

GM 250



GOV. MSG. NO. 250

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

February 12, 2010

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **CREDIT UNION Advisory Board**:

Gay L. Mathews

Term to Expire: 6/30/2014

Sincerely,



LINDA LINGLE



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR
RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
THE TWENTY-FIFTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

Friday, March 5, 2010
9:00 a.m.

WRITTEN COMMENTS ON G.M. 250 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE CREDIT UNION ADVISORY BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, GAY L. MATHEWS, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014

THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Nick Griffin, Commissioner of Financial Institutions ("Commissioner"), and I appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") on G.M. 250. The Department asks for your favorable consideration for the nomination of Gay L. Mathews to the Credit Union Advisory Board.

The purpose of the Credit Union Advisory Board is to advise the Commissioner and others about improving the operations and supervision of State chartered credit unions

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and making recommendations regarding the laws and rules governing State chartered credit unions to safeguard the interest of depositors and members of State chartered credit unions.

Ms. Mathews' resume indicates a person who is an effective manager and financial service professional – she has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the North Hawaii Community Credit Union for the last 23 years. She also is deeply involved in Big Island community activities such as the Hawaii Community Loan Fund and numerous mayoral task forces on issues ranging from disaster preparedness to reintegration of ex-offenders on both a professional and personal level. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a Masters in Community Development and is working on another Masters in organizational change.

Clearly Ms. Mathews is someone who embodies the spirit of the credit union movement and is actively working to realize the credit union mission within her community.

The Division of Financial Institutions is pleased to support the nomination of Gay L. Mathews to the Credit Union Advisory Board for a term to expire June 30, 2014.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments.



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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Friday, March 5, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.

Testimony in strong support of GM 250

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable David Ige, Vice-Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Credit Union League, the local trade association for over 90 Hawaii credit unions, representing approximately 810,000 credit union members across the state.

We stand in strong support for the nomination of Gay L. Mathews to the Credit Union Advisory Board. She has been the CEO of the North Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union for over 20 years. Ms. Mathews' exceptional leadership skills and extensive knowledge of the credit union industry would continue to serve her well on the Credit Union Advisory Board.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.



North Hawai'i Community Federal Credit Union

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Madame Chair and Committee Members,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my re-appointment to the Credit Union Advisory Board. Representing the credit union industry in its efforts to assist its members, communities and the general economy of the State of Hawaii, is a fundamental part of who I am and have been for the last 23 years. With over 36 years in the consumer finance industry, I am critically aware of the range of needs that our people face. These include the current challenges brought on by our seriously struggling economy, from foreclosures and repossessions, to loss of employment and the additional challenges of the need for financial life skills and literacy faced by the underserved and disenfranchised.

As you know, this board exists to serve in an advisory capacity to the Commissioner of Financial Institutions of State Chartered Credit Unions of which we have only two. In addition, the Commissioner has as a resource our very strong and responsive trade association, the Hawaii Credit Union League. As a result of the limited number of State Chartered Credit Unions and the Hawaii Credit Union League, there has been no need to meet since my original appointment to the board and the DCCA has done the very prudent thing of not meeting for the sake of meeting. I am honored to have been a part of the mechanism that was ready to provide input at any point the Commissioner found it to be of value and would be humbled to continue in that roll.

My passion and experience with serving the underserved extends beyond the traditional credit union arena. I have been deeply involved with disaster services from a local (American Red Cross) to an international scale (Strong Angel Series, InSTEDD, & many others) since 1978. This has resulted in a more profound appreciation for the challenges facing vulnerable groups locally, as has my credit union experience been beneficial in working with NGOs and the military globally in recognizing the diverse needs of those afflicted by both natural and man made disasters.

The credit union industry, as well as many other governmental, business and non-governmental organizations, face a host of concerns locally from home ownership issues, payday lenders, and economic challenges (loss of employment, lost of small businesses, changes in the workforce skillsets). If I can continue to be of value to our industry by serving on this board, I humbly ask for your approval in my reappointment.

Mahalo nui loa kakou,

Gay Mathews, President & CEO