

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1101

To: The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: GM 512 (Dwight Takamine)
Date of Hearing: February 1, 2011
Time: 10:00 am
Place: State Capitol, Room 16

Dear Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:


I am writing in support of GM 512 nominating Dwight Takamine to the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations ("DLIR") for a term to expire on December 1, 2014.

Dwight received his law degree from William S. Richards School of Law in 1978 and subsequently practiced labor law in Honolulu and on the island of Hawaii. In 1984 Dwight was elected to the State House of Representatives where he served continuously until being elected to the State Senate in 2008. While serving in the House of Representatives Dwight chaired the Finance Committee as well as the Labor Committee. He also chaired the Senate's Labor Committee. As the immediate past chair of the Senate's Labor Committee, Dwight has a keen understanding of the various issues currently facing the DLIR, including the problems facing the State's unemployment insurance program.

I first met Dwight upon my election to the State Senate in 1998. He has impressed me as being an extremely fair person and effective leader. As a labor attorney myself, I am confident that Dwight is well qualified regarding labor and administrative issues and will be able to serve effectively in the position of the Director of DLIR.

Given my personal familiarity with Dwight, I believe that his appointment would promote the free flow of information between the State of Hawaii and my congressional office with regard to the many labor related issues facing the State. This relationship would be a definite benefit to the State in matters where my office can be of assistance.

For these reasons, I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Dwight Takamine to the position of Director of the DLIR.



COLLEEN HANABUSA
U.S. Representative
Hawaii, District 1

January 31, 2011

Senate Judiciary & Labor Committees

Regarding Confirmation of Mr. Dwight Takamine as Labor Director

Aloha,

It is my honor to support Mr. Dwight Takamine to serve for Director of Labor, State of Hawai'i.

I have known Mr. Takamine since 1984. He and I served as Freshmen Legislators in the State House of Representatives at the time. He ably represented District 1 (Hamakua-Kohala-North Hilo) for 22 years before moving to the State Senate. I also worked with him on a myriad of community issues and projects relating to Hamakua between 1994 and 2004. At the time I was Land Assets Director-HI Island for Kamehameha Schools. Mr. Takamine in my view is an outstanding choice for Labor Director. He is a very caring person, passionate about everything he does, honest as the day is long, a quick study, a genius if I might say-able to amass and analyze tons of information and synthesize it all down to something tangible-easy to understand-and lay out option upon option with ease. He has a tremendous ability to bring people together, is open minded, accessible, easy to approach-to talk to, a great listener. I have never seen someone who works so hard for his constituents, who works diligently and sincerely to bring about consensus. But it is his love of working people, his community, and his family and his belief in the goodness of people and fairness and justice that makes him so very special.

Please confirm him for Director of Labor for our Great State of Hawai'i.

Robert K, Lindsey, Jr.

Hawai'i Island Trustee

Office of Hawaiian Affairs



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlii.director@hawaii.gov

January 31, 2011

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2011

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

From: Elaine Young, Administrator
Workforce Development Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

**Re: G.M. No. 512 Relating to Confirmation of Dwight Takamine as
Director of Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

Aloha, Chairman Clayton Hee and members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee. I am Elaine Young, Administrator of the Department of Labor's Workforce Development Division. I would like to express my full support for Interim Director Dwight Takamine's appointment as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. It has been my privilege to know and work with Dwight Takamine for the past seventeen years when he served as a state legislator, first as a Representative, and more recently as a Senator.

Since I hold the honored distinction of "Senior Administrator" for the Department of Labor, I was able to work with the Director a few weeks before he actually officially began on December 7, 2010. Dwight does not know the meaning of "slow down." He has only one speed: Super Fast!

During the past eight weeks that he worked with us at the Department, he has displayed a contagious enthusiasm and sincere desire to do his best for the Labor Department, its staff, and all of our customers. He has clearly conveyed his passion to improve the way the Department operates by opening the lines of communication at all levels, establishing and renewing relationships, and working collaboratively with partners, which include the business community, various government agencies, non-profit organizations, all of the Labor Department staff, and yes, the Legislature.

