



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
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LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR

RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Friday, April 17, 2009
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 571

WRITTEN ONLY

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, DAVID Y. IGE, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lawrence Reifurth, and I am the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 571, regarding the appointment of Kent K. Tsukamoto, CPA to the Hawaii State Board of Accountancy ("Board"). The Department supports Mr. Tsukamoto'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. Tsukamoto 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. Tsukamoto, 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.

Currently, Mr. Tsukamoto is the Managing Partner of Accuity LLP, Certified Public Accountants, a Hawaii-based firm that acquired the Honolulu practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in October, 2006. Prior to founding Accuity, Mr. Tsukamoto led PricewaterhouseCoopers' Hawaii practice and was with them for over 28 years. This experience will serve Mr. Tsukamoto well on the Board.

Mr. Tsukamoto earned his Bachelors in Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and his Masters in Business Taxation from the University of Southern California. A licensed CPA since 1978, Mr. Tsukamoto's clients include individuals, partnerships, estates, trusts, corporations, and non-profit organizations.

Mr. Tsukamoto's extensive professional experience has made him a well-respected member of the accounting industry. Mr. Tsukamoto was appointed to the governing council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), where he represented the State of Hawaii. He also was appointed to the Tax Practice and Procedures Committee of the Tax Division of the AICPA. Mr. Tsukamoto also served as President of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants.

As with many other professionals who have dedicated themselves to their chosen professions, Mr. Tsukamoto also believes in giving back to the community. As he puts it, public service is just "part of being a professional". Although Mr. Tsukamoto currently serves as Vice President of the Blood Bank of Hawaii and is a past President

of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, he wishes to continue his public service on the Board.

I am confident that if given the opportunity, Mr. Tsukamoto 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. Tsukamoto's appointment.

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

From: info Account [info@hscpa.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 10:45 AM
To: CPN Testimony
Subject: GM 571 - Testimony in Support of Kent K. Tsukamoto, April 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
Attachments: image001.gif

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on
Commerce and Consumer Protection

GM 571

In Support of the Confirmation of Kent K. Tsukamoto
State Board of Public Accountancy

Friday, April 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Ige, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Melanie King and I am the President of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants (HSCPA). We are testifying in support of the confirmation of Kent Tsukamoto to the State Board of Public Accountancy (Board).

The HSCPA highly recommends Kent Tsukamoto, CPA, for your consideration as a member of the Board. Mr. Tsukamoto is the managing partner of Accuity LLP, a respected local accounting firm, and has over thirty years of experience in the accounting industry. His proven leadership and professional experience make him qualified to serve the interests of the public and the accounting profession.

A member since 1979, Mr. Tsukamoto served on the HSCPA Board of Directors from 1991 to 1999 and as president in 1995-1996. He is also a member of the American Institute of CPAs where he is a designated Federal Key Person, and served as a member of the governing Council.

The HSCPA is the only professional CPA organization in Hawaii representing a diverse membership throughout the State of Hawaii, mainland and internationally in public practice, business and industry, education and government.

Over the past several years, the State Board has been faced with challenges to the regulation of accountancy in Hawaii. It is the responsibility of the State Board to promote high professional standards and to protect the interest of the public. We believe that Mr. Tsukamoto will bring new perspectives and a vision to lead while putting the public interest and the CPA profession's responsibilities first.

For these reasons, we urge you to confirm Mr. Tsukamoto's appointment to the State Board of Public Accountancy. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

HMSA



Blue Cross
Blue Shield
of Hawaii

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Robert P. Hiam
President and Chief Executive Officer

April 16, 2009

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chairperson
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Confirmation for Kent K. Tsukamoto, C.P.A., M.B.T., to the State Board of Public Accountancy

Dear Senator Baker:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection is considering Mr. Kent K. Tsukamoto, C.P.A., M.B.T., for appointment to the Hawaii State Board of Public Accountancy. Kent is the Managing Partner of Accuity LLP, Certified Public Accountants. Accuity is a Hawaii-based firm that acquired the Honolulu practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) in October 2006. Prior to founding Accuity, he led PwC's Hawaii practice and was with PwC and its predecessor Coopers & Lybrand for over 28 years.

