

**GM 435**

**EDT**



COLLEEN HANABUSA  
PRESIDENT

RUSSELL KOKUBUN  
VICE PRESIDENT

GARY L. HOOSER  
MAJORITY LEADER

FRED HEMMINGS  
MINORITY LEADER

## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 2, 2010

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NINTH DISTRICT  
LES IHARA, JR.

TENTH DISTRICT  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI

ELEVENTH DISTRICT  
CAROL FUKUNAGA

TWELFTH DISTRICT  
BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT  
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT  
DONNA MERCADO KIM

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NORMAN SAKAMOTO

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MICHELLE N. KIDANI

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CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA

NINETEENTH DISTRICT  
MIKE GABBARD

TWENTIETH DISTRICT  
WILL ESPERO

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT  
COLLEEN HANABUSA

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT  
ROBERT BUNDA

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT  
CLAYTON HEE

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT  
JILL N. TOKUDA

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT  
FRED HEMMINGS

CHIEF CLERK  
CAROL TANIGUCHI

Clifford P. Kapono  
65 Makakai Place  
Hilo, HI 96720

Re: Nomination to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission

Dear Mr. Kapono,

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor Linda Lingle to serve on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission. To assist the Senate with its confirmation process, I would like to request that you submit the following information to my office by Friday, April 9, 2010.

- (1) A current resume with a list of references; and
- (2) A written statement that addresses the following:
  - (a) Why you wish to serve as a member of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission;
  - (b) Your perception of the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission;
  - (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission, provide an explanation of your qualifications for the position. Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would specifically aid you in decision-making as a member of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission.
  - (d) Describe your accomplishments during your term of service thus far, and what you hope to accomplish during this new term?
  - (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and you believe set you apart from other potential candidates. How would the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission benefit from having a member with those qualities?

- (f) Describe your previous experience that you believe would make you an asset to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission.
- (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

We have scheduled your confirmation hearing for Monday, April 12, 2010, at 1:15 p.m., in Conference Room 016, at the State Capitol, therefore, your prompt response in providing the requested information will ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner.

Mahalo for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology

## *Affidavit*

I, CLIFFORD PHILIP KAPONO am honored to serve on the State Culture and Arts Commission. Believing that art is our fundamental expression of creativity the essence of thought manifest; good art moves people beyond their limitations into the future. We can never be certain of what our future might hold but our expressions of the inner self revealed on the outside suggest the very fabric by which we define ourselves as a civilization. Serving on the State Culture and Arts Commission gives me an opportunity to promote the right to creativity through the eyes of a democratic people.

My perception of the State Culture and Arts Commission suggest that it promotes cultural integrity as reflected through the impression of all the people of Hawaii. I believe that my role would be to facilitate the process and insure that equity is provided to everyone through our democratic process. The responsibility that we all share hangs squarely on the State Culture and Arts Commission as guardians of the culture of Hawaii. We are accountable to our legacy for the work we do today.

The many functions of the State Culture and Arts Commission seemingly borders on a collection of multiple skill sets each demanding its own special attention. My fundamental skill sets are in economics and education. The uniqueness of this often mutually exclusive combination allows for balance between what is often argued as a bottom line quantitative goal relative to the esoteric value of appreciation. My working experience in both quantitative and qualitative environs provides me with the objectivity necessary to support the greater good while still providing voice and value to the minority opinion. Herein equity is preserved and voice is recognized.

As a new member, I have no history with the State Culture and Arts Commission but looking to the future specifically to my term over the next four years in conjunction with President Obama's decision as of March 10, 2010 with inclusion of art into the science, technology, engineering and math program now an acronym known as STEAM, art becomes a national goal as well as an integral part of the US economic stimulus package to ramp up local state economies. Looking forward we are headed for profitable and exciting times as Hawaii helps to define the boarder landscape of cultural integrity for America through art.

If there are unique qualities to describe my contribution to the State Culture and Arts Commission it would have to hinge on me as an artist. I am a published, awarding winning native Hawaiian author with an academic and investigative history specifically in the people of Polynesia and the greater Pacific Basin in general. I have lived among the very people that claim sovereignty to the greater Pacific Ocean from the Polynesian occupied atolls of Kapingamarangi to the most southern tips of Easter Island, Rapa Nui. I see through Maori eyes. The benefit of having a person like me on board speaks to equity with voice.

My previous experience in global business management over a variety of eclectic industries provides a plethora of possible options. Multiple options over a variety of choice increase proportionately the probability of predictable positive outcomes. My acquired experience can only add to your predictable success.

I do not foresee any possible conflict of interest outside of me as a Hawaiian arguing for Hawaiian art but in Hawaii that might be considered exclusionary.