During these initial weeks, Director Takamine has discovered and acknowledged that there is much to learn in his new capacity, but he has demonstrated that he is a quick learner and more than willing to face the challenges. As a strong team player and visionary leader, he has motivated and encouraged all of us to work together as a team for the greater benefit to the public. His heartfelt conviction and positive outlook about his job, and the actions he foresees for our department to move forward are inspiring and exciting. It gives us hope for the future.

I have served as a State Labor Department employee under 13 different directors, each with his or her own management style. I am impressed by the qualities I see in Director Takamine and believe that he has the potential to be an excellent and productive leader for the Department of Labor. He will do well because last week he told his senior management team that he likes his new job and is "having fun!" I would like our new leader to have fun while he works hard, and for the reasons stated, I urge your support of Dwight Takamine's confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



GREGG YAMANAKA
CHAIRPERSON

JAMES P. HARDWAY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, SUITE 417
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor/WDC
Phone: (808) 586-8672 / Fax: (808) 586-8674

January 28, 2011

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: State Capitol, Conference Room 016

From: James P. Hardway, Executive Director
Workforce Development Council

**RE: GM 512 – Dwight Takamine
Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

The Workforce Development Council (“WDC”) strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. Dwight Takamine to be the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (“DLIR”).

The WDC is an attached agency to the DLIR and is responsible for advising the Governor and Legislature on workforce development to support economic development and employment opportunities for all. The WDC is also the State Workforce Investment Board for purposes of the federal Workforce Investment Act (“WIA”) of 1998. The WDC assists the Governor in developing and updating comprehensive five-year strategic workforce investment plans and oversees workforce (public) investment activities in the state.

The WDC feels that Mr. Takamine is eminently qualified, and well positioned to address needs related to workforce development. Being the former chair of the Senate Committee on Labor, as well as the former Chair of the House Finance Committee, Mr. Takamine is already quite familiar with Hawaii’s workforce development infrastructure and the issues we face. This is especially beneficial as the state works to address job training and reemployment of Hawaii’s unemployed population.

The WDC appreciates the candor and viewpoint of Mr. Takamine has expressed in relation to workforce development. Mr. Takamine is an outstanding member of his community and profession, and is well-qualified and deserving of confirmation as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for this time to provide testimony for Mr. Dwight Takamine.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

Industrial Relations Center

January 28, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Senate
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Hee:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write in support of the nomination of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Takamine needs little, if any, introduction to the citizens of our fair state of Hawaii based on his long service as a Representative and most recently as Senator in the Hawaii State Legislature. In addition, his service to the labor and industrial relations community more than qualifies him for the important position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

There are enormous and pressing issues in workforce development, among others, demanding the full attention of intelligent and resourceful individuals. Mr. Takamine is well positioned in light of his extensive experience to gain and collect the support of diverse groups required to address and attend to the important questions surrounding transformation of America's and Hawaii's workforce development system.

If there was ever a time when the United States needed a national skills strategy, it is today. The nation shed jobs at an alarming rate during the deep recession of 2007 to 2009, and despite major government stimulus spending, no leading economist expects the job losses to be restored for many years. Individuals need help coping with this crisis—identifying where the current and new job opportunities are likely to be and how to develop the skills for them—and the current system is not up to the task. (“Transforming the U.S. Workforce Development System,” Labor and Employment Relations Association Series, 2010, p. 1)

Mr. Takamine is superbly qualified to lead Hawaii into the 21st Century as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

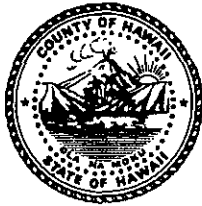
Should there be any further assistance I can provide, please do not hesitate to reach me at (808) 956-8132 or uhirc@hawaii.edu.

Thank you for your kind attention and consideration.

