat with Howard on the University of Hawaii Foundation, I have observed his commitment and dedication to the University of Hawaii. As Chair, Howard was a visionary leader who helped guide us to continue to assist and support our University. The education and well-being of the students was always paramount in his mind during our decision-making.

Howard would bring keen analytical skills and business acumen to the Board. There is no one better in Hawaii in reviewing, analyzing and understanding financial matters. His business experience and skills will assist the University and other members of the Board in improving the institution.

Finally, Howard cares a lot for Hawaii. His resume will amply demonstrate how his life has been geared to help better Hawaii and assist those in need. Appointment to the Board of Regents will be another avenue whereby Howard will contribute to our future.

I can think of no one better than Howard as a Regent for our University. I respectfully request you confirm him. Thank you for permitting me to support his confirmation to the Board.

Very truly yours,

WATANABE ING & KOMEIJI LLP

  
JOHN T. KOMEIJI

JTK:cmm 399563.1

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Committee on Higher Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I am writing you to support the nomination of Howard Karr to be a regent of the University of Hawaii.

I have known Howard for many years. I have watched with admiration his successful career as First Hawaiian Bank's chief financial officer and also his effective leadership of the University of Hawaii Foundation. He has a first-rate mind, he is a broad thinker, and he is not doctrinaire. He will listen before he acts, and I'm confident he will always act in the best interest of the UH. I think he is also aware of the complexities of the governance of the UH, and its relationship with the state capitol.

I was once a regent of the UH, and even its chairman. I was also a leader in the House of Representatives. So I'm aware of those complexities. I can think of no better individual in Hawai'i to deal with the future of the UH than Howard Karr.

Sincerely,

Stuart T.K. Ho

(808) 377.1313  
stuho@aol.com

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Dear Senator Sakamoto,

I understand your Committee on Education will be confirming nominations to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

As a graduate of the University of Hawaii, and having the privilege of being one of its distinguished alumni, I understand the importance of a strong, vibrant university to our state. One of the key elements of maintaining a first class public university system is the strong, independent leadership of the Board of Regents.

I, therefore, highly recommend Howard H. Karr for your Committee's confirmation. I have known Howard for many years and can attest to his business acumen, support of our community and specific support of our University. The University of Hawaii will be well served with Howard Karr as a regent.

Thank you Senator Sakamoto for your consideration.

Aloha,

Bob

Robert P. Hiam

FRANK BOAS  
4463 AUKAI AVENUE  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

TELEPHONE  
(808) 734-6434

April 24, 2008

VIA FACSIMILE: 586-8588

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chairman  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Norman:

It is with great pleasure that I write to you to support the nomination of Howard H. Karr to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. As you have seen from his resume, Howard has a record of outstanding accomplishment.

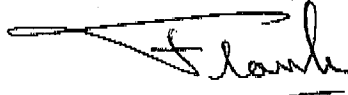
He has received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the UH Alumni Association and has been inducted in the Alumni Hall of Honor by the Shidler College of Business at the UH.

Howard is a member of the Executive Committee of the UH Foundation and has twice served as Chairman. I have served with Howard for many years on the UH Foundation Board and can attest to his outstanding leadership skills and his devotion to the University.

Howard is exactly the kind of candidate which we envisioned when we prepared and worked on the constitutional amendment to provide for a merit based selection system for the UH Board of Regents.

I very much enjoyed our recent breakfast meeting and I look forward to having you over to the Academy of Arts next month after the end of the legislative session.

With Aloha,



Frank Boas



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April 24, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Letter of Recommendation

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

This is a letter of recommendation for **Howard Karr**, a candidate for the Board of Regents for the University of Hawaii. Howard is keenly familiar with, and committed to, the University as well as its Foundation. This is evidenced in the many positions that he has held, as well as contributions made to the institution.

Another organization that Howard is very committed to is the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific. Being a member of the Board since 1993, Howard has played numerous roles such as Chairman of the Board, and chair of the investment, finance and audit committees. He brings the knowledge of the community, networking, experience with non-profits, fundraising experience, and corporate knowledge to the table. Howard has been very influential in determining the strategy at REHAB. Healthcare has become a business and our need to survive in spite of rapidly declining reimbursements has become a challenge. With Howard on our board, it has been an easier course to map.

