

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of Kyle Chock
Executive Director
The Pacific Resource Partnership

Before the Committee on Education
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

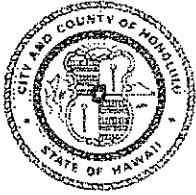
Monday, April 14, 2008
1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 225

Aloha Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee on Education:

My name is Kyle Chock, Executive Director of the Pacific Resource Partnership, a consortium representing the Hawaii Carpenters Union and their signatory contractors. It is my esteem privilege to endorse and support GM 573 – Donovan M. Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service.

As stated, part of the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service's purpose is to *"encourage community service and volunteer participation as a means of community and state problem-solving, and to promote and support voluntary citizen involvement in government and private programs throughout the State"*. Mr. Dela Cruz has demonstrated that strong desire to exercise that stated purpose. His devotion to the community service is often seen first hand in his current public service endeavor as a Councilmember representing the diverse District II.

Mr. Dela Cruz will be a contributing member to the commission and I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of GM573 – nomination to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service.



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3066 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

ANN H. KOBAYASHI

Chair, Executive Matters Committee
Councilmember, District V
(Manoa/McCully-Moiliili/Ala Moana
St. Louis Heights/Palolo/Kapahulu)
Ph:547-7005 Fx:523-4220
akobayashi@honolulu.gov

April 9, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Senate Committee on Education
State Capitol Building, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i
Commission for National and Community Service, Gubernatorial Nominee,
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, for a term to expire 6-30-2011.

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of my colleague, Donovan M. Dela Cruz, as a gubernatorial nominee to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service for a term to expire on June 30, 2011.

I have known Councilmember Dela Cruz for several years and have found him to be trustworthy and loyal as well as an outspoken advocate for the many issues in his community and Honolulu County. His compassion and sincerity for helping the disadvantaged and his dedication to resolving matters for the communities at large make him an ideal candidate for the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service.

Your favorable consideration on his confirmation would be greatly appreciated.
Thank you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann H. Kobayashi".

Ann H. Kobayashi
Councilmember
District V



LOYALTY
ENTERPRISES, LTD.
SUITE 601
45 NORTH KING ST
HONOLULU, HAWAII
96817-5185
(808) 543-0511
FAX (808) 531-2974

April 10, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on Education
State Capitol
Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to support the nomination of Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service.

As a member of the small business community and as a board member of the Hawaii Community Foundation, I have worked on and continue to explore several initiatives with Councilmember Dela Cruz regarding non-profit and community service efforts both in his district as well as statewide initiatives. Among other things, we have explored initiatives in e-Recycling, low income housing and future opportunities in land use to encourage sustainable development.

Councilman Dela Cruz has leadership qualities, creative ideas, but more importantly he has the ability to get a very diverse group of people to work together to accomplish a common goal. He considers customers, his constituents and the State's interest when he takes on both popular and unpopular projects. He has also forged many connections with both young and old business and community leaders to ensure that important initiatives not only get visibility, but that they also get accomplished.

I am confident that Councilmember Dela Cruz will make significant contributes as a member of the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service.

Regards,

Cathy Luke
President





HAWAII NATIONAL BANK

April 7, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on Education
State Capitol
Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

I have learned that Governor Lingle has nominated Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I wholeheartedly support the nomination.

My contact with Councilmember Dela Cruz have been both personal and professional. I find him to be determined in bringing improvements to enhance the quality of life for residents of his district as well as all of Oahu. He has been involved in numerous efforts both as an elected official and on a personal level in trying to improve the situations for our residents. While the immediate needs of his district receive his immediate attention, he is also focused on how he can be effective in proposing legislation to help the disadvantaged, the challenged and the every day person who needs that extra help to make it.

Although Councilmember Dela Cruz faces many challenges in representing his diverse district, he has done an admirable job in addressing the needs of his constituents and is cognizant of the needs of the island as a whole. His office has been involved in many community activities and events which benefit the community. In some instances he has initiated them while he has volunteered for others.

