



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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March 5, 2008

To: The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: March 7, 2008

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

From: Darwin L.D. Ching, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**GM 406 - DOMINIC K. INOCELDA
Language Access Advisory Council ("OLA")**

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations ("Department") strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. DOMINIC K. INOCELDA.

Dominic Inocelda knows and understands the immigrant and limited English proficient population of Hawaii. He is the current chairperson of the OLA council and has been very effective in moving the office from its infancy to its present state.

Mr. Inocelda holds a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii, and has been working with Hawaii's immigrant community for more than 30 years. He is employed by the Susannah Wesley Community Center in Kalihi where he has served in various program management and administrative functions since 1982. Mr. Inocelda has worked with limited and non-English speakers, the elderly, public housing residents, and persons with serious mental illnesses. Currently, he is the Program Administrator for the Center.

In addition, Mr. Inocelda is actively involved in our community. Particularly, he is the President of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant Services, which was instrumental in the passage of Hawaii's language access bill. He is also the Treasurer of the Kalihi Palama Community Council and a Board Member of Kalihi-Palama Culture & Arts.

In summary, Mr. DOMINIC K. INOCELDA is well-qualified and deserving of confirmation for the OLA.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



DARWIN L. D. CHING
DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SERAFIN P. COLMENARES JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACCESS

STATE OF HAWAII
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March 5, 2008

TO: Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Honorable Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Serafin "Jun" Colmenares, Executive Director, Office of Language Access

RE: **Testimony in Support of GM406 (DOMINIC K. INOCELDA)**

HEARING: Friday, March 7, 2008, 10:00 a.m., Room 016

Good morning, Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor :

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. I am Serafin "Jun" Colmenares, and I am the Executive Director with the Office of Language Access (OLA). The Office of Language Access strongly supports the appointment of DOMINIC K. INOCELDA to the Language Access Advisory Council.

Dominic Inocelda knows and understands the immigrant and limited English proficient population of Hawaii. With a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii, Mr. Inocelda has been working with Hawaii's immigrant community for more than 30 years. He is employed by the Susannah Wesley Community Center in Kalihi where he has served in various program management and administrative functions since 1982. Mr. Inocelda has worked with limited and non-English speakers, the elderly, public housing residents, and persons with serious mental illnesses. Currently, he is the Program Administrator for the Center.

In addition, Mr. Inocelda is actively involved in the community. Particularly, he is the President of the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant Services, which was instrumental in the passage of Hawaii's language access bill. He is also the Treasurer of the Kalihi Palama Community Council and a Board Member of Kalihi-Palama Culture & Arts.

Mr. Inocelda is the current chair of the Language Access Advisory Council and has ably guided the Council during its initial year.

With his background, OLA believes that Mr. Inocelda brings to the Council the much needed voice of an advocacy organization that provides services to limited English proficient persons. For these reasons, the Office of Language Access strongly supports the appointment of DOMINIC K. INOCELDA to the Language Access Advisory Council.



CONGRESS OF VISAYAN ORGANIZATIONS

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 406

Senate Committees on Judiciary and Labor
March 7, 2008, 10 a.m. | Conference Room 016

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

To: Hon. Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Hon. Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Hon. Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee

From: Margarita Hopkins
President, Congress of Visayan Organizations

My name is Margarita Hopkins, President of the Congress of Visayan Organizations, which is a statewide umbrella organization that represents 22 unit organizations of Visayan ancestry.

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee, I testify in strong support of Dominic Inocelda's confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council. For over 20 years, Mr. Inocelda has demonstrated his commitment to immigrants, refugees, the elderly and youth as a social worker and director of immigrant and mental health services at Susannah Wesley. He has served as chair of the Inter-Agency Council For Immigrants, and chair of the Language Access Advisory Council.

We support his continued leadership to bring colleagues to the table to undertake the challenges of capacity building for government agencies to provide language access to Hawai'i's communities whose first language is not English.

Thank you for the opportunity to support Sr. Earnest in my testimony. Please consider doing the same in your vote.