Needless to say, Howard will be an asset to the Board of Regents at the University of Hawaii. He is indeed a citizen of this community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ko Miyataki  
President



MAMORU AND AIKO TAKITANI FOUNDATION, INC.

P.O. Box 10687 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-0687 • (808) 548-7272 • info@takitanifoundation.org

April 24, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Howard H. Karr

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

With great pleasure, I enthusiastically support Howard H. Karr's nomination to the University of Hawaii's Board of Regents.

I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Karr for many years on the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific Board of Directors, and have continually been impressed with Howard's foresight, knowledge and strong leadership. He has the unique ability to blend the values and goals of different individuals into a cohesive vision, always for the greater good.

Mr. Karr's dedication to the University is very clearly evident through our interactions on other non-profit entities I serve on as well. His contributions to any discussion often include a request for collaboration with the University of Hawaii on how best to meet the needs of both the University and the non-profit entity.

Howard Karr is an outstanding community leader who would serve the University extremely well as a Regent. I respectfully endorse his nomination with great confidence.

Sincerely,

Janice Luke Loo

Vice President, Mamoru and Aiko Takitani Foundation  
Vice Chair, Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific Foundation  
Director, REHAB Hospital  
Director, K.J. Luke Foundation  
Director, Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii

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FAX 808-951-3409

April 25, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

This letter is to ask that you consider Howard Karr's nomination to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. I have known Mr. Karr since we were both students at Roosevelt High School. Throughout all of the intervening years, I have always known Howard to be a person of great dignity, integrity and compassion. His professional career at First Hawaiian Bank needs very little embellishment and his community involvement and service continues to be exemplary. With his extensive financial experience and demonstrated commitment to the University, he would make for an outstanding regent.

Sincerely,



Alan Tomonari  
Vice President  
General Manager

AT:mk

*Neiman Marcus*

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GODA**  
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Bert T. Kobayashi, Jr.\*  
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Lanson K. Kupau\*  
Nathan H. Yoshimoto\*  
Kenneth M. Nakasone\*  
Gregory M. Sato\*  
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-----  
Brendan S. Bailey  
Neal T. Cota  
Jason M. Minami  
Lisa K.Y. Nakahara  
Shohei Nishimoto  
Jesse W. Schiel  
Robert A. Ueoka

\*A Law Corporation

April 25, 2008

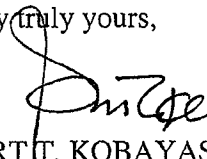
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
www.sensakamoto@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Howard Karr

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I have known Howard Karr for about forty years and have good reason to be knowledgeable as to his character and integrity. I have known him on a social basis and also worked with him based upon my involvement with First Hawaiian Bank as a director since 1974 and the fact that he was a person who worked his way up to the position of CFO, not only for the First Hawaiian Bank, but also for the bank holding corporation owned by P. N. P. Paribas. During that entire time period he has excelled as to his financial and business skills and is a person that I believe would provide a great benefit to the Board of Regents and the University of Hawaii. I strongly endorse his candidacy without reservation.

Very truly yours,



BERT T. KOBAYASHI, JR.

for  
KOBAYASHI, SUGITA & GODA



John Hara  
Associates Inc.  
ARCHITECTS

April 27, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Letter of Recommendation  
Howard H. Karr  
Board of Regents  
University of Hawai'i

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Howard H. Karr to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i.

As an architect, I came to know Howard in the late 1980's doing work for First Hawaiian Bank. Throughout this time, in addition to his leadership position at the bank, he has consistently reinforced his lifelong commitment to all segments of Hawai'i's community life. Volunteer activities that Howard has participated in are an indication of his care and concern to be involved.

Howard, through his experience with various organizations of the University of Hawai'i, has acquired a formidable body of knowledge about the University and its various and diverse functions. He has a proven record of accomplishments working towards the betterment of the University community. He cares deeply about students who receive an education in our islands.

I strongly support the nomination of Howard Karr to the Board of Regents for what his work has signified, for his sensitivity to where he lives, and for what he means as a leader in this community.

