

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 616**

April 7, 2008

Via E-Mail

Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Governor's Message 616: Hawaii Community Development Authority -  
Reappointment of Jonathan Lai

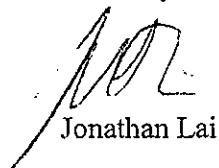
To The Honorable Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Russell Kokubun and Members of the  
Committee:

I have appreciated my three-plus years serving as one of the County designees as member of the Hawaii Community Development Authority ("HCDA") and more recently taking on the role as Chairperson in November 2007 after serving as Secretary for several years. My term as authority member is scheduled to end on June 30, 2008. I humbly request that you consider me for reappointment on the HCDA. Enclosed is a copy of a recent resume.

During the past three-plus years, I have gone through HCDA's ups-and-downs. Although I was saddened by Daniel Dinell's resignation as executive director, I am equally excited by the new energy that Anthony Ching has brought in the past several months. Although much has been accomplished during the past three years, I would like to continue to serve in the HCDA and our community as I am excited about what we can achieve in the next four years.

If you would like to meet with me regarding my request for reappointment, please do not hesitate to contact me at 544-8342. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Lai

Enclosure

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water & Land

Wednesday, April 9; 2:45 PM  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 414

**Re: GM 616 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to  
the Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA),  
Gubernatorial Nominee, JONATHAN WAI YUN LAI,  
for a term to expire 6-30-2012.**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Jonathan Wai Yun Lai to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA).

Jonathan joined Watanabe Ing & Komeiji LLP in 1995 and became a partner in 2003. He oversees the firm's Creditor's Rights and Business Law Group and significantly contributes to the work of the Non-Profits Group. Hard-working, analytical, and evenhanded, Jonathan's clever sense of humor and even-tempered manner have earned him the respect of his clients and peers.

Jonathan has served as a director for the Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association as well as the treasurer of the Bankruptcy Law Section.

A devoted family man, Jonathan gracefully balances the demands of partnership with his commitments to family and community.

Since his appointment to in 2004, Jonathan has served the Authority with earnest enthusiasm and the dedication. HCDA has benefited from Jonathan's contributions and his continued role will undoubtedly bring about further positive changes. I respectfully urge the Committee to approve Jonathan Lai's confirmation to the Hawaii Community Development Authority. Please feel free to contact me at (808) 544-8300 if you have any questions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments.

Very truly yours,



J. Douglas Ing  
Managing Partner  
Watanabe Ing & Komeiji, LLP



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR  
THEODORE E. LIU  
DIRECTOR  
MARK K. ANDERSON  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Bldg., 250 South Hotel St., 5th Flr., Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [www.hawaii.gov/dbedt](http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt)

Tel.: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**THEODORE E. LIU**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

2:45 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of  
**G.M. 616**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HCDA), GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,  
JONATHAN WAI YUN LAI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012.**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) respectfully supports the gubernatorial nomination of Mr. Jonathan W. Y. Lai to serve a full 4-year term as a county member of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA), an agency administratively attached to DBEDT.

I have worked with Mr. Lai for four years and find him to be an informed and committed member of the Authority. Since January of this year, he has also served as the Chairperson having been elected by his fellow members.

We urge your favorable consideration of his nomination to serve as a member of HCDA.  
Thank you.



HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



KAKA'KO  
KALAELOA

Linda Lingle  
Governor

Jonathan W. Y. Lai  
Chairperson

Anthony J. H. Ching  
Executive Director

STATEMENT OF

ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

2:45 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 414

**G. M. 616 - SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND  
CONFIRMATION TO THE HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HCDA),  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JONATHAN WAI  
YUN LAI, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012.**

As the Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA), I wholeheartedly support the gubernatorial nomination of Mr. Jonathan Wai Yun Lai, to continue his service as a member of the Hawaii Community Development Authority. Mr. Lai is a "county member" of HCDA and was originally chosen by the Governor from a list of four nominees submitted by the City Council in 2004 pursuant to HRS, 206E-3(b). The City Council has just endorsed his continuing service on the Authority for another 4-year term.

Mr. Lai has been serving on the Authority since July 2004. Mr. Lai is a Junior Partner at the law firm, Watanabe Ing & Komeji LLP. His practice includes residential foreclosure, loan documentation, real estate conveyancing work, bankruptcy, collections law and banking.

Mr. Lai is licensed by the State of Hawaii Bar Association, as well as the United States District Court of Hawaii. He is a member of the Hawaii State Bar

677 Ala Moana Boulevard  
Suite 1001  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
96813

Telephone  
(808) 587-2870

Facsimile  
(808) 587-8150

E-Mail  
[contact@hcdaweb.org](mailto:contact@hcdaweb.org)

Web site  
[www.hcdaweb.org](http://www.hcdaweb.org)

Association (HSBA), the American Bar Association, the American Bankruptcy Institute, and has served on the HSBA Collection Law Section Board of Directors since 2001.