For the President:

Serafin Colmenares Jr.
Executive Vice President

Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. • Kailua, HI 96734 • <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 406

Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
March 7, 2008, 10 a.m. | Conference Room 016

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council,
Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

To: Hon. Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Hon. Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Hon. Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee

From: Charlene Cuaresma, MPH, President, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

My name is Charlene Cuaresma. As president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, I am submitting testimony in support of Dominic Inocelda's confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

Mr. Inocelda has tirelessly served Hawai'i's immigrant and refugee families for generations. The Coalition looks to the leadership of Mr. Inocelda to be inclusive in providing a venue for community and systems language access constituents that can provide useful information and input for the Language Access Advisory Council to deliberate for the implementation of the intent of Act 290. We are grateful for his dedication and service to Hawai'i's limited English proficient communities.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure. Thank you for considering to vote yes on Mr. Inocelda's confirmation.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma
President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 406

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
March 7, 2008
10 a.m.
Conference Room 016

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Governorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

To: Hon. Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Hon. Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Hon. Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee

My name is Amy Agbayani. I serve as Assistant Vice Chair of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations Region XII, which represents the interests of Filipinos in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. NaFFAA Region XII is an affiliate of the National NaFFAA. Washington policy-makers, private industry and national advocacy groups recognize NaFFAA as the Voice of Filipinos and Filipino Americans throughout the United States. We are a non-partisan, non-profit national affiliation of more than five hundred Filipino-American institutions and umbrella organizations that span twelve regions throughout the continental United States and U.S. Pacific territories.

NaFFAA is happy to support the nomination of Dominic Inocelda for confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council. We urge him to utilize his wide network of language access stakeholders to serve as resource persons to the Advisory Council to ensure a wide range of critical analysis to determine best practices for implementing the spirit of the law. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please support his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice Chair, NaFFAA Region XII



OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 • Honolulu • Hawaii 96817

Unit Organizations

Alliance of Residential
 Carehome Administrators
 Aloha Saguisib Cultural
 Foundation, Inc.
 Annac ti Bado iti Hawaii
 Annac ti Batac
 Annac ti Caoayan 2002
 Annac ti Kailokuan iti
 America
 Annac ti Sinait iti Hawaii
 Asingan Organization of
 Hawaii
 Badoc-Pinili Aid
 Association of Hawaii
 Banna Association of
 Hawaii
 Bannatiran Association of
 Hawaii
 Batangas Association of
 Hawaii
 Bulacan Circle of Hawaii
 Caballeros de Dimasalang
 Cabugao Sons & Daughters
 of Hawaii
 Candonians of Hawaii
 Caoayan ISAH
 Cavitenians of Hawaii
 Dingras Association of
 Hawaii
 Divine Word College
 Alumni Association
 FilAm Sports USA
 Fil American Citizens
 League
 Filipino Business Women's
 Club
 Filipino Nurses Organization
 of Hawaii
 Filipino Women's Civic
 Club
 GUMIL Hawaii
 GUMIL Oahu
 Hawaii Filipino Women's
 Club
 Hawaii Council of Bilingual
 Educators
 ILAH
 Ilocos Norteniens of
 America
 INCAT Alumni Association
 of Hawaii
 International Filipino
 Society of Hawaii
 Kalayaan Phil.-Hi. Int.
 La Union Circle of
 Hawaii
 Lingayen Gulf Club of
 Hawaii

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 406

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
 March 7, 2008, 10 a.m. | Conference Room 016

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the
 Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee,
 DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

To: Hon. Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
 Hon. Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
 Hon. Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee

From: Franklin Borromeo, President
 Oahu Filipino Community Council

My name is Franklin Borromeo, president of the
 Oahu Filipino Community Council. OFCC is an umbrella
 organization comprised of sixty-two members (62) that
 represent a network of non-profit civic groups with a
 unified vision to improve the lives of our Filipino
 communities.

The Oahu Filipino Community Council supports
 the confirmation of Dominic Inocelda to the Language
 Access Advisory Council. As a social worker, and a
 descendant of a sakada or sugar plantation worker, Mr.
 Inocelda understands the civil rights and social justice
 issues that are fundamental to overcoming language
 barriers to access government services. We ask that he and
 the advisory council consider facilitating community input
 to help determine best practices for carrying out Act 290
 whenever possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this
 testimony. The Oahu Filipino Community Council
 appreciates your consideration of her confirmation.

