



Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

HEARING      Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
                    1:30 pm  
                    Conference Room 229

RE:      **GM 541, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Candidate SHARON R. WEINER, to expire 6-30-2012**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee:

Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a not-for-profit trade organization representing about 200 members and over 2,000 storefronts, and is committed to support the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii.

**RMH strongly supports** Ms. Weiner's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

I'm sure you will agree that retail is a vital component, not only of the visitor industry, but also of the economy of the State of Hawaii. As such, Ms. Weiner's vast experience and expertise in our industry undoubtedly will assure that retail, as a major stakeholder in the visitor industry, will be thoughtfully, appropriately and judiciously represented.

We respectfully urge your approval. Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

President

RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
1240 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 215  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
ph: 808-592-4200 / fax: 808-592-4202

## testimony

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**From:** Dale Ruff [d.ruff@us.vuitton.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 5:21 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Gubernatorial Candidate Sharon Weiner for HTA BOD

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Committee on Tourism and Government Operations State Capitol, Honolulu, HI 96813

HEARING Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
1:30PM  
Conference Room 229

RE: GM 542, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the BOD of  
the HTA, Gubernatorial Candidate Sharon R. Weiner, to expire 6-30-2012

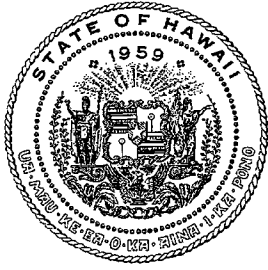
Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kim and members of the committee,

I support the nomination of Sharon Weiner to the BOD of the HTA. Sharon possesses extensive background, experience and expertise in business development, marketing and retail activity. As a retailer, I recognize that the success of retailers in our State is vital to our overall economy. As such, Sharon will represent well not only the retail sector, but contribute in the overall business development of tourism in Hawaii, as a board member of the HTA.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dale Ruff  
Regional Vice President  
Louis Vuitton Hawaii  
TEL: 808.971.3334

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# Hawai'i Tourism Authority

Hawai'i Convention Center, 1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815  
Website: [www.hawaiiitourismauthority.org](http://www.hawaiiitourismauthority.org)

LINDA LINGLE  
Governor

REX D. JOHNSON  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Telephone: (808) 973-2255  
Fax: (808) 973-2253

Testimony of  
**Rex Johnson**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
on  
**G.M. 541**

“Sharon Weiner” Gubernatorial Nominee to the  
Board of Directors, Hawai'i Tourism Authority,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2012

Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
1:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Kim and Members of the Senate Tourism and Government Operations Committee.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), I strongly support the Governor's nomination of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board of Directors. Ms. Weiner has both an extensive and diverse range of experience in Hawai'i's visitor industry, having served as the executive director of the Visitor Industry Education Council to her current position as Vice President of DFS Hawai'i. She is also an active member of the community, serving in various organizations including the Waikiki Improvement Association, Hawai'i Business Roundtable and as a regent for the Chaminade University of Hawai'i.

In addition and very importantly, Ms. Weiner is a former member of the HTA Board of Directors, serving from July 2002 through June 2007. During that time, I had the opportunity to work very closely with Ms. Weiner. Her efforts, as an individual, as well as a team player with other board members significantly contributed to HTA's oversight and management of Hawai'i's visitor industry. Specifically, in her prior term with the Authority, Ms. Weiner served as the chair of the HTA's Marketing Committee, which spearheaded the HTA's new approach to marketing. Beginning in 2004, the HTA contracted with five top agencies throughout the world to develop and execute marketing programs to promote Hawai'i in their respective markets. To date, that change has been very positive.

As such, I believe that Ms. Weiner's experience, knowledge and dedication will continue to prove to be valuable assets to the HTA and to the state of Hawai'i. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

**Priscilla Kubota**

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**From:** PAUL Alston [PAAlston@ahfi.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 2:36 PM  
**To:** Sen. Clarence Nishihara  
**Subject:** Nomination of Sharon Weiner

Dear Senator Nishihara & Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism & Government Relations:

I am writing to SUPPORT this nomination.

I have known Ms. Weiner for many years and in many different contexts. I have worked with her on business matters, legislative matters, legal matters, and public affairs.

