

GM 347

State Commission on Fatherhood

c/o Hawai'i Dept. of Human Services; 1390 Miller Street, Room 209; Honolulu, HI 96813

MISSION: *To promote healthy family relationships between parents and children by emphasizing the important role fathers play in the lives of their children.*

TESTIMONY ON: GM347 – Re confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee CHESTER JAMES ADESSA, JR. as a voting member of the State Commission on Fatherhood

FOR: Senate Committee on Human Services

DATE: Tuesday, March 23, 2010; 1:15 p.m.
Committee Hearing

LOCATION: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

SUBMITTED BY: Greg Farstrup, Chair, State Commission on Fatherhood

As Chair, and on behalf of the State Commission on Fatherhood, **we strongly support the confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee CHESTER JAMES ADESSA, JR. as a voting member of the State Commission on Fatherhood**, with a term ending June 30, 2011.

Based on our working experiences with Mr. Adessa on fatherhood support activities, we are confident that he will be a committed and steadfast member of the State Commission on Fatherhood, dedicated to fulfilling the Commission's mission to **"promote healthy family relationships between parents and children by emphasizing the important role fathers play in the lives of their children."**

The State Commission on Fatherhood urges the Senate Committee on Human Services to recommend and support the confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee **CHESTER JAMES ADESSA, JR.** as a voting member of the State Commission on Fatherhood.

State Commission on Fatherhood: Greg Farstrup, Chair (Hawai'i Coalition for Dads); Chet Adessa (Navy Fleet & Family Support Center); Merton Chinen (Office of Youth Services); Mike Dias (Alu Like-Hilo); Elwood Machado (Kaua'i County); Gordon Miyamoto (Dept. of Education); Loretta Fuddy (Dept. of Health); Myrna Murdoch (Children's Rights Council of Hawaii); Henry Oliva (Dept. of Human Services); Tom Read (Dept. of Public Safety); Claud Sutcliffe (Mediation Center of Molokai); and Russell Suzuki (Dept. of Attorney General).

Hawai'i Coalition for Dads

Promoting involved, nurturing, responsible fatherhood

March 16, 2010

Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Human Services Committee
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 226
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Chun Oakland,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Coalition for Dads, I support the confirmation of Chet Adessa as a voting member of the State Commission on Fatherhood. His skills and participation are needed to support the Commission with its efforts to enhance the support of fathers and their families in Hawai'i.

Chet is an energetic advocate for the importance of fathers as a co-parent for their children. He is a nurturing and involved father. I have been inspired by him during the past seven years I have worked with him in his role as the dedicated volunteer Chair of the Hawai'i Coalition for Dads. His experience includes decades of work to strengthen services for fathers and families as a Family Life Educator at the Navy Fleet and Family Support at Pearl Harbor.

I unconditionally and wholeheartedly recommend the confirmation of Chet Adessa as a voting member of the State Commission on Fatherhood.

Sincerely,

Greg Farstrup

Greg Farstrup, Coordinator

*c/o Parents And Children Together, Hana Like Home Visitor Program, 1485 Linapuni St. #105; Honolulu, HI 98619
Phone: 841-2245; Fax: 842-9604; HawaiiDads@pacthawaii.org*

Friends and Supporters: ALU LIKE; EVENTIONS Inc.; Good Beginnings Alliance; Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund; Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies; Kamehameha Schools' Extension Education Division-Health, Wellness & Family Education Dept.; MothersCare; Parents And Children Together; PARENTS, Inc.; Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Support Center; Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii; The Institute For Family Enrichment; The State Legislature

chunOakland5 - Michael

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2010 2:01 PM
To: HMS Testimony
Cc: blyth.kozuki@navy.mil
Subject: Testimony for GM347 on 3/23/2010 1:15:00 PM

Categories: Blue Category

Testimony for HMS 3/23/2010 1:15:00 PM GM347

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Blyth Kozuki
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone: 474-1999 X6215
E-mail: blyth.kozuki@navy.mil
Submitted on: 3/16/2010

Comments:

To the Chairperson Committee on Human Services

I am writing to support the appointment of Chester James Adessa Jr. to Fatherhood Commission. I have worked with Mr. Adessa for 13 years. He does all of our parenting education classes and is a great resource at Fleet and Family Support Center. I also know he consistently volunteers within the community on behalf of children. He is a great role model for fathers! He will make a great addition to this commission. Thank you for the opportunity to support Mr. Adessa's nomination.

March 17, 2010

Senate Committee on Human Services
State of Hawaii
The Honorable Senator Susanne Chun-Oakland, Chair
The Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair

Dear Senators Chun-Oakland and Ihara:

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Chester James Adessa, Jr.'s nomination to the Commission on Fatherhood, and would highly recommend his appointment to this commission. I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Adessa for 5 years and have found his dedication and commitment to serving military and civilian fathers exemplary.

Mr. Adessa's many accomplishments include initiating and overseeing the Boot Camp for New Dads Classes and New Moms and Dads classes held monthly at Pearl Harbor. These classes help fathers become active participants in nurturing their families. He has been recognized for his role in promoting and supporting fatherhood initiatives in the military community. He has taken the lead role in military and community awareness of child abuse and domestic violence prevention activities. Mr. Adessa has volunteered his own time to participate in the Annual Teddy Bear Drive, Child and Youth Day Event as well as Car Seat Safety awareness. More recently, Mr. Adessa initiated and planned an annual Father-Daughter dance at Pearl Harbor for military fathers and their daughters which has grown in popularity since its inception approximately 3 years ago to promote father-daughter bonding.

Mr. Adessa will be a great asset to the Commission on Fatherhood. He has demonstrated a commitment to enhancing and developing awareness of the importance of fathers both in their families as well as in their communities. He serves as an exemplary role model in the workplace and community.

Sincerely,

Pamela Lyman, LCSW