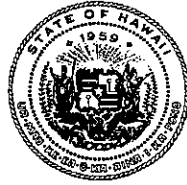


GM 612



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
235 S BERETANIA ST. SUITE 702
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Tel. (808) 586-4185
Fax. (808) 586-4186
Email: oeqc@doh.hawaii.gov

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

**Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Environmental Council,
Gubernatorial Nominees**

GM 579 – ALVIN L. CHAR
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 580 – SUSAN T. MATSUSHIMA
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 581 – JOHN A. RICHARDS
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2012

GM 612 – GILL G. BERGER
For a Term to Expire 6-30-2011

Testimony of Katherine Puana Kealoha
Interim Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control

Thursday, April 10, 2008, 3:00 p.m.
Room 414

1 The Office of Environmental Quality Control strongly supports the appointments of Mr.
2 Alvin Char, Ms. Susan Matsushima, Mr. John Richards, and Mr. Gill Berger to the
3 Environmental Council.

4 Mr. Char has held various positions within the environmental industry. He has worked in
5 the past as an Environmental Protection Specialist with the Army in Hawaii, and he is currently
6 the Acting Deputy Director, Directorate of Public Works, U.S. Army Garrison. He has extensive
7 knowledge in federal laws and regulations pertaining to the environment, endangered species,
8 archaeological site management and protection.

1 Ms. Matsushima is currently the Program Manager for the Pacific Tropical Ornamental
2 Fish Program and has held various positions in the agricultural industry.

3 Mr. John Richards has a degree in Animal Science from Washington State University and
4 is currently the Operations Manager for Kahua Ranch on the Big Island. He has held various
5 volunteer conservation and safety positions.

6 Mr. Gill Berger has served for over 30 years in the retail business industry where he held
7 various regional and corporate managerial positions. During his tenure, he oversaw asbestos
8 removal, green construction, and recycling. He is also involved in various local faith-based
9 boards and initiatives.

10 All of their combined experience will help the Council's efforts to educate the public
11 about business, environmental, and cultural issues in Hawaii.

12 Members of the Council represent education, business, and environmental disciplines and
13 professions such as the natural and social sciences, the humanities, architecture, engineering,
14 public health, planning, agriculture, real estate, visitor industry, construction, media, and
15 community and environmental groups.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

HAWAII FAMILY FORUM BOARD

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Austin Imamura
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Larson, Betty Lou
Rauckhorst, Jerome
Tom, Myron
Yoshimitsu, Walter

Date: April 3, 2008

To: The Honorable Ron Menor
Chairman, Senate Committee on Energy & Environment

From: Walter Yoshimitsu
Representing both the Hawaii Family Forum &
Hawaii Catholic Conference

Re: **Strong Support for the Confirmation of
Gill Berger (GM 612) for the Environmental Council**

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer my strongest possible support for the confirmation of Gill Berger to the Environmental Council.

Personally, I am very impressed with Mr. Berger's plans and ideas regarding the environment. I know from years of working with him, that he strongly believes that one of the most important issues to the people of Hawaii is the establishment and management of a sustainable environmental policy.

His work experience includes many years of regional and corporate managerial positions. This business experience — along with a strong networking ability — has proven highly effective in many aspects of his career. One of his greatest assets is his ability to mediate between parties of a differing viewpoint.

Because of his experience in the housing issue on the Waianae Coast, any endeavor he takes on will be successful. It was this effort that made it apparent that his commitment to the people of Hawaii extended beyond the walls of business. I was impressed with his determination and efforts in that endeavor.

Please confirm Gill Berger to the Environmental Council. The people of Hawaii need his leadership and excellence in the area of environmental improvement.

Mahalo for your kind consideration.

**IMANAKA
KUDO &
FUJIMOTO**

A Limited Liability Law Company

April 3, 2008

Mitchell A. Imanaka
Benjamin A. Kudo
Wesley M. Fujimoto
Jon M.H. Pang
Richard T. Asato, Jr.
Naomi U. Kuwaye

The Honorable Ron Menor
Chair - Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Gubernatorial Nominee to the Environmental Council,
Gill Gillies Berger - GM 612

Dear Senator Menor:

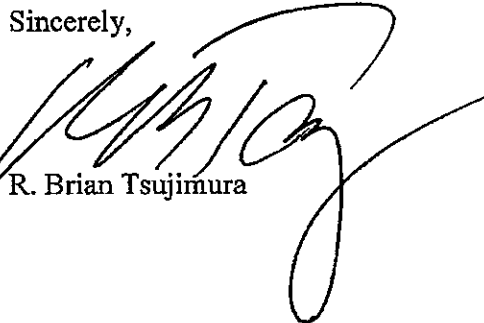
It is my honor to submit this testimony in strong support of my friend Gill Berger to the State Environmental Council.

I have served for many years with Gill on the board of the Hawaii Family Forum. I know him to be a trustworthy, dedicated and deeply concerned individual. I know that he will bring these talents to this board.

His extensive business experience will also bring a needed perspective to the Council. Gill has spent more than 40 years in the business world, of which 38 were with Sears. This gives Gill a particular sensitivity to the impact of business on the environment and the impact of the actions of government on the environment which impact business. This balance is a key attribute for any member on this important board. Gill understands, maybe more than most, how this tension affects both business and the environment. In this, I have faith in his ability and integrity to do the right thing, not because it is popular but because it is the right thing to do. His is a unique and precious gift for us in Hawaii.