Sincerely,



John M. Hara FAIA



April 27, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI. 96813

Re: Howard Karr - Nomination to Board of Regents

Dear Senator Sakamoto,

I urge you and Members of your Committee to endorse Howard Karr to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

Over the past 22 years that I know Howard, first in his various Executive Positions at First Hawaiian Bank in doing business with Hilton Hawaiian Village while I was responsible for operations of that resort during my employment with Hilton. Howard was always keenly interested in customer service and made sure that Hilton Hawaiian Village was made aware of all options and services available for its account. He demonstrated outmost integrity and care.

In addition, while I served on the Executive Committee of the Hawaii State Chamber of Commerce I observed Howard's deep interest in the vitality of the greater community and especially on the well being of Small Business. During the past two years I served as Chairman of the Japan-America Society of Hawaii and had the pleasure to have Howard on my Executive Committee. Howard was very instrumental in supporting and contributing to the Societies fund raising efforts and served as Chairman of the Development Committee. He actively participated in the Societies community affairs, his tireless efforts and contributions to foster friendships between the People of Japan and Hawaii and especially the education of the Children to expand their appreciation and understanding of the diverse cultures are truly remarkable.

Senator Sakamoto, your support of Howard Karr to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii will assure a voice on the Board with vision, leadership, openness, honesty, care, a willingness to listen and not being afraid of making difficult decisions.

Thank you for your and your Committees consideration.

Peter H. Schall



ALLAN R. LANDON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

April 26, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto  
15th Senatorial District  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Honorable Senator Sakamoto,

I want to express my support for the nomination of Howard Karr as a Regent at the University of Hawaii. I have known and worked with Howard for several years. He has the background and skills that will be of great help to the Regents and our University. Howard has experience with management of large business and budgets. He understands complex organizations. Howard is goal driven and persistent. He brings commitment, loyalty and energy to his endeavors. Howard is easy to work with and personable. At the same time he is disciplined.

Howard is a leader. And combined with his dedication to our University, I believe he will be an excellent addition to the Board of Regents.

We need Howard as a Regent and I encourage you and your fellow senators to confirm his nomination.

Very truly yours,



# HAWAII BANKERS ASSOCIATION

1000 BISHOP ST., SUITE 301B • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-4203  
PHONE: (808) 524-5161 • FAX: (808) 521-4120

April 24, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

The Hawaii Bankers Association (HBA) supports the nomination of Howard H. Karr for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. HBA is a trade organization whose membership includes all commercial banks and thrift institutions doing business in Hawaii.

Howard has been a respected member of the Hawaii banking community for many years and a leader in our industry. He has always handled himself in a very professional manner and was fair in his dealings with his peers and subordinates.

Over his banking career and beyond, he has always lived by the belief that a banker needs to contribute to his community's success through volunteerism. Howard has played an involved leadership role in numerous civic and charitable organizations. He can be counted on to do the best job possible and leads by example.

He has a wealth of experience dealing with complex business and financial matters, which should prove valuable as a Regent. In addition, we believe he will dedicate the time necessary to be an effective member of the Board.

We respectfully request your confirmation of Howard H. Karr as a Board of Regent for the University of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Gary Y. Fujitani  
Executive Director

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I am writing to express my full support for the nomination of Howard Karr as a University of Hawaii Regent. I have known Howard for almost 30 years in both a business and personal setting. Howard is an extremely bright, dedicated individual who has the experience, business acumen and financial background that the increasingly complex University System needs as it celebrates its Centennial anniversary. I believe that he will be an excellent regent, an independent thinker and a positive contributor to the mission of our Alma Mater.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the process of education in our state at all levels.