I am confident that Councilmember Dela Cruz will have much to offer if he is appointed to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I hope your committee will favorably consider his appointment to the commission. Thank you.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Luke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Bryan Luke
Senior Vice President
Hawaii National Bank



April 7, 2007

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on Education
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

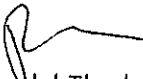
I write this in support of Governor Lingle's nomination of Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I believe that Councilmember Dela Cruz is the right choice for the position. Ever since I first met Councilmember Dela Cruz, it was evident to me that he was someone who was very interested and concerned about the welfare of our citizens. I was aware that he served on the neighborhood board of his district and was involved in various community organizations.

Councilmember Dela Cruz is an individual who acts in the interests of the people, not what is politically acceptable or popular. He is not afraid of adversity and meets challenges head on. He has definite objectives and will work hard to achieve them. He has been involved in numerous community events and activities and has supported the efforts of various groups.

Councilmember Dela Cruz supported my appointment to the Council's Transit Task Force and subsequently, the City's Transportation Commission because he had confidence that I would be a contributing member. He has supported the nominations of many individuals to various positions if he believed they could contribute to enhance the welfare and quality of life for our residents. Therefore, it is only fitting that we support Councilmember Dela Cruz's nomination to the commission as he is deserving of the appointment.

I thank you for this opportunity to present this testimony in support of Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz.

Mahalo,


Randal Ikeda, General Manager
ESPN 1420 Sports Radio

April 8, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Hawaii State Senate Committee on Education Members
State Capitol Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to state my support for Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz's nomination to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. As the Chair of the 2006 City Charter Commission, I got to work with various elected officials and departments, and I believe this appointment is very appropriate for the strengths he has.

Councilmember Dela Cruz has been an advocate for constituents from the more rural areas of Oahu. His initiatives and actions are directed to helping people survive today's tough economic times and bringing improvements to the communities where they live.

As a Board member of the National Association of Counties (NACo), Councilmember Dela Cruz was instrumental in bringing the NACo prescription drug card to Hawaii so those without a drug plan could obtain prescription drugs at a discounted price. He also sought ways to reduce the burden on those who were having a difficult time surviving in today's world. He worked to help those in plantation villages retain their homes or keep rents affordable and he has introduced several affordable housing initiatives.

I consider Councilmember Dela Cruz as a friend who does not hesitate to speak up for what he believes in even though it may not be the popular course. He is a person who is approachable and willing to listen if anyone has a solution or suggestions to a particular issue.

With his background, experience and desire to help our citizens toward a better life, I believe Councilmember Dela Cruz will be a contributing member of the Commission. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you support the Governor's appointment of Councilmember Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service.

Sincerely,



Donn Takaki
President
HawkTree International



Kualoa-He'eia Ecumenical Youth Project (KEY)
47-200 Waihee Road • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744 • 239-5777 www.keyproject.org

April 7, 2008

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

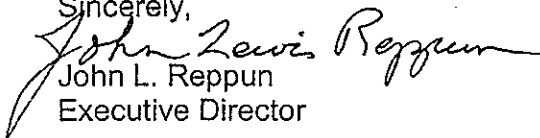
Aloha Senator Sakamoto, Committee Members:

As Executive Director, I am writing on behalf of KEY Project (the *Kualoa-He'eia Ecumenical Youth Project*), in strong support for Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz' nomination to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. Based on our non-profit organization's experience and our keen awareness of adjoining communities' efforts, I believe that the Governor has made an excellent choice in selecting Councilmember Dela Cruz for this position. Throughout his term of public service, the councilmember has developed an excellent record of involvement-in and initiation-of efforts to support collaboration among agencies, organizations and individuals focused on positive stewardship efforts throughout his extensive council district (the largest on O'ahu).

In KEY Project's instance, that effort has resulted in establishment of new funding streams and positive opportunities for civic engagement of agency supporters, program participants and business volunteers. In July of this year we will conduct our 3rd annual *Aloha 'Aina Recycling* event, confident that our effort will be successful as we help our Windward neighborhoods to effectively divert trash and recyclables into appropriate parts of the waste "stream", in turn assuring us that such items do not show up in our precious waterways and natural resource areas. The councilman and his staff members, along with many others that his office has helped to engage, will no doubt be a strong part of both the organizing and the execution of the event itself – just one example of his passion for community service.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support to an excellent candidate. We hope that your committee will give his nomination the consideration and support it deserves.