She is always knowledgeable, focused, and constructive. She is a doer, not just a talker. She will bring a wealth of experience and valuable industry and community insights to the HTA. I urge you to approve her nomination.

PAUL ALSTON

3/28/2008

Owen Miyamoto  
3209 Paty Drive  
Honolulu, HI 96822-1439

March 28, 2008

Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations

**I am testifying in support of Governor's Message 541, for consideration and confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, Sharon R. Weiner, to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority for a term to expire on June 30, 2012.**

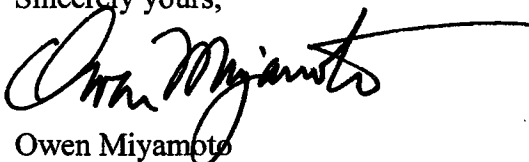
My name is Owen Miyamoto and I am a member of the Commission on Transportation and previously held the position of Airports Administrator for the Department of Transportation.

Ever since the award of the contract to Duty Free Shoppers 1958 for the duty free concession at Honolulu International Airport, all airports in the State of Hawaii have benefited from revenues generated by this airport activity. During the period of development of airports that followed, revenues from the duty free concession to the airport special fund represented more than a third of its income. Construction of airport improvements to provide the air transportation infrastructure on all islands have provided low-cost and efficient air service to the citizens of Hawaii and for the visitors which are the backbone of our tourism industry. Without this income, landing fees for the airlines would have had to be substantially higher which would have been passed on to their passengers.

Sharon Weiner is Vice President for Global Communications and Government Relations for DFS Group L.P., the successor company for Duty Free Shoppers. She was a member of the Tourism Authority Board. She is experienced and knowledgeable of tourism in Hawaii and throughout the Pacific Basin. I have known her ever since she began with DFS and its operations at the airports in Hawaii.

I urge your favorable consideration for her appointment to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Sincerely yours,



Owen Miyamoto



**HAWAI'I HOTEL & LODGING  
ASSOCIATION**

2270 Kalakaua Ave., Suite 1506  
Honolulu, HI 96815  
Phone: (808) 923-0407  
Fax: (808) 924-3843  
E-Mail: [hhla@hawaii-hotels.org](mailto:hhla@hawaii-hotels.org)  
Website: [www.hawaii-hotels.org](http://www.hawaii-hotels.org)



30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Are You Walking???  
May 17, 2008  
(Always the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May)  
[www.charitywalkhawaii.org](http://www.charitywalkhawaii.org)

**TESTIMONY OF MURRAY TOWILL  
PRESIDENT  
HAWAI'I HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION**

**April 1, 2008**

**RE: GM 541 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Gubernatorial Nominee Sharon Weiner**

Good afternoon Chairman Nishihara and members of the Senate Committee on Tourism & Governmental Operations. I am Murray Towill, President of the Hawai'i Hotel & Lodging Association.

The Hawai'i Hotel & Lodging Association is a statewide association of hotels, condominiums, timeshare companies, management firms, suppliers, and other related firms and individuals. Our membership includes over 170 hotels representing over 47,300 rooms. Our hotel members range from the 2,523 rooms of the Hilton Hawaiian Village to the 4 rooms of the Bougainvillea Bed & Breakfast on the Big Island.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting Sharon Weiner as a Board Member of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority ("HTA"). Sharon has served a previous term on the HTA and was a very valuable member. Her experience as the former head of a public relations firm makes her very knowledgeable about the issues facing Hawaii and tourism. Her current position with DFS will also bring the perspective of the retail sector to the HTA.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony.



Board of Directors

March 28, 2008

Carolyn Gugelyk  
Chair

Jim Nishimoto, AIA  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair

Rick Egged  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

Sheryl Siu  
Secretary

Linda Lee  
Treasurer

Thomas Barlow, PhD

Gregory Boxold

Faye Chiogioji

Karl Fujii

Jo Ann Mau

Leona Nakaahiki

Jessica Rich

Sheri Rolf

Chris Tatum

Susan Todani

Vivian Tsuji

Rodney Wong

Joan Naguwa  
Executive Director

TO: The Honorable Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations

FROM: Joan Naguwa, Executive Director

RE: RE-NOMINATION OF SHARON WEINER TO THE HAWAII TOURISM  
AUTHORITY BOARD

Hearing Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
Time: 1:30 pm

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Dear Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations:

My name is Joan Naguwa, Executive Director of Waikiki Community Center (WCC). Waikiki Community Center **supports the appointment of Ms. Sharon Weiner** to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board.