Mr. Lai's experience and background in real estate law and financing contributes an important perspective to the Authority in decision-making on various development and financing issues. Beyond his obvious professional qualifications, Mr. Lai is an engaged and committed member of the Authority. He contributes valuable insights on both Kakaako and Kalaeloa issues, our two legislative mandated community development districts that are at very different stages of development.

We feel that Mr. Lai's contribution to the Authority during his previous term has been notable, and we look forward to his continued service. We urge your favorable consideration of his nomination to continue to serve as a member of the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Lai.

**THE SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Russell Kokubun, Vice Chair**

April 9, 2008, 2:45 P.M.  
Hawaii State Capitol

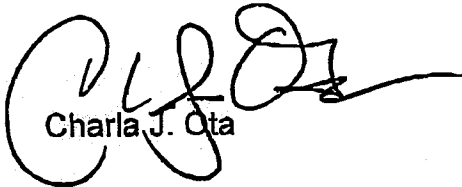
**Testimony Supporting Reappointment of Jonathan Lai to Hawaii  
Community Development Authority ("HCDA")**

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Mr. Lai's reappointment as to the HCDA. I have known Mr. Lai professionally and personally for over 25 years and I have no doubt he will continue to be a great asset to the HCDA if reappointed. Mr. Lai can be counted on to provide excellent leadership and vision to any organization with which he is associated.

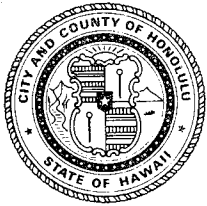
Thank you for considering my testimony in strong support of Mr. Lai's reappointment.

Sincerely,



Charla J. Ota

Post Office Box 396  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-0396  
(808) 330-7051



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

**Charles K. Djou**

*Councilmember, District IV*

*Chair, Intergovernmental Affairs Committee*

Phone: (808) 768-5004 / Facsimile: (808) 768-5011

Email: [cdjou@honolulu.gov](mailto:cdjou@honolulu.gov)

Web: [www.honolulu.gov/council/d4](http://www.honolulu.gov/council/d4)

**TESTIMONY TO**

**THE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

**ON**

**G.M. 616, RELATING TO THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. JONATHAN W. Y. LAI  
TO THE HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HCDA)**

DATE: WEDNESDAY, April 9, 2008

TIME: 2:45 P.M.

LOCATION: CONFERENCE ROOM 414

**RE: TESTIMONY SUPPORTING MR. JONATHAN W.Y LAI TO BE RE-APPOINTED TO HCDA**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of Governor's Message 616.

I strongly recommend Mr. Jonathan W. Y. Lai to be re-appointed to the Hawaii Community Development Authority as the county representative for the City and County of Honolulu. Mr. Lai's nomination was unanimously approved by the Honolulu City Council last month.

I have known Mr. Lai for several years as a classmate at USC Law School and as a colleague within the legal community in Honolulu. Mr. Lai is a partner at Watanabe Ing Kawashima & Komeiji LLP. His professional experience and extensive community involvement makes him an exceptional HCDA board member, and I have been impressed by his energy and insight in helping to improve our community.

Mr. Lai is a tireless worker and his integrity is exemplary. He welcomes challenges, and is extremely self-motivated. As an outstanding member of our community, Mr. Lai will continue to make a significant contribution to the HCDA.

I am confident in recommending Mr. Jonathan Lai and encourage you to vote for his confirmation. If you'd like to discuss his attributes in more detail, please don't hesitate to contact me. Best wishes!



APRIL 8, 2008

Support

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL D. FORMBY

G. M. 616 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION  
TO THE HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HCDA),  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JONATHAN WAI YUN LAI,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2012

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

It is my pleasure to recommend Jonathan Wai Yun Lai to continue his service as a member of the Hawaii Community Development Authority. As the Department of Transportation's designee to the Hawaii Community Development Authority, I have found Jonathan to be an effective leader and I whole-heartedly support his nomination for his continued service on the Hawaii Community Development Authority board.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

April 8, 2008

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Russell Kokubun, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water and Land

RE: Jonathan W. Lai Reappointment to Hawaii Community Development Authority

Dear Honorable Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

I am writing in support and recommendation of Jonathan W. Lai's reappointment to the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

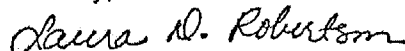
I have known Jonathan on a personal basis while he has served on the governing board for Hope Chapel Kaneohe Bay and as a Director of Mission: Hope International. Through my work with Jonathan in these principal roles, I have seen the strength of his leadership abilities and his skills as a consensus builder. One of his unique talents is to bring the right people to the table and to facilitate agreement, action and move projects forward.