Best regards and aloha,

Kent

Kent K. Tsukamoto  
Managing Partner  
Accuity LLP  
999 Bishop Street Suite 1900  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Ph. (808) 531-3400  
Fax (808) 531-3433

Andrew I.T. Chang  
Vice President, External Affairs  
HEI, Inc.  
P.O. Box 0730  
Honolulu, HI 96808-0730

**Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 225  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Monday, April 28, 2008  
3:00 P.M.**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF MR. HOWARD KARR  
NOMINEE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
Governor's Message # 657**

**Chair Sakamoto and members of the Committee:**

**I am pleased and honored to submit testimony in strong support of Mr. Howard Karr on his nomination by Governor Linda Lingle to serve as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. I am sure you have been presented an impressive list of his many accomplishments which, by itself, would speak to his nomination.**

**I have known and worked closely with Mr. Karr for nearly eight years in our service to the Hawaii Medical Service Association where we both serve on its board of directors. But beyond that, he has impressed me as a person with extraordinary integrity and a keen sense for doing the right thing. And, while he brings his professional experience and knowledge in financial matters to HMSA, it is his counsel and guidance to the management of the HMSA that is especially valued. His years of extensive service to many community organizations deepened his awareness of critical issues affecting our state.**

**I believe that with his business acumen and particular sensitivity to the needs of our community, he is well positioned to help our State in meeting one of its most important goals of providing the best possible education for its people. I am confident he will serve us well as a Regent and I urge your favorable consideration in his confirmation.**

**Thank your for the opportunity to testify.**

**Andy Chang**

Dear Senator Sakamoto,

I am writing in strong support of Howard Karr's nomination for University of Hawaii Regent. I have known Howard personally and professionally for many years, and he is unquestionably an individual of great integrity. Howard is very highly regarded as both a business and community leader, and has earned the respect and admiration of his peers.

I have served with Howard on the Aloha United Way Board, where he was Chair of the Planned Giving Committee while I chaired the Finance Committee. I have also served with Howard as a University of Hawaii Foundation Trustee, where he is a past Board Chair and I am the current Board Chair. In all of my Board interactions with Howard, he gives 100% in effort and attention, and openly shares his ideas and perspectives. He brings to every organization an open mind and a willingness to do what is right. While it saddens me to possibly lose Howard as a Foundation Trustee, I recognize that he can better serve the University of Hawaii as a Regent.

I recommend Howard Karr for the position of University of Hawaii Regent in the strongest terms and without reservation or qualification.

Best Regards,

C. Scott Wo  
Chairman, University of Hawaii Foundation Board of Trustees  
Vice President and Chief Investment Officer, C.S. Wo & Sons, Ltd.

HOWARD H. HAMAMOTO

April 24, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I have known Howard Karr for over 30 years and have followed his professional career and his involvement as a dedicated community volunteer.

Howard excels in all that he becomes involved in because of his dedication to any task that he makes a commitment to. I have worked with him in many community organizations and I can attest to the fact that his involvement resulted in those organizations achieving major accomplishments.

The Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation and the Japan-America Society of Hawaii are organizations in which Howard has held leadership positions. I am Chairman of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation and past Chairman of the Japan-America Society of Hawaii. Both organizations are dedicated to providing educational opportunities and academic excellence to Hawaii's students. Howard's involvement has greatly contributed to the success of many programs of those organizations. His dedicated interest and experience in academics coupled with his vast business experience make him ideally qualified to serve as a University of Hawaii Regent.

He has my unqualified endorsement.

Very truly yours,



Howard H. Hamamoto

HHH/lyk





April 25, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto  
Chair, Education Committee  
Hawai'i State Capitol, room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Honorable Sakamoto,

It is my pleasure to support the nomination of Howard H. Karr to a term on the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

I have known and worked with Mr. Karr in business and community service roles for many years. His record in both arenas is truly distinguished. I served with him on the First Hawaiian Bank Board of Directors and in organizations such as the Japan-America Society of Hawaii, on whose Board we currently serve together.

Mr. Karr is a tireless and truly selfless contributor to our community. His long list of community service affiliations is impressive. I would point out to the committee that he has been a dedicated member of the University of Hawai'i family for over four decades, beginning as a student and through his ongoing service as a Board member of the University of Hawai'i Foundation for most of the past fifteen years.

The combination of his banking and accounting professional experience, his long and intimate familiarity with the University, and his deep commitment to bettering our community all will prove invaluable assets for the Board of Regents to draw upon.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to support the nomination of Howard H. Karr to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allen B. Uyeda".

Allen B. Uyeda  
President & CEO

April 25, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Howard H. Karr, Confirmation Hearing, Monday, April 28, 2008 at  
3:00pm, Room 225.