Very sincerely yours,

Joyce M. Najita
Joyce M. Najita
Director

DONALD IKEDA
Council Member
District 2 South Hilo



Phone No.: (808) 961-8261
Fax No.: (808) 961-8912
E-mail: dikeda@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
Hawai'i County Building
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

January 24, 2011

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Member
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Member
Senator Sam Slom, Member

Re: Senate Confirmation of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Aloha Chair Hee and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to write in support of the appointment of former Senator Dwight Takamine as the new Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I wholeheartedly applaud and support Governor Abercrombie's decision to nominate Dwight Takamine to fill this Cabinet position. As elected officials, you all have a deep understanding of the wherewithal required to balance the needs of constituents with reality of government.

Dwight served the people of the Big Island for well over twenty years as their elected official, first as a member of the House of Representatives, and then as a member of the Senate. His longevity bears testimony to his innate ability to consistently perform this delicate balancing act.

Dwight's insight and ability to melt barriers to bring divergent groups together has been proven time after time. He is an excellent choice for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I appreciate your consideration in the nomination of Dwight Takamine, and humbly ask that you support his confirmation.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions..

Sincerely,

Donald Ikeda, Council Member
District 2, South Hilo



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

Sent via FAX to: 586-6659
JDLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Tuesday, February 1, 2011
10:00am
Conference Room 016

Senator Clayton Hee
Chairman of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
And members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee

I am Jerry Rauckhorst, President and Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

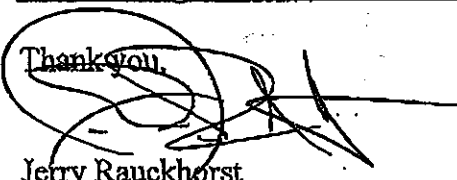
I wish to convey our most enthusiastic support for the confirmation of Mr. Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Relations.

Many of us throughout the State have worked with Mr. Takamine when he was in the Legislature both in the House and the Senate as Chair of the Labor committees and Finance Committee and have been appreciative of his support for employment and training opportunities for the Immigrants, Refugees and the low income over the years.

Our staffs appreciate his openness in listening to many ideas, his commitment to make improve and increase the workforce in the State of Hawaii.

We think that the appointment of Takamine as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relation is a great fit for the State at this time and look forward to working with him and his office to better the life of immigrants, refugees and the low income in the State.

If there is anything we can do to further his nomination and appointment please call on us to provide it. I can be contacted at 808-527-4878 or via email at jrauckhorst@catholiccharitieshawaii.org.

Thank you,


Jerry Rauckhorst
President and Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Charities Hawaii



FAX TRANSMISSION

JOSEPH F. ZUIKER

A LAW CORPORATION

1188 bishop street, Suite 1111

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

(808) 523-1142

Fax: (808) 534-0023

Assisting Injured Workers Throughout Hawaii

To: Hawaii State Senate
Hon. Sergeant at Arms

Date: January 31, 2011

Fax #: 586-6659

Pages: 1, including this cover sheet.

From: JOSEPH F. ZUIKER

Subject: Testimony - GM 512
In support of appointment of Hon. Dwight Takamine

Comments:

I strongly support the nomination of Hon. Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor. We need strong leadership in this department and he will provide that assistance.

Please confirm him promptly. Thank you.

Cc: File



LEHUA PHYSICAL THERAPY AND REHAB

January 27, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
415 S. Beretania St, Rm 016
Honolulu, HI

Dear Senator Hee and Committee Members:

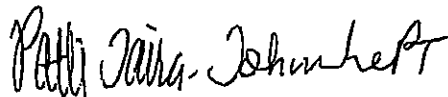
I am writing this letter in strong support of Mr. Dwight Takamine for Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. He is ready to tackle the many issues facing Hawaii's Employers and Employees: employment/unemployment and workers' compensation.