I have known Kent both professionally and personally for over 15 years. He is a person of the highest integrity and his knowledge of accounting and tax issues is superb. He has served as an appointed member of the governing Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, representing the state of Hawaii, and has served as an appointed member of the Tax Practice and Procedures Committee of the Tax Division of the AICPA. He is a past President of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants and past Chairman of its Tax Committee. He currently is licensed to practice in Hawaii and Guam and registered in California. He has served as an adjunct professor in the Masters of Accounting program at the University of Hawaii, instructing courses in international and estate and gift taxation. He also served as an expert witness in federal and state court proceedings as well as in arbitration and mediation settlement proceedings in Hawaii.

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
April 16, 2009
Page 2

More than ever, public accounting is challenged to provide business, government, and individual investors with accurate and timely information regarding the financial state-of-affairs of a business or government entity.

The Board of Public Accountancy plays a key role in the oversight of accounting practices in Hawaii. I believe that Kent Tsukamoto would make an excellent addition to the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bob", written in black ink.

Robert P. Hiam
President and Chief Executive Officer

kh



1136 12th Avenue, Suite 200 • Honolulu, HI 96816-3796 • TEL: 808.732.3000 • FAX: 808.732.3055 • <http://www.hicentral.com>

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Sandra "Sam" L. Bangerter, R
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CRS

Joe Paikai, R
GRI

Alice Saul, R
GRI

Chief Executive Officer

Rochelle Lee Gregson

April 13, 2009

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: Governor's Message 571 – Kent K. Tsukamoto,
Gubaernatorial Nominee to the State Board of Public
Accountancy for a term to expire 6-30-2013**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

Kent K. Tsukamoto, C.P.A., M.B.T. is being considered for appointment to the State Board of Public Accountancy.

I respectfully request that you confirm his appointment.

I began working with Mr. Tsukamoto who was a volunteer with the Aloha United Way as a member of its Board of Directors and Chair of an agency allocations panel. This was nearly 20 years ago.

More recently, Mr. Tsukamoto was recruited and agreed to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of HiCentral MLS, a newly formed subsidiary of the Honolulu Board of REALTORS®. He holds the distinction with only one other, of being the only non-REALTOR® ever to serve on a governing body of this trade association.

The distinction speaks to Mr. Tsukamoto's breadth of experience and knowledge; his generosity, and his unquestionable integrity.

As a Director of the newly formed subsidiary, Mr. Tsukamoto is an invaluable asset in helping to assure the accuracy and organization of our finances. He demands that the information follow strict accounting standards and is extremely helpful in directing us to the appropriate resources. He does this while maintaining a distance appropriate to his position as a Director.



REALTOR® is a registered collective membership mark which may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics.

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
GM 571 – Kent K. Tsukamoto
April 13, 2009
Page 2

Mr. Tsukamoto is thoughtful and thorough; he speaks with wisdom and leads with diplomacy and tact. He is a considerate and respectful individual with a wonderful and intelligent sense of humor – always appropriate.

I am aware that the Hawaii State Board of Public Accountancy has a pivotal role in assuring high standards of practice in the field of public accountancy. I believe that the individuals appointed to serve on the Board have the qualities required to maintain the highest of these standards.

Kent K. Tsukamoto is that individual. He will serve us all very well.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to speak about Kent. I hope that you also have the pleasure of getting to know him as I have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rochelle Lee Gregson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rochelle Lee Gregson
Chief Executive Officer
HiCentral MLS
Honolulu Board of REALTORS®



Blood Bank of Hawaii

2043 Dillingham Boulevard
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-4024

Phone 808-845-9966

Fax 808-848-4737

Website www.bbh.org

April 10, 2009

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Chairperson
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Confirmation for Kent K. Tsukamoto C.P.A., M.B.T.

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing this letter in recommendation of Mr. Kent Tsukamoto C.P.A., M.B.T. for nomination to the Hawaii State Board of Public Accountancy. Kent, a managing partner of Accuity LLP, Certified Public Accountants, has been a trustee of the Blood Bank of Hawaii since 2004. During this time, he has served as a member of the executive finance committee and as board vice president for three years.