Dear Senator Sakamoto and  
Members of the Committee:

Yes, I support the nomination of Howard H. Karr as a Board of Regent of  
the University of Hawaii.

As a retired Chief Financial Officer of First Hawaiian Bank, a University of  
Hawaii graduate in business with an accounting degree and a Certified  
Public Accountant; these are a few of the major qualities and experiences  
that Howard would bring to the Board.

Additionally, Howard has a sincere and deep sense of involvement in  
community and charitable organizations. The University will benefit from  
his experience over many years in these organizations.

Please vote for the nomination of Howard H. Karr.

Cordially,

(signed)

Rodney R. Shinkawa  
4140 Malapua Place  
Honolulu, HI 96816

Tel: (808) 737-6087



Xerox Corporation  
Glenn O. Sexton  
Vice President/General  
Manager

700 Bishop Street, #1200  
Honolulu, HI 96813

t 808.543.9128  
f 808.543.9177

April 25, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Nomination of Howard Karr

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I have had the privilege of serving with Howard Karr on the Board of Directors for the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific over several years. Mr. Karr has demonstrated exceptional leadership in a myriad of ways. His business experience and knowledge are extraordinary and would be of great value to the University of Hawaii. Further, Mr. Karr's ethics are beyond reproach.

In addition to an expansive business career, Mr. Karr's contribution to our community for a wide variety of non-profit organizations is impressive.

In short, Howard Karr would serve as an excellent addition to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. As a UH Alum myself, I can think of no one better to fulfill this very important role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn O. Sexton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Glenn O. Sexton  
Vice President / General Manager  
Xerox Hawaii

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MARIAN N. NAKAMA, P.E.  
BARRY K. MURANAKA, P.E.

SALVADOR M. QUITORIANO, L.P.L.S.  
BENJAMIN M. GANAL, L.P.L.S.  
JOSEPH S. KEANE, JR.

MATTHEW K. FUJIOKA, P.E.  
JONI C. TANIMOTO, P.E.  
REID K. IKEMORI, P.E.

CHARLES L. JURY  
GAVIN M. GANAL  
CRAIG K. MATSUMOTO

April 23, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
And Members of the Senate Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Senate Committee Members:

Subject: Consideration and Confirmation of Dennis I. Hirota  
to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents

I support Governor Linda Lingle's nomination of Dennis I. Hirota to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I have had the honor of working with Dennis for over 37 years. Dennis and his firm, Sam O. Hirota, Inc., has been a leader in engineering and graphic computer technology and application here in Hawaii. Dennis' background as a practicing civil engineer and land surveyor, bank director, aquatic researcher, and University of Hawaii lecturer, has fully prepared him for the duties and responsibilities required as a Board of Regent.

Dennis is well respected by Hawaii's professional engineering and architectural community.

I respectfully ask for your support of Dennis I. Hirota's confirmation to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Very truly yours,

Robert Y. Akinaka  
Chairman  
Akinaka & Associates, Ltd.

April 23, 2008

Mr. Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Ms. Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Nomination of Dennis Hirota to UH Board of Regents

Dear Senators Norman Sakamoto and Jill Tokuda:

I am writing in support of Mr. Dennis Hirota who has been nominated to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I have known Mr. Hirota through professional endeavors for the past seven years and have found him to be of high integrity with considerable qualities that would make him a valued and reliable Regent of the University.

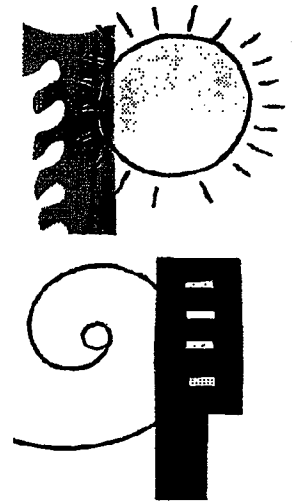
The cornerstone of Mr. Hirota's qualifications will be his foundation of objectivity and fairness with decision making. This not only gives him the ability to search for comprehensive background from which to base his understandings, but unencumbered by bias, allows opportunity for creativity and nurturing — a scenario for stability and growth from which the University would benefit.