Ms. Weiner has been a key and experienced professional in the Waikiki tourism industry for many years. She is keenly knowledgeable of the trends and issues facing the tourism industry today and how they will impact Hawaii's economy and its people.

Her extensive business experience in Hawaii's tourism industry will provide valuable expertise and perspective to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board and the major issues it faces today. She has been an excellent resource to Waikiki Community Center and many other community and business organizations throughout the State of Hawaii.

We ask that you strongly support the appointment of Ms. Sharon Weiner to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board. Thank you for your consideration.

310 Paoakalani Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815  
Phone: 808 923-1802  
Fax: 808 922-2099



30 Years of Service to the Community  
[www.waikikicommunitycenter.org](http://www.waikikicommunitycenter.org)



## Priscilla Kubota

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**From:** Hattori, Barry [Barry.Hattori@dfs.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2008 7:01 PM  
**To:** Sen. Clarence Nishihara  
**Cc:** Weiner, Sharon  
**Subject:** Support for Sharon Weiner

Dear Senator Nishihara,

I am writing to you to express my strong support for Sharon Weiner as a Board Member with the Hawaii Tourism Authority. I have known and worked with Sharon for nearly 7 years and during that time, I have had nothing but the highest respect for her personal intelligence and extensive knowledge of the tourist industry in Hawaii. I sincerely hope that you and the committee that you chair, the Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations will confirm Sharon to this position as she would be a tremendous asset to the HTA and the tourist industry in Hawaii.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barry Hattori  
Director - Logistics  
DFS Hawaii  
808-256-5215

World of Aloha  
2667 B Tantalus Drive  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone and Fax: (808) 533-4572  
Email: [worldofaloha@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:worldofaloha@hawaii.rr.com)

Linda Y. Wong  
President

Danny Kaleikini  
Ambassador of Aloha

March 28, 2008

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and  
Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hi. 96913

Re: Appointment of Sharon Weiner to HTA Board

Dear Senator Nishihara:

It has come to our attention that the nomination of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board will go before your committee on April 1, 2008. Danny Kaleikini and I would like to go on record as supporting her nomination.

We have known Sharon for over 15 years. She has the background and experience in the business and tourism fields and would be a valuable voice on the HTA Board at a time when the economy as well as tourism is flat and even on a decline.

We hope you and your committee will approve Sharon Weiner's nomination to the HTA Board. Please call us at 722-0940 should you need additional information.

Aloha Ke Akua,

Linda Wong and Danny Kaleikini

March 29, 2008

Chair Clarence Nishihara  
Committee on Tourism  
and Government Operations  
Hawaii State Senate  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
(Via Email) [sennishihara@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:sennishihara@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**RE: IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF SHARON WEINER TO THE  
HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY BOARD**

Dear Senator Nishihara:

This is to express my strong support for the nomination of Ms. Sharon Weiner to serve on the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board of Directors.

Ms. Weiner offers a wealth of expertise in marketing and communications which will help our state position itself in the highly competitive global tourism market.

From co-founding the PR firm which still bears her name to serving in her current capacity as vice president of global communications & government relations at DFS, Ms. Weiner possesses both a keen understanding of what makes Hawaii work (from a local perspective) as well insight into national and international trends in the travel industry.

Her previous service on the HTA board (from 2002 to 2006) will alleviate costly "ramp up" time to understand the role of the HTA, its various constituencies, challenges and the operating environment. Her ability to cut through issues boldly and without fear to take the necessary action is a rare quality. Clearly we stand to benefit from Ms. Weiner's vision and leadership which are needed now more than ever. Our state's number one industry is struggling to deal with complex issues (both short and long term) including an ongoing labor crunch, spiking oil prices, environmental sustainability, a weak dollar and ensuring that the benefits of our hospitality industry both benefit and derive strength from the host (Hawaiian) culture.

