

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097
March 3, 2010

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 269
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMISSION
ON TRANSPORTATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **RALPH J. W. K. HIATT**,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2010

and

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 270
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMMISSION
ON TRANSPORTATION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, **RALPH J.W.K. HIATT**,
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2014

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** the confirmation of Mr. Ralph J.W.K. Hiatt to the Commission on Transportation (COT). Mr. Hiatt has been serving on the COT on an interim basis since September of 2009 and he has proven himself to be a knowledgeable and capable member.

Mr. Hiatt is a retired colonel, having served in the Army for 26 years. Throughout his career, he has successfully served in top level management and administrative positions in such areas as aviation, operational security and crisis planning, counter-terrorism, and risk assessment in complex operations, on both a regional and global scale. These experiences have enabled Mr. Hiatt to identify and implement innovative solutions as an effective "problem solver."

Additionally, Mr. Hiatt has a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Commercial pilot qualification with multi-engine airplane, helicopter and instrument ratings. He has also served as the Vice President of the Aloha Chapter of the United States Army Aviation Association of America, and he is a member of the American Association of Airport Executives and the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol.

Based on Mr. Hiatt's background and experiences, he is a most welcomed addition to the COT. The DOT respectfully requests that this Committee confirm Mr. Ralph J.W.K. Hiatt to the COT, for the term to expire on 6-30-2010 (GM 269) as well as for the term to expire on 6-30-2014 (GM 270).

Testimony

Presentation Before the Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

Testimony for March 3, 2010

Ralph J.W.K. Hiatt

Commission on Transportation (COT)

Chairman English, members of the Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, thank you for this opportunity to present my credentials for your consideration as a commissioner to the Commission on Transportation.

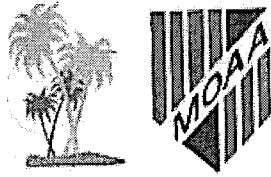
I was born in Kailua-Kona, graduated from Kailua High School and the University of Hawai'i, majoring in Political Science-International Relations and earned an Army commission through the UHROTC program. I also earned my private pilot license through the ROTC program. My military service, of 26 years, primarily involved aviation assignments requiring operational, intelligence, counter-terrorism and operational research/systems analyst skills. Since my retirement and return to Hawai'i, I've been involved in aviation management, an aviation consultant and a director of aviation flight and aircraft mechanic training. My aviation experience will compliment the current COT expertise.

Commerce traveling through the state transportation nodes is the essential life blood of Hawai'i and must remain efficient and effective. With huge DOT modernizations goals and programs that are necessary to enhance and efficiently serve the public users of our multi-modal transportation system, I considered it a privilege to be nominated for the appointment to the Commission on Transportation (COT). As these modernization enhancements evolve the COT must advise and assist the DOT to guarantee that the objectives are met while advocating consumer safety and satisfaction, ensure the remaining infrastructure is preserved, and that the state's unique environmental and cultural balance is considered on all plans and projects. It is important that the residents and visitors to Hawai'i using the transportation modes gain an understanding and appreciation of the modernization efforts. This is an unexploited role for the COT to assist in the DOT mission which I can fill.

DOT is engaged in challenging and exciting improvements providing for our next generation. My aviation leadership background, experience, professional relationships and personality can compliment the COT effectiveness. I welcome the opportunity to assist in this endeavor important. I ask for your support of my nomination to the Commission on Transportation. Mahalo!

Ralph J.W.K. Hiatt

End of Testimony



Hawaii Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 1185
Kailua, Hawaii 96734-1185

Testimony of

Thomas Smyth, President

Military Officers Association of America, Hawaii Chapter

Before the

Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs

Wednesday, March 3, 2010, 2:30pm, Room 224

GM 269/GM 270 Nominee Ralph J.W.K. Hiatt to the Commission on Transportation

Chair English, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Our chapter of 500 retired and currently serving officers of the Uniformed Services strongly supports the nomination of Col. Ralph Hiatt, U.S. Army (Ret.), a long time, very active member of our chapter, to continue to serve on the Commission on Transportation.