As a pillar of our professional community here in Hawaii, Mr. Hirota would bring his work ethic and discipline, together with solid practical underpinnings in his perspective to the Board. Within our community he is known for fairness and for being carefully considerate with his opinions.

Sincerely,



Mark de Reus, AIA



de Reus Architects

65-1291 Kawaihae Rd.  
Suite 105  
Kamuela, HI 96743

T 808 885.6222  
F 808 885.6225  
[www.dereusarch.com](http://www.dereusarch.com)

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April 23, 2008

Mr. Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Ms. Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Nomination of Dennis Hirota to University of Hawaii Board of Regents

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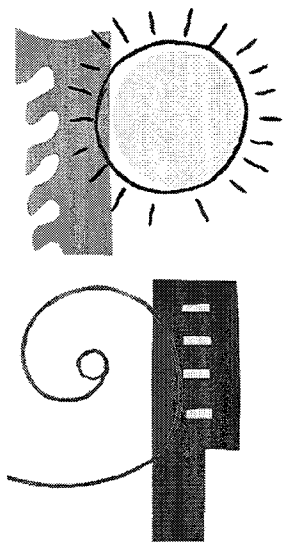
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As a pillar of our professional community here in Hawaii, Mr. Hirota would bring his work ethic and discipline, together with solid practical underpinnings in his perspective to the Board. Within our community he is known for fairness and for being carefully considerate with his opinions.

Sincerely,



Mark de Reus, AIA



de Reus Architects

65-1291 Kawaihae Rd.  
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T 808 885.6222  
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Ken K. Hayashida, P.E.  
Michael P. Hunnemann, P.E.

April 30, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
E-mail: [sensakamoto@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sensakamoto@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
Senate Sergeant-At-Arms Office at 586-6659

**SUBJECT:** Nomination of Dennis Hirota  
University of Hawaii Board of Regents for a term to expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2012  
Senate Committee on Education-Confirmation Hearing: 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> in  
Conference Room 225

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Committee Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to personally endorse Dennis Hirota on his nomination to the University of Hawaii-Board of Regents. Dennis has numerous years of professional experience serving our community from Engineering Company-President, Central Pacific Bank-Director and University Hawaii-Industry Advisory Committee member. He has been a strong supporter of UH Engineering and Athletics program. With our emphasis of science and technology education, he has the required background to provide leadership and direction to expand our programs. His dedication to this was shown in his leadership in the Punahou FIRST robotic team.

I am proud to support Dennis Hirota's nomination to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. His record of professional achievements and record on community service indicate he will provide leadership and direction for the University.

Sincerely,

KAI Hawaii, Inc



Ken Hayashida  
President

KH/ms

**BAYS  
DEAVER  
LUNG  
ROSE  
HOLMA**

Attorneys at Law

16th Floor \* Ali'i Place  
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Phillip L. Deaver  
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Crystal K. Rose  
Karin L. Holma  
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Adrian L. Lavaras  
Sarah M. Love  
Lori N. Tanigawa  
Daniel S. Park  
Jonathan S. Moore  
Megan H. Warren

Jason N. Baba  
(1957-2001)

April 23, 2008

**Via email: [testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)**

Senator Norman Sakamoto  
Education Committee Chair  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto:

I understand that Dennis Hirota has been nominated for appointment to the University Of Hawaii Board Of Regents. I am writing to express my support for his confirmation by the Senate. I have known Mr. Hirota for many years and worked with him on a number of projects in different capacities. I have always been impressed with his professionalism, good judgment and the extensive experience that he has brought to the table. I believe that he would make a fine addition to the Board of Regents and that the University of Hawaii system will benefit greatly from his appointment.



Senator Norman Sakamoto  
April 23, 2008  
Page 2

Thanks for considering my thoughts on this appointment.