I am a small business owner in Hilo, Hawaii and a practicing physical therapist. As a physical therapist, I deal with many patients who are injured on the job. As a provider it is a difficult system to navigate through (to the point that many physicians in Hilo will not take patients who are injured on the job). I have in the past met with business and community leaders on the topic of Hawaii workers' compensation and over the years have come to work with Mr. Takamine. Workers' Compensation in Hawaii is a convoluted and complicated system, but Mr. Takamine has an outstanding understanding of the system. I have worked with clients of Mr. Takamine who have been treated unfairly by "the system" and feel Mr. Takamine has represented them well.

As a small business owner I have definitely felt the hit of the Unemployment Insurance Rate increase in 2010. In 2010 we saw our insurance rates double causing a substantial hit to our bottom line and to deal with this and other challenges of 2010 we ended up laying off an employee. The Big Island has the largest unemployment rate and since Mr. Takamine is born and raised on our island he has a very good understanding of the crucial balance between taxing businesses, having fair wages and benefits for employees and the need for calculated growth and expansion for our environment.

Again, I strongly support the Governor's appointment of Mr. Dwight Takamine for Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. If you have any questions or would like to discuss other issues on his appointment, please contact me at (808) 969-3811 or e-mail me at patti.lehuapt@hawaiiantel.net.

Sincerely,



Patti Taira-Tokuuke, M.S., PT
Physical Therapist



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
LOCAL UNION NO. 1186 • Affiliated with AFL-CIO

1935 HAU STREET, ROOM 401 • HONOLULU, HI 96819-5003
TELEPHONE (808) 847-5341 • FAX (808) 847-2224

January 27, 2011

TO: CHAIRMAN CLAYTON HEE
State Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Tuesday, February 1, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 016

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 512
NOMINATION OF MR. DWIGHT TAKAMINE AS DIRECTOR OF
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Honorable Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the State Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

It is my pleasure to humbly offer my support for the confirmation of former State Senator **Dwight Takamine's** nomination to **Director of the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**. Mr. Takamine possesses all the experience, balance, commitment, compassion, and skills required for such an important position.

I have been fortunate to know Senator Takamine personally and professionally for many years. Having served as a leader of various corporate, labor, community, and grassroots organizations in Hawaii, I have seen that Senator Takamine has consistently impressed me and others over the years with his ability to find solutions while working with diverse groups during difficult situations and circumstances.

Mr. Takamine is valued in our community for his practical experience, his contributions, and his ability to work with other leaders to resolve complex issues such as those faced today by the State of Hawaii. His dedication and contribution of in-depth knowledge on relevant issues will be a tremendous asset to the Governor, the State Legislature, the State Department of Labor and Industrial Services, and the people of Hawaii.

I strongly urge you to support Mr. Takamine's confirmation and thank you for this opportunity to offer my testimony.

Aloha and mahalo,

Damien Kim
Business Manager – Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers Local Union 1186

The Senate
The Twenty-sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

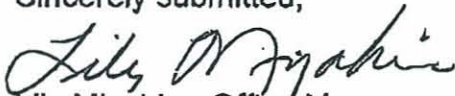
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 016
State Capitol

My name is Lily Miyahira. I have been employed with Vocational Management Consultants, Inc., a vocational rehabilitation office, working with injured workers, as a Vocational Technician and as an Office Manager in the private sector since 1996.

I am in support of Mr. Dwight Takamine's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have confidence in his strengths as a leader and his abilities to bring the different parties together for a better system for all workers. Mr. Takamine is a great asset to the Department of Labor and I hope that the Committee on Judiciary and Labor confirms his directorship.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Takamine's Confirmation of Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely submitted,



Lily Miyahira, Office Manager
Vocational Management Consultants, Inc.
715 S. King St., Suite 410
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

From the Desk of:
Clayton Hee

Via *Surgents* *1/28*

HAWAII COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

January 17, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Hawaii State Legislature
State Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Dear Senators Hee and Shimabukuro;

On behalf of the Hawaii County Dental Society, I am writing in support of the nomination of Mr. Dwight Y. Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As a state representative and state senator from Hawaii County, Mr. Takamine has always been supportive of the county dental society's legislative concerns. All of our members are small business men and women. Mr. Takamine has been understanding of the difficulties facing businesses around the state and in his district. In addition, Mr. Takamine's background as attorney practicing labor law will bring years of experience in the labor arena to his position as the Director.