I urge you to move forward and confirm Ms. Weiner without delay. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Diane Peters-Nguyen

**Priscilla Kubota**

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**From:** Uyeda,Allen-FICOH [allen.uyeda@fcoh.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 29, 2008 4:19 PM  
**To:** Sen. Clarence Nishihara  
**Cc:** Sharon.Weiner@dfs.com  
**Subject:** In support of Sharon Weiner's HTA Nomination

I am writing to support Sharon Weiner's nomination to the Hawaii Tourism Authority. The work Sharon/Stryker Weiner did for First Insurance and the Hawaii Insurer's Council was insightful and professional. Sharon has also been an active member of various community organizations we've been on together. She has always been willing to get involved and work to make things better. She would be a strong addition to HTA's Board.

**Allen B. Uyeda**

President and CEO

First Insurance Company of Hawaii, Ltd.

Phone 808 527-7616

E-mail: allen.uyeda@fcoh.com

**Respect, Integrity, Creating, Excellence**

**Peter Rosegg**  
**2101 Nu‘uanu Avenue #1305**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1767**  
**Mobile: 808-371-7474**  
**peter-rosegg@hawaii.rr.com**

March 31, 2008

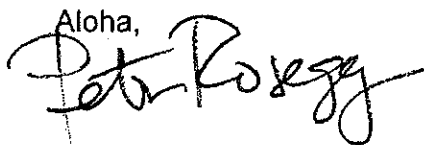
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice-Chair Kim and members of the committee:  
Senate Committee on Tourism & Government Operations  
State Capitol, Honolulu HI 96913

**I strongly urge you to confirm the nomination of Sharon Weiner to the board of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.**

I have known Sharon for over two decades. As you can see from the resume of her many accomplishments, she is a person whose commitment to Hawaii and its welfare is second to none. She has never withheld her time or effort when it comes to public service. She is a straight-shooter willing to take on some of the most difficult challenges in policy management of some of Hawaii's most important public organizations.

Clearly, her considerable experience as head of a public relations agency with a substantial client base in the tourism industry and her work in tourist-oriented retail for DFS since that time give her a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities for tourism in Hawaii as we enter what looks like an especially demanding time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Though this testimony is personal and represents my own views, I am a commissioner on the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and a corporate spokesman for Hawaiian Electric Company.

Aloha,  


Peter Rosegg

**Law Offices of James J. Stone**

*\*A Law Corporation*

*Davies Pacific Center  
841 Bishop Street  
Suite 1711*

*Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

*Tel: (808) 521-4566, Fax: (808) 521-4252*

*e-mail: [jstone@nulaw.net](mailto:jstone@nulaw.net)*

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Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Committee on Tourism and Government

Operations  
Hawaii State Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: April 1, 2008

Re: Gubernatorial Nominee: Sharon R. Weiner

Dear Chair Nishihara and Honorable Committee Members:

I highly recommend that your Committee and the Hawaii State Senate confirm the nomination of Sharon R. Weiner to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

I first met Sharon R. Weiner about 25 years ago when she was the President of the Stryker Weiner PR firm which provided services to a major client of a law firm. I've had the pleasure to continue to work with Sharon over the years. While she has always been a creative problem-solver, dependable and hard working, she has also shown a keen awareness and sensitivity to the issues and the people involved. She is highly regarded by many business and community leaders throughout Hawaii.

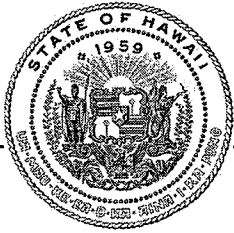
Sharon's interests and leadership in the field of tourism are recognized by her present and past directorships and/or memberships with such organizations as Japan Hawaii Tourism Council, Waikiki Improvement Association, Hawaii Visitors Bureau, Hawaii Business Roundtable, Japan America Society of Hawaii and Hawaii Tourism Authority (1 term). Likewise she has been active in charitable organizations as Hawaii Foodbank, Catholic Charities of Hawaii and Boy Scouts of Hawaii.