## **Clifford Philip Kapon**

65 Makakai Place Hilo, HI 96720 cell: (808) 430- 2841 email: thoreauing@live.com

Position Desired: *Hawaii State Foundation Culture & Arts Commission*

### **Personal Statement:**

*Good art moves people and movement results in progress. The Hawaiian word for knowledge is ike. Literally translated it asks if one can see. Art allows us to first see the creativity of others that we might know the difference within ourselves.*

### **Personal References:**

Dr. John L. Turner, MD., 850 Kulaloa Road Hilo, HI, 96720 (808) 981-2717

Dr. Carl Ackerman, PhD., Punahou School, Honolulu, HI 96822 (808) 944-5711

Mr. Stanley Roehrig, Esq., 101 Aupuni St Hilo, HI 96720 (808) 969-1441

Dr. Emmet Noa Aluli, MD., Po Box 1100 Kaunakakai, HI, 96748 (808) 553-5353

Ms. Mililani Trask, Esq., 400 Hualani St Hilo, HI 96720 (808) 961-2888

### **General Work Experience:**

- US Army, Republic of South Vietnam & Japan 1967 – 1970
- Holiday Inns, Hotel Director Sales 1974
- Motorola Communications, District Manager South Pacific 1976 – 1985
- Kapon & Associates Management Consultants 1985 – Present
  - Partial Client List
    - US Navy at Pearl Harbor
    - USAF 15<sup>th</sup> ABW Hickam AFB
    - Camp Smith Hawaii
    - Hawaiian Electric Industries
    - Hawaiian American Cruises
    - Chevron Oil Company
    - Tesoro Refinery Oahu
    - Élan Pharmaceuticals
- Yellow Bus Consulting, CEO, 2008 – Present

### **Education Work Experience:**

- **New Century Public Charter Schools:**
  - *Literacy Resource Development Teacher.* Creating literary opportunities for k-12 students by expanding literary resources through Public Library net-working.
  - *SPED Business Math Teacher:* Increasing SPED student awareness to the possibilities for future employment within the local Hilo business community.
  - *Math Camp Teacher:* Intervention math for students grades 5<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> increasing math tolerance and proficiency through critical thinking approach.
- **Punahou School:**
  - *Education Consultant:* Observations and audit of Punahou's PUEO Program with outcomes reported to Dr. Jim Scott, President Punahou School.
- **University of Hawaii Maui Campus:**
  - *Principal Investigator:* Faculty / Staff contracted position assessing economic impact of certain federal programs on the Island of Molokai.

- **Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate Keaukaha Campus:**
  - *Algebra & Marine Science Teacher:* Elementary and middle school Pre-Algebra and Marine Biology

### Education Skill Set Experience:

- **Math Curriculum:** Constructivist teaching approach to pre-algebra based on relative information that the student is already familiar with. Curriculum is founded on base ten methods of relational understanding from a native Hawaiian cultural perspective associated with space and volume.
- **Literary Resource Development:** Creating literary opportunities for students and parents by engaging faculty and student body in a more efficacious literary experience.
- **Charter School Management (CMO):** Strategic business management experience providing charter schools with doable goals in compliance with the State of Hawaii's completed application for State Fiscal Stabilization Funds, pursuant to the American recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

### Literary Experience:

- Clifford Kapono is an award winning published author
  - Historic Photos of Honolulu, Turner Publishing Company, Tennessee
    - Hawaii Historic Foundation Media Award 2009
  - Little People of Hilo, Spring 2010
  - Rage of Night, Screen Play, Spring 2010
  - Algiers, Fall 2010

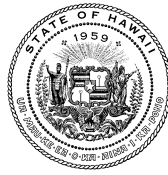
### Maori Cultural Experience:

- Native Hawaiian Outrigger Canoe
  - Hawaiian Canoe Club, Maui
  - Not Pau Yet, Molokai Vietnam Veterans
  - Puna Canoe Club, Hawaii
  - Keaukaha Canoe Club, Hawaii
  - Na Waa Hana Kai Canoe Club, Hawaii
- Double Hull Sailing Canoe
  - Hokule'a 1976 - 1985
- Kahoolawe
  - PKO, 1978 – 1982
- Polynesian Study:
  - Tahiti, Rao Tonga, Aotearoa, Rapa Nui
    - 1982 – 1985 Cultural study of certain Maori social behavior patterns and philosophical cognitive approach to mathematics
  - Kapingamarangi – Micronesia
    - 1983 study visit to Polynesian group in Micronesia

### Education:

- San Francisco City College, A.S. 1972
- San Francisco State University, B.A. 1974
- Dartmouth College, Tuck School of Graduate Business, 1989
- University of Hawaii, Graduate School of Education, 1997

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



RUSS K. SAITO  
Comptroller

SANDRA L. YAHIRO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING  
AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY  
ON  
April 12, 2010

G.M. 435

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, CLIFFORD P. KAPONO, for a term to expire 6-30-2014.

Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on G.M. 435.

As Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services, I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Clifford P. Kapono to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Mr. Kapono's experience as an author and educator will make him a contributing member of the Foundation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Dr. John L. Takeuchi Turner  
850 Kulaloa Road  
Hilo, HI 96720-3569  
(808) 981-2717

# Dr. John L. Turner

## *Independent Medical Evaluations and Neurologic Consultations*

*Author of Medicine, Miracles and Manifestations*

February 9, 2010

Hawaii State Foundation for Culture on the Arts  
235 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813-2419

I am writing this letter on the behalf of Clifford Kaponu.