I cite Col. Hiatt's military background because it gave him extensive experience in aviation and airport operations, most useful in supporting the Department of Transportation. In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 aviation-based terrorist attacks, which still remain a threat today, his work in counter-terrorism, operational security and crisis planning are invaluable and frankly rare talents which are much in need now.

He has also served the State of Hawaii in growing and strengthening the Pacific Aerospace Training Center at Honolulu Community College. He knows our airports and the airspace around them very, very well.

His service to our chapter's nationally recognized JROTC and ROTC awards and scholarship program is further testimony to his dedication to our community. We ask that you Advise and Consent to his nomination and allow him to continue to participate on this critical commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

From: melteach@juno.com
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2010 3:36 PM
To: TIATestimony
Subject: Recommendation of GM269/GM270 for Ralph J.W.K Hiatt

I am writing this letter in support of the recommendation of Ralph Hiatt for position on the Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs. I have known Ralph for almost ten years, both as a member of the faculty of Honolulu Community College and as part of the Civil Air Patrol and personally.

Ralph works well with others, is a hard worker, conscientious and is definitely a team player. His local and aviation background enabled him to be instrumental in raising the enrollment of students in the commercial aviation program at the Honolulu Community College. He was well liked by other members of his staff at Kalaeloa.

He is also a member of the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol , a volunteer organization which is a part of Hawaii's Civil Defense.

I believe his extensive background in management and aviation will be an asset to the Committee and I have no hesitation in giving him my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Melvin E. Souza
Lt.Col., Chief of Staff,
Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol
Lecturer - Honolulu Community College
Retired Captain Hawaiian Airlines

Owen Miyamoto
3209 Paty Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822-1439

February 26, 2010

Honorable Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

I am testifying in support for GM 269 and GM 270 requesting your consideration confirmation of Ralph J.W.K. Hiatt to the Commission on Transportation.

My name is Owen Miyamoto and I am a member of the Commission on Transportation and a registered civil engineer in the State of Hawaii.

Ralph Hiatt has been on an interim appointment to fill a vacancy for the Oahu representative and GM 269 will confirm his appointment to serve for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. GM 270 will confirm his appointment for a full three-year term to end June 30, 2014

I have personally known Ralph Hiatt ever since he was an analyst for the Honolulu office of ARINC, the communications provider for airlines. When he was appointed as Director, Pacific Aerospace Training Center for Honolulu Community College, I was lecturer with the faculty for the Center. I had the opportunity to work with him as the college converted a hangar at the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station to house the new professional flight training program. He was responsible for the management of both the training and support services at Kalaeloa Airport. In addition he was responsible for the aviation maintenance program located at Honolulu International Airport. Both programs trained students for positions in the aviation industry and graduates have found work in Hawaii and throughout the mainland and the Pacific.

I believe Ralph Hiatt's experience and skills will contribute substantially to the role of the Commission on Transportation in advising the Department.

I urge your recommendation for his appointment to the Commission on Transportation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony and I would be happy to respond to any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Owen Miyamoto". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Owen Miyamoto, PE, F.ASCE

Testimony of Ku`uhaku Park

In support of GM269 and GM270:

Confirmation of Ralph Hiatt to the State Commission on Transportation.
Before the Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental
Affairs

On March 3, 2010, at 2:30 PM

Chair English, Vice Chair Gabbard and committee members,

I am Ku`uhaku Park testifying in support of the confirmation of Ralph Hiatt to serve on the State Commission on Transportation. Although I also serve on the Commission on Transportation, my testimony is that of a private citizen.

For the past few months, Mr. Hiatt has been serving as an interim Commissioner and his knowledge of aviation issues has been a valuable asset to the commission. Furthermore, his zeal for serving is unparalleled in the five years that I have been on the commission. In order to educate himself on transportation matters, and on his own time I may add, Mr. Hiatt actually goes out and visits highway projects, harbor operations and of course airports.

This hands-on approach of acquainting himself with all facets of our state's transportation modes will help not only the commission, but the DOT as well, as he serves in his capacity as an advisor on matters within the jurisdiction of the Department.

I strongly urge this committee and the senate to confirm Mr. Hiatt based on his background, knowledge and enthusiasm to serve.

Thank you for receiving my testimony.