

testimony

From: Karen Iwamoto [khi@biahawaii.org]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2008 3:36 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony on GM 531 "Confirmation of James K. Hiramawa to the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board", April 21, 2008, 9 a.m. in Room 016i

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing
April 21, 2008
9 a.m.
Room 016

RE: GM 531-Confirmation of James K. Hiramawa to the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board

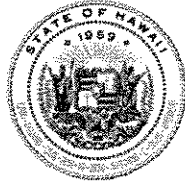
Chair Kokubun and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing:

My name is Karen Iwamoto and I am a resident of Palolo. It is my honor and pleasure to support the nomination of James K. Hiramawa to the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board. My family members have been customers of Mr. Hiramawa's Palolo Auto Service for more than 50 years. We have kept the tradition of going to "Jimmy's" place because we have experienced the high quality of service repairing our cars. You can always count on the staff at Palolo Auto Service to give you honest answers and advice. We have no problem in recommending Palolo Auto Service to our family and friends.

Mr. Hiramawa, in all of the years of running Palolo Auto Service, has had the greatest respect and friendship for his customers. He will be an outstanding contributing member of the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board.

Please confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,
Karen H. Iwamoto



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2008

Monday, April 21, 2008
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 531.

WRITTEN ONLY

TO THE HONORABLE RUSSELL S. KOKUBUN, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Ronald Boyer, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 531, regarding the appointment of James K. Hirakawa, to the Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board ("Board"). The Department supports Mr. Hirakawa's appointment and respectfully requests that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to his appointment to the Board.

I am familiar with Mr. Hirakawa and his candidacy for appointment to the Board in that I have spoken with him about the Board and his interest in serving there. Based on my discussion with Mr. Hirakawa, I believe that he possesses the qualifications,

background, and experience to contribute in a positive and constructive manner on matters that will come before the Board.

Mr. Hirakawa has extensive experience in the motor vehicle repair industry, having been a licensed mechanic for 58 years—since 1950. He is currently the President of Palolo Auto Service, Inc. One would be hard pressed to find an auto mechanic with more experience than Mr. Hirakawa.

As with many who volunteer their time to serve on a board or commission of this type, Mr. Hirota has been active in his community. He has been volunteering every week for the past four years at the Queen's Medical Center. Mr. Hirakawa was also recognized by the Honolulu City Council in 1994 when he received the Historic Business Award. Still going strong 10 years later, Mr. Hirakawa received the Council's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004.

I am confident that if given the opportunity, Mr. Hirakawa will prove to be an asset to the State through his service on the Board. I respectfully request that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to Mr. Hirakawa's appointment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Mr. Hirakawa's behalf.

APR 15 2008

Russell S Kokuburu, Chair
Commerce Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

APR. 14, 2008

Dear Mr. Kokubun.,

This letter is to highly endorse the appointment of Mr. James Hirakawa to serve on The Hawaii Motor Vehicle Repair Industry Board.

I have known Mr. Hirakawa for more than thirty (30) years as a neighbor, friend, and my trusted auto mechanic. He is always available when a consult or other assistance is needed on the maintenance and repair of any of my Three (3) vehicles- a 1987 Mercedes and a 1989 and 1991 Dodge Dynasties. The longevity of our car, I feel, can be attributed to Mr. Hirakawa's professional competence and expertise. He also takes the time to educate both my wife and I about the mechanics that are necessary for the proper upkeep of the vehicles. Additionally, we respect his fairness and honesty regarding the charges for the repairs and maintenance done at his station.

Without hesitation or reservation, therefore, I recommend that James Hirakawa be appointed to The Hawaii State Motor Vehicles Repair Industry Board. His impeccable character, competence, and work ethic can only enhance the high professional standards of the board.

Respectfully,



Francis K Y Mau