Sincerely,

Franklin Borromeo, President, OFCC

Unit Organizations

Magsingal Association of
 Hawaii
 Narvacan/San Antonio Club of
 Hawaii
 Nueva Vizcaya Association of
 Hawaii
 Pasuquinos Association of
 Hawaii
 Philippine Cultural Foundation
 Philippine Nurses
 Association of Hawaii
 Piddig Association of Hawaii
 Sanchez Mira Association of
 Hawaii
 San Manuel Pangasinan
 Association of Hawaii
 San Nicolaneos USA
 San Nicolas Goodwill
 Foundation
 San Nicolas Teachers of
 Hawaii
 Santa Lucia Association of
 Hawaii
 Sarrat Association of Hawaii
 Sarrat International Inc.
 Sinait Nt. High School Alumni
 of Hawaii
 Solsona of Hawaii
 Tarlac Mutual Club of Hawaii
 TPCP
 Kalihi Ballroom, Inc.
 Sadiri ti San Nicolas iti Hawaii
 Samar Leyte Association of
 Hawaii
 Sampaguita/Sunflower Club of
 Hawaii
 San Juan Association of
 Hawaii
 San Nicolas Nat. High
 Santa Marians of Hawaii
 School Alumni
 Santa Nicolas Nat. High
 School Bingao Annex
 Tagalog Association of Oahu
 United Bacarreños of Hawaii
 United Group of Home
 Operators
 United Pangasinan of Hawaii
 United Urdaneta Club of
 Hawaii
 United Vintarinians of Hawaii
 Vigan Association of Hawaii

March 5, 2008

To: Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
and Members of the Committee

From: Dr. Tin Myiang Thein, Executive Director
Pacific Gateway Center

Re: GM 405, Sister Earnest Chung
Reappointment to Advisory Council, Office of Language Access, DLIR
GM 406, Dominic Inocelda
Reappointment to Advisory Council, Office of Language Access, DLIR
GM 407, Gerald Ohta
Reappointment to Advisory Council, Office of Language Access, DLIR

(Public hearing scheduled for Saturday, March 7, 2008, 10:00 am, Rm 016)

I strongly support Sister Earnest of Catholic Charities, Dominic Inocelda of Susannah Wesley Community Center, and Gerald Ohta of State Department of Health Affirmative Action Office, who are highly experienced, most knowledgeable, superb people working in key agencies involved in language access. These three people are as highly qualified as any in all of Hawaii for the language access program.

Two main points:

1. Experience, knowledge of three superb people - All three have at least 25 years of experience each in their respective agencies and positions. They know the issues and territory of language access [and much more in the health and social services arena] as much as anyone in Hawaii and bring long years of hands-on experience, wide perspective, tremendous knowledge with them.
2. Key agencies – All three have each worked for their respective agencies and in their respective positions for at least two or more decades. Their agencies are large and important agencies in the health and social services, again like the three individuals, as important as any in Hawaii for their respective missions.

Again, I strongly support Sister Earnest, Dominic Inocelda, and Gerald Ohta for reappointment to the Advisory Council of the Office of Language Access, DLIR.



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 406

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Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
March 7, 2008, 10 a.m. | Conference Room 016

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Language Access Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOMINIC INOCELDA, for a term to expire 6-30-2012.

To: Hon. Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Hon. Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair
Hon. Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee

From: Brian Andaya, President
United Filipino Council of Hawai'i

The Oahu Filipino Community Council supports the confirmation of Dominic Inocelda to the Language Access Advisory Council. His social work background and extensive supervisory and direct services experience in mental health and human services for immigrants puts him in a strategic position to identify key language access experts to bring to the table for planning, problem solving, systems capacity building, implementation and evaluation of the intent of Act 290.

Founded in 1959 to help Filipinos in Hawaii play a larger role in the State of Hawaii, the mission of the Council is to promote a sense of unity, friendship, camaraderie and mutual assistance among Filipinos in Hawaii while promoting and perpetuating the Filipino heritage and culture. Today, the Council consists of six Island Councils with jurisdiction over 100+ Filipino organizations and a combined membership of about 10,000 from every major island in the State.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Your conscientious legislative work is much appreciated by the Filipino community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bryan Andaya, UFCH President

*2006-07

**2007-08