The Hawaii County Dental Society supports the nomination of Mr. Dwight Takamine to the office of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,
Garrett Ota DDS
President Hawaii County Dental Society

HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE
STATE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair

Wednesday, January 20, 2011, 9:00 a.m. Room 2xx
Governor's Message X Relating to Dwight Y. Takamine as Director of
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Honorable Chair Clayton Hee, Vice-Chair Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, and
members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee:

My name is Russel Yamashita and am a small business attorney. I urge your committee to vote in favor of the confirmation of Dwight Y. Takamine for the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known Mr. Takamine since our college days at the University of Hawaii-Manoa when we were both legislative interns in our undergraduate days. We both went on to the Richardson School of Law and graduated in 1978.

Dwight's experience after law school is well documented as a labor attorney in Hilo and as a state legislator. He has served his community tirelessly and diligently these many years. I am sure that letters and testimonies from his constituents, community organizations and business groups will attest to the high regard Dwight is held by the people of the Big Island.

In his capacity as the Director, I know that concerns have been voiced in the news that Dwight is thought to be too "pro-labor" and would detrimental to the business community by placing additional burdens on businesses throughout the State. Dwight has always been open to talk to and work with small business people during his entire legislative career.

I believe that Dwight is a "perfect" fit for the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and urge the favorable consideration of his nomination to that position.

From: Myron Berney [myberney@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2011 7:11 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: GM 512

Dr. Myron Berney
Natural Cancer Wellness Foundation

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 01, 2011

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 016
State Capitol

GM 512

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

We are in Full and Unanimous Support for the confirmation of DWIGHT TAKAMINE.

Dr. Myron Berney, ND LAc.

From: May Takamine [mayt@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2011 6:17 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: Support of Dwight Takamine

Chairman Clayton Hee and Members:

I fully support Dwight Takamine as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. Knowing him most of his life I can assure you that he is a person that always tries to do what's right. His parents have brought him up and guided him to always be fair and to listen before reacting to situations. I know he will be a great Director. Thank-you.

May S Takamine
624 12th Ave
Honolulu HI 96816

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2011 7:37 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: ted@kohalanursery.com
Subject: Testimony for GM512 on 2/1/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/1/2011 10:00:00 AM GM512

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ted Matsuda
Organization: Kohala Nursery, Inc.
Address: 54-3733 Akoni Pule Hwy Kapaau, HI
Phone: 808-889-6241
E-mail: ted@kohalanursery.com
Submitted on: 1/27/2011

Comments:

My name is Ted Matsuda and I'm the manager of Kohala Nursery, Inc. on the Big Island. We are a certified nursery with 18 employees, which exports potted palms and foliage to the US mainland, Canada, & Guam. I'm writing this testimony in support of Dwight Takamine to the appointment of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.



Randy Perreira
President

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

320 Ward Avenue, Suite 209 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Telephone: (808) 597-1441

Fax: (808) 593-2149

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO
February 1, 2011

G.M. 512 – Director of the
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Dwight Takamine to be the director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Takamine served over twenty-six years as a member of the State Legislature, including time as chair of the House Committee on Finance and the Senate Committee on Labor. This legislative experience and understanding of Hawaii labor laws will serve Mr. Takamine well as the new director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Takamine has the energy, drive, and knowledge of the issues to take on the difficult tasks that lie ahead and will provide a fair and balanced approach. We believe the Governor could not have selected a more qualified and dedicated individual who will work tirelessly for the betterment of our state.