I and many others hold Sharon in high regard. She is an exceptional person and will be an asset to the Hawaii Tourism Authority. I sincerely recommend Sharon R. Weiner to you with complete confidence. Please support her nomination. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Respectfully yours,

  
James J. Stone

JJS:bp



LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR  
MARSHA WIENERT  
TOURISM LIAISON

## TOURISM LIAISON

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 586-2362  
Fax: (808) 586-2370

Written statement of  
**MARSHA WIENERT**  
**Tourism Liaison**  
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**  
Tuesday, April 1, 2008  
1:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of  
**GM 541**  
**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY, GUBERNATORIAL  
NOMINEE, SHARON R. WEINER, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012.**

Chair Nishihara and Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism & Government Operations.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism strongly supports the Governor's nomination of Sharon Weiner to the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) Board of Directors. She would bring years of experience to the HTA, including a strong background in the retail sector. She is an active participant in many visitor industry organizations and is regarded by her colleagues as being a leader in Hawaii's tourism industry.

Ms. Weiner is a strong and dedicated supporter of the HTA and was an active member of the board in the past. Her experience and knowledge, along with her past commitment to the board, demonstrates that she would be a valuable member of the HTA Board of Directors again.

Therefore, I urge you to support the Governor's nomination of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board of Directors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support of her nomination.

**AB**  
ALEXANDER & BALDWIN, INC.

MEREDITH J. CHING  
Senior Vice President

**LATE  
LATE**

3/31/08 1:54p-

822 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
P.O. Box 3440  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801-3440  
www.alexanderbaldwin.com  
Tel (808) 525-6669  
Fax (808) 525-6677  
email: mching@abinc.com

March 31, 2008

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 95813

RE: Nomination of Sharon R. Weiner to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations:

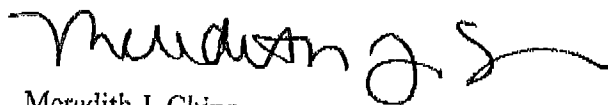
Thank you for this opportunity to support the re-nomination of Sharon R. Weiner to the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) Board.

I have known Sharon Weiner for over two decades, and I can attest to her great integrity, intelligence, and passion--always giving 200% to anything she chooses to undertake. She is a well-respected business and community leader, assuming many leadership roles in professional associations as well as non-profit organizations over the years--all in support of her deep love for this state and its well-being.

Her business experience and networks have exposed her to many facets of the tourism industry, and positions her well to continue to be a strong contributor to the HTA. Always opinionated, Sharon is also a good listener and a reasoned individual to deal with.

It is for the above reasons, that I urge your confirmation of Sharon Weiner to another term on the HTA Board.

Sincerely,



Meredith J. Ching



**Priscilla Kubota**

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**From:** DHolzman [dholzman@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2008 2:32 PM  
**To:** Sen. Clarence Nishihara  
**Subject:** In Support of the Confirmation of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board

**LATE**  
**LATE**  
3/31/08 2:48 pm

March 31, 2008

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu HI 96913

**RE: Confirmation of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board**

My name is David Holzman. The purpose of this letter is to express my support of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board.

I am a retired local businessman who was born and educated in Hawaii. Over the course of my career, my companies employed hundreds of both union and non-union workers. I had dealing with top management of many local, mainland, and foreign companies.

One of the individuals I had personal dealings with was Ms. Sharon Weiner. My experience with Ms. Weiner has always been positive. She is an outstanding individual and extremely knowledgeable in community affairs. Her integrity and character are excellent. Her background, experience, and work ethic will an asset to the HTA Board.

I strongly urge your favorable consideration and confirmation of Ms. Weiner to the HTA Board.

Aloha and Mahalo

David Holzman  
469-A Portlock Road  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

Phone 808-396-0334



*Island Shoppers, Inc.*

**LATE**

3/31/08 3:15 pm

**LATE**

Honolulu International Airport  
300 Rodgers Boulevard #3  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: 808.834.1136  
Fax: 808.834.1137

March 31, 2008

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu HI 96913

**Testimony: Relating to the confirmation of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board**

Good afternoon Chair Nishihara and Committee Members:

I am John Matias, President and owner of Island Shoppers, Inc. I am testifying in strong support of the nomination of Ms. Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board.