I wholeheartedly and unequivocally endorse and support his appointment and request your and your committee's favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



R. Brian Tsujimura

TOPA Financial Center
Farr Street Tower
745 Fort Street, 17th Floor
Honolulu Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 521-9500
Facsimile: (808) 541-9050
info@imanakakudo.com
<http://www.imanakakudo.com>

Speech & Language Pathology Associates
40 Aulike Street
Suite 311
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

April 6, 2008

The Honorable Ron Menor
Chairman of the Energy & Environmental Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Senator Menor:

It gives me great pleasure to support the nomination of Gill Berger to the Hawaii State Environmental Council.

I know Mr. Berger to be an outstanding businessman, community volunteer and someone who is passionate about protecting our environment, while at the same time, advocating for recycling and developing renewable energy that will strike a balance between development and protecting the Aina.

Mr. Berger has been a leader in helping to acquire housing for the homeless, working with the local community to reach consensus, while at the same time, remaining sensitive to the culture and economic challenges for those in need.

I have served with Mr. Berger on the Endowment Committee for HIM – Hawaiian Islands Ministries and have found him to be an extremely skilled leader who interacts well with groups and individuals.

I believe that the Hawaii State Environmental Council would be fortunate to have someone of Mr. Berger's intellect, experience and caring attitude to be a member of its team.

Sincerely,

Miriam Hellreich, M.A. CCC-SLP
40 Aulike St. Suite 311
Kailua, HI 96734
808-284-3235

menor4

From: KKen116@aol.com
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2008 3:01 PM
To: menor4
Subject: Recommendation in Support of Gill Berger ref: GM#612

Dear Senator Menor:

I am writing this email in strong support for the selection of **Mr. Gill Berger** to the State Environmental Council. I have known Gill for over 10 years, and can say without reservation that he holds himself to the highest standards of integrity and honesty. His hands on management style is legend. When he was the Ala Moana Sears store manager it was not unusual to see him on the floor daily encouraging his employees and ensuring the best level of customer service. His personal involvement with community projects such as the Waianae Project to provide the homeless with shelters is further evidence of his commitment to excellence and to helping our community.

Gill Berger will be a proactive member of the Council. I have never seen him do anything half way. I can think of no better person to fill this vacancy. I whole heartedly support the selection of Gill Berger to this position.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Best regards,

Kraig Kennedy
864-6609 (C)

Planning your summer road trip? Check out [AOL Travel Guides](#).

menor4

From: Sen. Ron Menor
Sent: Sunday, April 06, 2008 6:09 PM
To: menor4
Subject: FW: GM #612 State Environmental Council - G. Berger

From: Adele Chong [mailto:adelechong@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Sun 4/6/2008 3:29 PM
To: Sen. Ron Menor
Subject: GM #612 State Environmental Council - G. Berger

Senator Menor,

I am writing in support of Gill Berger's nomination to the State Environmental Council. I have known Mr. Berger for approximately 10 years. He is very conscientious in following up on all commitments. He is a good listener, and makes informed decisions. Since his retirement he has sought, and found, ways to be of service to Hawaii, his adopted state. He holds a leadership position (elder) at First Presbyterian Church, and in other not-for-profit organizations. I ask you to vote favorably on his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Adele Chong
654 Hind Iuka Drive
Honolulu 96821
808-373-2890

4/7/2008

testimony

From: Suzanne Maurer [suzanne.maurer@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 05, 2008 8:19 PM
To: menor4; testimony
Subject: Gill Berger--GM#612

Aloha,

My husband and I have had the privilege of knowing Gill and his wife, Laurelyn, for more than 25 years. We were neighbors for many years, then when they returned to the islands, we worshiped at the same church. Through church we were in a small group together and we have partnered in ministry for many events.

Gill is a man of integrity and deep good character. I can honestly describe Gill as a Godly man. He is a committed husband and father. He was a dedicated employer and is a dependable friend.

If selected as a member of the State Environmental Council he will diligently and honorably participate. Gill has a heart for the homeless and has a servant's heart, period!

Mahalo nui loa for letting me share my thoughts and please know that my husband would "ditto" the above. Both Gill and Laurelyn are remarkable people.

Aloha ke Akua ia 'oe,

Suzanne Maurer

**Personal Statement of John Gillies “Gill” Berger,
in consideration of candidacy to the Hawaii State
Environmental Council:**

**Members of the Energy and Environmental
Committee,**

**After serving 30+ years in the business world,
I have dedicated my remaining energy and gifts to
serving the people of Hawaii in varying public
service and non-profit roles. I serve on various
local faith-based Boards, and participate actively
in protecting these islands, the people, and the
environment.**

**Believe my serving on the State
Environmental Council will allow me to further
contribute to sustainable environmental policies,
processes and plans. There may be no more
important issue to the people of Hawaii than the
establishment, management of a sustainable
environmental policy. From alternate energy
sources, to recycling, to ‘green’ construction, and
more: these are critical times, and issues that
must be addressed. My personal environmental
philosophy is extracted from recent publications
on the subject: “A sustainable environment is one
in which the natural environment, the economic
development and social quality of life are viewed
as mutually dependent....**

The interaction between them contributes to the sustainability and enhancement of peoples lives, and the natural environment.”

Most recently, I have been active in facilitating solutions for the Homeless situation with an emphasis on “changing lives”, respectful of the culture of the people of the islands and the economic challenges facing all of us.

My business career involved managing varying aspects of a large retail business. This included store remodels, asbestos removal processes, green construction, the implementation of EMS systems, recycling of cardboard, and other logistic materials.

In addition, my management and leadership experience has provided me the opportunity to develop mature mediation skills. Allowing me to guide people from “confrontation to consensus”. I believe these are skills paramount to professionally, and ethically serving on the State environmental Council.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination,

J. Gill Berger