Kent's ability to ask good questions, analyze information and consistently provide valuable suggestions makes him an integral part of the Blood Bank board of trustees. I have always been able to count on his vast knowledge of the industry and calm working style to guide the Blood Bank as it faces these fiscally challenging times. Kent has a unique ability to identify alternatives and find solutions.

A licensed CPA in Hawaii since 1978, Kent has been an appointed member of the governing Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), representing the state of Hawaii, and of AICPA's Tax Practice and Procedures committee. Locally, he has served as past president of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants, an adjunct professor for the University of Hawaii's Master's of Accounting program and as an expert witness in federal and state court, and mediation settlement proceedings.

I am confident that Kent will bring his expertise, enthusiasm and strong work ethic that we value at the Blood Bank to the Hawaii State Board of Public Accountancy. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call me at 848-4720.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Yim, M.D.
President & Medical Director
Blood Bank of Hawaii

WARREN H. HARUKI

2667 PANFAULS DRIVE • HONOLULU, HI 96813
PHONE: 808-537-4777 FAX: 808-537-4777 CELL: 808-295-8889
• E-MAIL: WHARUKI@GROVEFARM.COM

April 14, 2009

Dear Chairperson Baker, Vice Chair Ige and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

Please allow me to submit this written testimony in strong support of the confirmation of KENT K. TSUKAMOTO to the State Board of Public Accountancy.

I have personally known Mr. Tsukamoto over the past ten years or so, both professionally and personally. He is an extremely qualified CPA, is considered one of the top tax CPAs in Hawaii, and is currently the Managing Partner of Accuity LLP, Certified Public Accountants. He has tremendous integrity and is held in very high regard by his peers in the accounting profession in Hawaii.

Mr. Tsukamoto is a technical speaker on tax and accounting issues for the Hawai'i Society of CPAs, as well as the Hawaii Institute for Continuing Legal Education, and various PricewaterhouseCoopers and Accuity training courses. He has published technical articles in both U.S. and Japanese business journals.

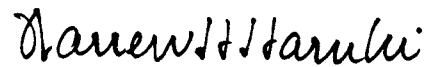
Professionally, Mr. Tsukamoto has served as an appointed member of the governing Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), and has served as an appointed member of the Tax Practice and Procedures Committee of the Tax Division of the American Institute. He also has taught as an adjunct professor in the Masters of Accounting at the University of Hawaii, teaching courses in international and estate and gift taxation.

Aside from his professional duties and responsibilities, his community service also extends to serving as past President of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, Trustee of the University of Hawaii Foundation, and Treasurer of the Rotary Club of Honolulu Sunrise, St. Louis School, and the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation. Mr. Tsukamoto currently serves as Vice President of the Blood Bank of Hawaii, and is a Director of Waialae Country Club and is on the Executive Committee of the Hawaii Asia Pacific Association.

Based on Mr. Tsukamoto's overall experience, professional expertise, community service and his stellar integrity, he will certainly be a tremendous asset and resource to the State Board of Public Accountancy. This is a stellar nomination and I urge this committee to confirm Mr. Tsukamoto at its earliest convenience

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Warren H. Haruki". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'W'.

Warren H. Haruki
President & CEO – Grove Farm Company, Inc.
Chairman of the Board – Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc.
Retired President – Verizon Hawaii & GTE Hawaiian Tel
CPA (not licensed to practice in Hawaii)

April 15, 2009

Senator Roslyn Baker, Chair
Senator David Ige, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hearing Date: April 17, 2009 9:00 a.m.

Re: GM 571 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Board of Public Accountancy, Gubernatorial Nominee, Kent K. Tsukamoto, for a term to expire 6-30-2013.
(Written testimony only.)

Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members:

Please accept this testimony in support of Kent Tsukamoto's nomination.