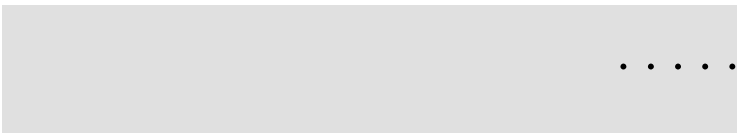
It is my understanding that he has been nominated as commissioner to the Hawai`i State Foundation for Culture on the Arts. I have known Mr. Kaponu for a few years and I find him to be a staunch supporter of Hawaiian arts and culture.

I endorse him without reservation for this position. I am highly confident that he will help promulgate your goals of preserving and encouraging culture, arts, history and the humanities for the people of Hawai`i Nei.

Feel free to contact me if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

John L. Turner, MD





February 9, 2010

Dr. Dale J. McSherry  
The Pain Center  
756 Kekuaaoa Street, Suite A  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
[Backman96781@aol.com](mailto:Backman96781@aol.com)

Dear Sir/Madam:

I certainly would recommend/nominate Mr. Clifford Kaponono to Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and Arts. I can speak highly of Mr. Kaponono as he has been a good friend for almost 20 years – a very intelligent, well rounded and highly educated man who as I am, a published writer, and has an excellent appreciation of the arts. Yet he has more than just an innate appreciation of the arts - but the ability to inspire creativity - to move us beyond our normal capacity into an advantageous and proactive way of thinking...and this is important during these economic trying times. Mr. Kaponono would certainly be an asset to this foundation.

If further information is required please do not hesitate to either contact me at my clinic at 808-935-5159 or my physical address or e-mail address. I certainly hope this information is useful in your nomination of Mr. Kaponono.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dale J. McSherry

LORI V. THOMAS  
1487 HIIKALA PLACE, #12  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816  
808-737-4804  
[lorithomashere@aol.com](mailto:lorithomashere@aol.com)

April 9, 2010

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Economic Development and Technology  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 216  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 435 – Clifford Kaponu  
Hearing before EDT 4/12/10 at 1:15pm  
Appointment of Hawaii Island Commissioner for the  
Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

Dear Senator Fukunaga:

The purpose of this letter is to recommend Cliff Kaponu of Hawaii Island as a Commissioner of the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Mr. Kaponu resided in California for many years, returning to Hawaii in recent years. His book on Hawaiian history from 1850-1960 has been published. He is well qualified to serve, having earned an MBA from Dartmouth College and an undergraduate degree in business and mechanical engineering. He is 50% Hawaiian.

As Chair of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts for the past 3 years, I have met many candidates to fill vacancies on the Board, but none that struck me with such a sincere desire to learn more about Hawaii's rich arts and culture and how best to make them accessible to as many people as possible. His commitment to HSFCA would truly benefit the people of this state.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

Best regards,

Lori V. Thomas  
Chairperson, Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

cc: Eric Barsatan, Boards and Commissions  
Ronald Yamakawa, Executive Director of the HSFCA  
Cliff Kaponu

**GBT**

April 9, 2010

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Economic Development and Technology  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 216  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: GM 435 – Clifford Kaponu  
Hearing before EDT 4/12/10 at 1:15pm  
Appointment of Hawaii Island Commissioner for the  
Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts

Dear Senator Fukunaga:

This letter is to ask for your recommendation in support of Clifford Kaponu to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.. I have known and respected Cliff Kaponu for over 25 years primarily through his efforts on behalf of business and most recently through his efforts in education.

His commitment to our community is consistently reflected in both his business as well as his non-profit works. When he accepts an appointment, position on a board or committee, or supports a project, he can be counted on to add intellectual value as well as sound leadership.

Thank you for your consideration and if I can add further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gae Bergquist Trommald

**1010 Wilder Avenue #1201  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822**

**808-781-8887**  
**gaebt@mac.com**

**Peter Rosegg**  
**2101 Nu'uanu Avenue #1305**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1767**  
**Mobile: 808-371-7474**  
**peter-rosegg@hawaii.rr.com**

**Testimony on GM 435**  
**Confirmation of Clifford P. Kaponu**  
**State Foundation on Culture & Arts term expiring June 30, 2014**  
**Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism**  
**1:15 p.m., April 12, 2010, Room 423**

Chair Fukunaka, Vice Chair Baker, members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support the appointment of Cliff Kaponu to the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture & the Arts. I am an HSFCA commissioner for Oahu, testifying as an individual.

I have not known Cliff Kaponu for a long time, but in the time of our acquaintance I have come to believe he would be an excellent addition to help set plans and policies for the State Foundation.

Cliff has been a business person and, more importantly, a writer and educator with strong views on the subject of education. Increasingly, as arts education is cut from the public schools, HSFCA programs have become essential to the progress of our young people.

Clearly the Native Hawaiian art tradition is one important element in our artistic and cultural tradition. I believe Cliff will bring a sensibility and point of contact to the commission not embodied in any other commissioner.

I urge you to approve Mr. Kaponu's nomination and send it to the full Senate for confirmation. Thank you.

# # #