I have known Sharon for over 10 years and can personally attest to her character, outstanding work ethic, fairness, respect, and integrity.

Ms. Sharon Weiner has a wealth of experience in the public and private sector. This experience allows her to understand and work with the two sectors and achieve results.

She will be an excellent addition to the HTA Board.

As a small business owner in this community, I respectfully request your favorable consideration and confirmation of Ms. Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board

Sincerely,

John Matias  
President

**GBT**

**LATE**

**LATE**

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu HI 96913

Dear Senator Nishihara,

This letter is to ask for your recommendation in support of Sharon Weiner to the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board. I have known and respected Sharon Weiner for over 25 years primarily through her efforts on behalf of tourism and most recently on the Chaminade Board of Regents and marketing committee.

Her commitment to our community is consistently reflected in both her business as well as her non-profit works. When she accepts an appointment, position on a board or committee, or supports a project, she can be counted on to add intellectual value as well as sound leadership.

Thank you for your consideration and if I can add further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gae Bergquist Trommald

**44-666 Kuono Place  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744**

**gaebt@mac.com**

LATE  
LATE



Senator Clarence K. Nishihara  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96913

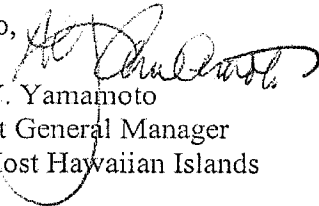
March 31, 2008

Aloha Senator Nishihara and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alan Yamamoto, District General Manager for the Hawaiian Islands for HMSHost. HMSHost operates all the food and beverage operations at the Honolulu, Kahului and Lihue Airports.

I strongly support the re-nomination of Sharon Weiner to the HTA Board. Sharon's commitment and passion for Hawaii's tourism industry, coupled with her wealth of knowledge in the marketing of our Islands make her an exceptional candidate for the HTA Board. Again, I strongly support the nomination of Ms. Weiner.

Mahalo,

  
Alan Y. Yamamoto  
District General Manager  
HMSHost Hawaiian Islands

**LAWATE**  
4/1/08 9:29

April 1, 2008

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
Hearing Date: April 1, 2008 1:30 p.m.

**Testimony in support of Sharon R. Weiner's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (GM 541)**

Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee Members:

Please accept this testimony in support of Sharon R. Weiner's nomination to the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

I have no doubt Ms. Weiner will work successfully to advance the goals of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority by furthering Hawai'i tourism in both the international and domestic markets. In addition to her professional credentials, Ms. Weiner has demonstrated the spirit of international cooperation via her support of the international MBA programs of the Shidler College of Business which partner with foreign universities. As an alumna of the University of Hawai'i, she is also able to address both the needs of the visitor industry in our state and its cultural and community values. HTA would certainly benefit from her expertise and I hope you take this opportunity to support that end by recommending the Senate advise and consent to her nomination.

Sincerely,



V. Vance Roley  
Dean and First Hawaiian Bank Chair  
of Leadership and Management

Shidler College of Business  
at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
2404 Maile Way, C-204  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
(808) 956-8377



Chaminade University  
OF HONOLULU

**LATE**  
4/1/08 10:12am

April 1, 2008

Via Fax: (808) 586-6879

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senate Committee on Tourism and Government Operations  
Hawaii State Senate  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Nishihara:

Re: Sharon Weiner – Candidate for the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board

Sharon Weiner is one of our outstanding business leaders in Hawaii. In a successful business career in Hawaii, both as co-owner of the Stryker-Weiner public relations firm and more recently as Group Vice President for Duty Free Shops, Ms. Weiner has demonstrated these skills and competencies that one would like to see in a member of the HTA Board.

Ms. Weiner also has an impressive record of volunteer service in the Honolulu community both in private and in public organizations. She is committed to the best development of Hawaii. In both business and volunteer work, Ms. Weiner is known for her sharp, critical thinking, her ability to bring people together to work constructively toward solving problems and meeting deadlines, and her resiliency and good humor.

I highly recommend her to continue to serve on the HTA Board.

Sincerely,

Mary C. (Sue) Wesselkamper  
President