As the dean of the Shidler College of Business at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, I have known Kent both as an alumnus and as a member of the College's advisory council. By serving on the advisory council, Kent has shown his willingness to share his professional knowledge and experience to benefit both the institution and individual students. As an alumnus, his career accomplishments together with his support of the College have led to his induction into our alumni Hall of Honor. This commitment of time and knowledge is significant and demonstrates a strong commitment to bettering the College and the community it serves.

His resume speaks for itself and I am confident his knowledge of the accounting profession, together with his judgment, will be a great asset to the board. He thoroughly understands and appreciates the occupational demands and a practitioner's obligations not only to a client but to the larger business community. If asked to serve in this regulatory role, I know he will work to improve the practice of public accounting in Hawai'i and ensure it continues to serve the public interest. I hope you take this opportunity to support that goal by recommending the Senate advise and consent to his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V. Vance Roley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

V. Vance Roley

From: Walter Kirimitsu [wkirimitsu@saintlouishawaii.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 09, 2009 5:58 PM
To: CPN Testimony
Subject: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION; HEARING DATE
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009, 9 A.M. ; GM 571 KENT K. TSUKAMOTO

Dear Chairperson Baker, Vice Chair Ige and honorable members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

Will you permit me to submit written testimony in strong support of the confirmation of KENT K. TSUKAMOTO to the State Board of Public Accountancy?

I have personally know Mr. Tsukamoto continuously over the past 20 years, both professionally and personally. He is a professional CPA and is currently the Managing Partner of Accuity LLP, Certified Public Accountants. He is of impeccable integrity and character, and has a very strong positive reputation in the community and the State.

I have served with Mr. Tsukamoto on the Board of Trustees at Saint Louis School over a period of 12 years. He served as Chairman of the Finance Committee and did an outstanding job for the school and its board. He has unselfishly given his time and talents to Saint Louis School over the past 15 to 20 years. His community service also extends to serving as past President of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, Trustee of the University of Hawaii Foundation, Treasurer of the Rotary Club o Honolulu Sunrise and the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation.

Professionally, Mr. Tsukamoto has served as an appointed member of the governing Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and has served as an appointed member of the Tax Practice and Procedures Committee of the Tax Division of the American Institute. He also has taught as an adjunct professor in the Masters of Accounting at the University of Hawaii, teaching courses in international and estate and gift taxation.

Based upon his professional expertise, community service and his solid character, Mr. Tsukamoto has all of the potential to make a significant, substantial contribution to the State Board of Public Accountancy. Governor Lingle has truly made an outstanding nomination, which should be swiftly confirmed.

I will be happy and honored to personally answer any questions you might have.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Best wishes for a swift confirmation.

Respectfully,

Walter S. Kirimitsu

President, Saint Louis School
Former Vice President of Legal Affairs and University General Counsel, University of Hawaii;

Former Associate Judge of the State Intermediate Court of Appeals;
Former President of the Hawaii State Bar Association;
Former senior partner in the law firm of Shim, Tam, Kirimitsu and Naito

APRIL 9, 2009

TO: STATE OF HAWAII SENATE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS OFFICE

FAX NO. 586-6659

RE: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

HEARING DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009, 9:00 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 229

GM 571 RE: MR. KENT K. TSUKAMOTO FO THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY.

CHAIR BAKER, VICE CHAIR IGE AND HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION:

PLEASE ACCEPT MY WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF MR. KENT TSUKAMOTO TO THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY.

RESPECTFULLY,



WALTER S. KIRIMITSU

Walter Kirimitsu

From: Walter Kirimitsu [wkirimitsu@saintlouishawaii.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 09, 2009 5:58 PM
To: 'CPNTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov'
Subject: COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION; HEARING DATE FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009, 9 A.M. ; GM 571 KENT K. TSUKAMOTO

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Thank you for your time and consideration. Best wishes for a swift confirmation.

Respectfully,



Walter S. Kirimitsu

President, Saint Louis School
Former Vice President of Legal Affairs and University General Counsel, University of
Hawaii;
Former Associate Judge of the State Intermediate Court of Appeals;
Former President of the Hawaii State Bar Association;
Former senior partner in the law firm of Shim, Tam, Kirimitsu and Naito