Sincerely,


John L. Reppun
Executive Director



April 11, 2008

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair; Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Education
State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Sakamoto, Vice-Chair Tokuda and Committee Members

Confirmation of Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz

My name is Cameron W. Nekota and I am the Development Project Manager for Kapolei Property Development LLC, an affiliate of the James Campbell Company LLC. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on the nomination of Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service.

I am pleased to support the nomination of Councilmember Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I believe the Governor has made an excellent choice in selecting Councilmember Dela Cruz for this position as he has always been a strong supporter of community service agencies and activities. Over the past few years, I have had the pleasure of working with Councilmember Dela Cruz on various issues before the Honolulu City Council and was extremely impressed with his professionalism in carrying out the City's business. Councilmember Dela Cruz has a unique love and appreciation for the people of Hawaii and will be a strong advocate for initiatives and services that benefit the community as a whole.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cameron W. Nekota".

Cameron W. Nekota
Development Project Manager

April 4, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on Education
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

It is with pleasure that I submit this letter in support of Councilmember Donovan M. Dela Cruz's nomination to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I have found Councilmember Dela Cruz easy to work with and he always sought and welcomed input from anyone as to how we could improve conditions for our citizens. He was the one responsible for the formation of the Council's Agricultural Task Force, of which I am Chair. Because most of the agricultural lands are in his district, he has a keen awareness of the need to preserve land for agriculture and support farmers. He knows the value of helping people struggling to make a decent living and supported their efforts. What impresses me is his sincerity of helping people.

Councilmember Dela Cruz's involvement in community organizations such as the Lions and the Wahiawa Neighborhood Board of which he was Chair, indicates his commitment and desire to work for the betterment of the community and its residents. He has personally gotten involved in such efforts as the community clean up recycling days which benefited the schools or other social agencies. Having been born and raised in Wahiawa, he has seen first hand the plight of plantation workers and has been involved in numerous efforts to help them.

I do not have any reservations in supporting Councilmember Dela Cruz's appointment to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I know that he will be a valuable member of the Commission's work in helping the underprivileged, elderly and youths. Your favorable consideration will be appreciated.

Sincerely,


Yukio Kitagawa

April 8, 2008

1058 Kahili Street
Kailua, HI 96734

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Education
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Sakamoto and Members:

I am pleased to support the nomination of Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I believe the Governor has made an excellent choice in selecting Councilmember Dela Cruz for this position as he has always been a supporter of community service agencies and activities.

I am aware that Councilmember Dela Cruz represents a large and diverse district that encompasses about two thirds of the geographical area of the island with its numerous communities. It has not been easy for him to be involved in every cause and effort that requires government intervention, legislation, or support but I believe he has been effective in achieving his goals for his district. He has attempted to address the needs of the communities as well as for their individual residents, and improving their quality of life has always been one of his goals.

I strongly support Councilmember Dela Cruz's nomination to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I believe it is a perfect fit and one where his contributions will be many. I humbly ask for your favorable consideration of the Governor's nomination.

Yours truly,


Kamani Kualau

Kathleen M. Pahinui
67-237 Kauai St.
Waiialua, HI 96791

April 9, 2008

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on Education
State Capitol
Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

I understand that Governor Lingle has nominated Councilmember Donovan Dela Cruz to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I completely and strongly support the nomination.

Councilmember Dela Cruz is ideal for this committee as he exemplifies the true spirit of community service. As a constituent in his council district, he is always there to help us with our concerns and find solutions. He constantly goes out of his way to help those in need.

I know that Councilmember Dela Cruz will have much to offer if he is appointed to the Hawaii Commission on National and Community Service. I hope your committee will favorably consider his appointment to the commission.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Kathleen M. Pahinui
Waiialua Resident