Jonathan is an excellent leader who demonstrates commitment and passion in the work that he does. He is careful in his decision making, and takes the time to fully explore and analyze the facts of a matter. During the time I've worked with Jonathan, I have found him to possess a high degree of integrity and has a sincere interest in our community. I believe these skills are essential qualities you may be looking for in order to effectively serve on a public commission.

While Jonathan runs a high profile and very successful business, he finds time to work on outside projects that are meaningful to him and will benefit our community. It is evident that Jonathan is committed to Hawaii and seeks to make our community a better place to live.

If you would like further elaboration, feel free to call me at (808) 792-8560.

Sincerely,



Laura Robertson  
President/CEO

Oahu

**Administrative Office**  
2610 Kilihau Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819-2020  
Business: (808) 836-0313  
Facsimile: (808) 833-4943  
[www.higoodwill.org](http://www.higoodwill.org)

**Beretania Office**  
1085 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814-1603  
Business: (808) 524-6942  
Facsimile: (808) 521-1637

East Hawaii

**Hilo Office**  
500 Kalaniana'ole Avenue, Suite 1  
Hilo, HI 96720-4756  
Business: (808) 961-0307  
Facsimile: (808) 969-3861

Maui

**Maui Office**  
250 Alamaha Street, Suite N16A  
Kahului, HI 96732-2493  
Business: (808) 873-3972  
Facsimile: (808) 873-3974

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**From:** Donn Takaki [donnt@hawktree.net]

**Sent:**

**To:** Sen. Clayton Hee; Sen. Russell Kokubun; Sen. Carol Fukunaga; Sen. Jill Tokuda; Sen. Paul Whalen

**Subject:** Governor's Message Number 616 - HCDA (request for reappointment by Jonathan Lai)

To the Honorable Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Russell Kokubun and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing in support of Jonathan Lai's confirmation hearing for reappointment on the Hawaii Community Development Authority at 2:45 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9th. I submitted testimony in support of his original nomination, and my support of him continues today. I have known Jonathan for almost 20 years, and he has always been an energetic individual committed to doing good in all aspects of his life. He has an appreciation for family and community in addition to his legal skills. His dedication has often led to his taking leadership roles in various organizations, and I am amazed at the time he has freely given to those.

As a business owner in Hawaii who also believes it is important for a personal commitment to get involved in the community, I sincerely hope that you will reappoint Jonathan Lai.

Mahalo, Donn Takaki  
President, HawkTree International

4/9/2008



681 S. King St., P.O. Box 22249  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96823-2249

[www.hccu.info](http://www.hccu.info)

April 8, 2008

The Honorable Chair Clayton Hee  
Vice Chair Russell Kokubun  
Members of the Committee

Re: Reappointment of Jonathan W. Lai

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice Chair & Members of the Committee:

This letter represents a recommendation to you to reappoint Mr. Jonathan W. Lai to the HCDA for another term.

I have personally and professionally known Mr. Lai for over 15 plus years and he is by far a capable candidate for reappointment based on his integrity and honesty, which he has demonstrated time and again over the years.

Mr. Lai takes pride in what has to accomplished and completes all tasks in a professional manner taking into consideration the pro's & con's before making a decision. Furthermore, Mr. Lai has the understanding of core values including the value of the people and associates around him and always honors their input to the fullest extent. The latter being said, Mr. Lai has the total respect of his clients due his outstanding professionalism in the legal area.

I have worked with Mr. Lai and his associates for many years at various financial institutions and am glad that Mr. Lai has continued to remain in the legal profession since I feel that he is an asset to the Hawaii State Bar Association and to the clients that he represents.

I sincerely appreciate you taking the time in your busy daily schedule to read this letter and hope that the Committee reappoints Mr. Lai to the Hawaii Community Development Authority, which will enhance the values of that Committee and to the State of Hawaii.

Humbly Yours,

Alvin T. Masuoka  
Collection Manager  
Hawaii Central Credit Union  
(808-536-7636)

Administration	Loan Dept	Tellers / New Accts / Accounting	Marketing Dept	Collections Dept
(808) 531-8911 Fax (808) 531-7048	(808) 536-0833 Fax (808) 531-7048	(808) 536-3677 Fax (808) 536-8360	(808) 531-8499 Fax (808) 531-7048	(808) 536-7636 Fax (808) 531-7048

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 616**  
**(END)**