We respectfully urge the committee to recommend confirmation of Dwight Takamine as director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
President



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA
Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0011
Fax: 808.528.0922

NORA A. NOMURA
Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0003
Fax: 808.528.0922

DEREK M. MIZUNO
Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0055
Fax: 808.523.6879

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 1, 2011


GM 512 – Submitting for Consideration and
Confirmation to the Director of the Department of
Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial
Nominee, Dwight Takamine

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the nomination of Dwight Takamine as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. There is no doubt that a strong director must be dynamic, passionate, diligent, and well-respected in his field and among contemporaries. An effective director must be responsive to the public and to his employees, impartial, and steadfast – qualities that Mr. Takamine possesses in abundance. He is an outstanding public servant whose life's work has been dedicated to the betterment of the people of Hawaii.

Through his experience as an attorney and through both House and Senate Labor chairmanships, Mr. Takamine has developed a comprehensive understanding of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the intricacies of the various benefit structures. His political background has led to expansive knowledge of the complexity of the state budget and the interplay between the administrative departments. He is familiar with the State's fiscal challenges with the Unemployment Insurance Program and Disability Compensation Division, and the need to address federal concerns about the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Program. Mr. Takamine has consistently shown genuine concern for labor – public and private employees, employers and unions, collectively.

On a personal note, I have been acquainted with Mr. Takamine and his family nearly all my life and consider him a close friend. Above all else, Mr. Takamine has proven to be a man of integrity and dignity. I have no doubt that Mr. Takamine will excel as a Director and will be a proficient leader, not only to the public that his department serves, but also for the employees under his charge.

For these reasons we offer our unequivocal support for the confirmation of Dwight Takamine as Director for the Department of Labor.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director





H. C. E. O. C.
Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council

47 Rainbow Drive
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 961-2681

January 27, 2011

Chair and Members of the State of Hawaii Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee,

As an employee and now as Interim Executive Director for the non-profit Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council (HCEOC), I had the privilege of working over the past four years with former Senator Dwight Takamine who was a member of our HCEOC Board of Directors.

Our agency has a number of job training and job placement grants, and Mr. Takamine was always helpful in connecting us with business and governmental resources to build the capacities of these programs. Mr. Takamine has consistently demonstrated a high commitment and passion in generating jobs and improving the economic climate of our Hawaii Island and State.

Mr. Takamine is balanced in looking out for the interests of workers and of business owners. He is a consensus builder, a team player, and always seeks a "win/win" outcome for all people. He was always accessible and approachable. He was candid and frank when he saw areas that our agency had to improve, and he offered solutions and support to help us address weaknesses.

We at HCEOC wholeheartedly support the appointment of Mr. Takamine as Director of Labor and Industrial Relations and ask if your Committee would endorse him for that position. We can't think of anyone who has the educational background, the experience in labor and job creation, and the public servant's heart which Mr. Takamine possesses.

Respectfully,

Lester Seto
Interim Executive Director
HCEOC

TESTIMONY OF BRIAN KAU
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY AND LABOR

FEBRUARY 1, 2011

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 512

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIRECTOR

Chairperson Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message 512 regarding the consideration and confirmation of Dwight Takamine to the cabinet post of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I strongly support this nomination.

I have had the pleasure of working with Dwight for over a decade while he was serving as a Representative, and then Senator for the Hamakua and Waimea districts. He has always stood up for the little guy and never shied away from difficult or controversial issues. His commitment to being as accessible as possible, by all who seek him out, will serve him well in this position. He has consistently shown himself to be fair and even handed and I have no doubt that his character will serve the State well.

The Senate
The Twenty-sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Date: Tuesday February 1, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 016
State Capitol

My name is Laurie Hamano. I am a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the private sector for the past 26 years. I worked for the State in Corrections for 8 years as an Administrator for a halfway house for adult felons and at the Women's Correctional Facility prior to working as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. My company is Vocational Management Consultants, Inc. We have been in business since 1995.