Respectfully yours,

BAYS DEEVER LUNG ROSE & HOLMA

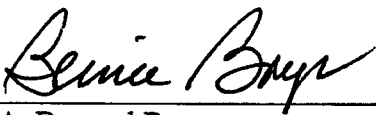
By:   
A. Bernard Bays  
Attorney at Law, A Law Corporation  
Its General Partner

ABB:rt

cc: Jill Toduda, Vice Chair  
Suzanne Chun Oakland  
Mike Gabbard  
Clayton Hee  
Clarence K. Nishihara  
Brian T. Taniguchi  
Sam Slom



# JOSEPH F. BLANCO

April 24, 2008

**Sent via Electronic Mail**

Committee on Education  
The Honorable Norman Sakamoto  
Chair  
The Senate

Re: GM#658 - Supporting Testimony of Gubernatorial Nominee Dennis Hirota  
to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents  
Hearing Date: April 28, 2008, 3:00pm - Conference Room 225

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the nomination of Dennis Hirota to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii. Having known Dennis for over 15 years, I sincerely believe he is eminently qualified to serve as a university regent.

Dennis unique experiences as PhD graduate, faculty researcher, university teacher, private sector entrepreneur, and his years of corporate board governance experience, make him an ideal Board of Regent nominee. I have no doubt Dennis will serve with honor and distinction and will bring a balanced and conscientious voice governing one of Hawaii's most important institutions. Towards that end, I wholeheartedly encourage you and your colleagues to favorably consider his gubernatorial nomination to the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph F. Blanco'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph F. Blanco

Lori T. Tsukada  
2752 Kaaha Street, #310  
Honolulu, HI 96826

April 24, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair  
And Members of the Senate Committee on Education  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Senate Committee Members:

Subject: Consideration and Confirmation of Dennis I. Hirota  
to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents

I support Governor Linda Lingle's nomination of Dennis I. Hirota to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

I am an accounting clerk and have known Dennis for over 18 years. I first got to know Dennis from working together with his firm Sam O. Hirota, Inc., on many architectural/engineering projects. I found Dennis to be very knowledgeable in many areas but his passion for computers always stood out. About 15 years ago, I was in need of a computer for my young children but had very little knowledge and limited funds. On his own time Dennis went shopping and found the best deal (quality and price) and called me to see if I wanted him to pick one up as there were only a few left. He then set up the computer and installed all the software while teaching me as much as I could absorb. I was so touched by his generosity and kindness. Here he was the President of a company taking his valuable time to help my family. I later realized that education was very important to him and he always said that the computer was going to be a vital and necessary learning tool for all children. Today my son is 26 years old and is an electrical engineer in Atlanta. My daughter is 23 and will be graduating next month from the University of Hawaii's Shidler College of Business.

When I learned Dennis was being considered for the UH Board of Regents I felt compelled to write this letter. I continue to have the utmost respect for Dennis as a professional in his field but more importantly for his compassion for others.

I respectfully ask for your support of Dennis I. Hirota's confirmation to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents.

Very truly yours,

*Lori T. Tsukada*

## testimony

---

**From:** Tom Witten [twitten@pbrhawaii.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 24, 2008 4:48 PM

**To:** testimony

**Subject:** Senate Education Committee, April 28, 2008 at 3:00 pm RE: Dennis Hirota, UH Board of Regents

Senator Sakamoto, Chair, and Members  
Senate Education Committee

Dear Chairman and Members,

Please support the nomination of **Dennis Hirota** to the UH Board of Regents.

I have known and worked with Dennis Hirota for over 20 years and he is an excellent selection to serve on the UH Board of Regents. He understands the needs of our community and the importance of providing a quality higher education experience. He has always been an innovator and utilizes the latest technology to advance his professional services of Civil Engineering and Land Surveying. He is an excellent choice to serve our community on the Board of Regents and his diverse experience, knowledge and skills should contribute significantly towards achieving the goals of the Board. Throughout his career, he has continually served the community interests in his business endeavors and always seeks ways to improve his community and our State directly or indirectly.

Although I am unable to personally present this testimony at your hearing on April 28, I wanted to encourage your Committee to support the nomination of Dennis Hirota to the UH Board of Regents.

Mahalo,

Thomas S. Witten, ASLA  
President

PBR HAWAII & Associates, Inc.  
1001 Bishop Street  
ASB Tower, Suite 650  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

PH: 808-521-5631  
Fax: 808-523-1402

[www.pbrhawaii.com](http://www.pbrhawaii.com)

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4/24/2008