I am in support of Mr. Dwight Takamine's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known Mr. Takamine for many years and appreciate his honest and straightforward manner in handling the issues as a Representative for the Big Island, a Big Island Senator as well as an attorney. He has not been known to sidestep problems and appears to encourage collaboration while helping others to work toward solutions. I admire his leadership abilities and believe this strength can bring the different parties to come together to work on a better system for all workers.

I believe that Mr. Takamine is a great asset to the Department of Labor and hope that the Committee on Judiciary and Labor confirms this directorship.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Takamine's Confirmation of Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Laurie H. Hamano M.Ed. CRC , MHC
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and President of Vocational Management Consultants Inc.
715 S. King Street Suite 410
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone# 538-8733

HONOKAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 474
HONOKAA, HI 96727
INFO@HONOKAA.ORG

January 27, 2011

To: The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
and Committee Members of the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

Regarding : Confirming Dwight Takamine as
Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawaii

Aloha,

As President of the Honoka'a Business Association I am writing in strong support of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Over the years Dwight has served this community and consistently shown his willingness to hear all sides of a concern and put his considerable energy and focus on effectively bringing the needed resources together to provide solutions.

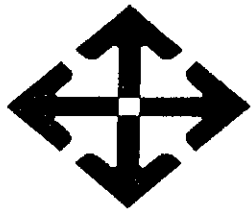
At this time the State, the Hamakua Zone, and the town of Honokaa are experiencing a financial crisis. Bringing Dwight's skills, wisdom, and his many years of experience to serve as the Director of Labor and Industrial relations will be of huge benefit to the State of Hawaii as we face the uncertain future ahead.

Having experienced Dwight's people skills, and his ability to effectively problem solve on issues large and small, the Board of the Honokaa Business Association unanimously supports his appointment as Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Dwight Takamine. I know he will serve the people of the State of Hawaii well in these challenging times.

Mahalo nui loa,

W. Augustuz Elliott
President of the Honokaa Business Association



The Hawaii Business League

Century Square 1188 Bishop St., Ste 1008 Honolulu, HI 96813-3304
Phone: (808) 533-6819 ♦ Facsimile: (808) 533-2739

February 1, 2011

Testimony To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons
President

Subject: GM 512 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

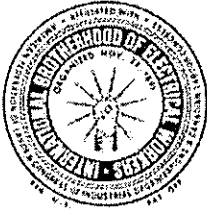
I am Tim Lyons, President of the Hawaii Business League, a small business service organization.

It is our pleasure to testify in favor of this nominee. We have found Mr. Takamine to be quite fair in his dealings with small businesses. Sometimes it is better to know that the person you are talking to does not share your view rather than have them "smile" and go along only to kill your idea later. We think Mr. Takamine has handled himself in a very forthright and honest manner and although there are definitely some items that we sometimes disagree on, they have always been handled with integrity, honesty and forthrightness.

It has been most heartwarming and appreciated to find Mr. Takamine on the same side as us when it came to some issues involving "little guys" versus "big guys" and we sense that is because he knew where we were coming from and how uncomfortable it is to be the underdog regardless of the issue.

Based on that, we can highly recommend Mr. Takamine as the new Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you.



Local Union 1260

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

2305 So. Beretania St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96826-1494 • email: office@ibew1260.org

Telephone (808) 941-9445

Fax No. (808) 946-1260

January 27, 2011

LANCE M. MIYAKE
Business Manager-Financial Secretary

LOREN TAGUCHI
President

Senator Clayton Hee
Chair, Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Senate
State of Hawaii

Dear Chair Hee:

Re: Confirmation to Director of the DLIR

IBEW Local Union 1260 requests that you and your honorable Committee consider and confirm Gubernatorial Nominee Dwight Takamine for the position of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Dwight Takamine has served this great State of Hawaii through the House of Representatives and the State Senate for a number of years. His dedication to the betterment of working class families throughout this State has been outstanding.

The past election proved that the working class is looking for leaders to help our families, friends, and the people of this State to get through this bad economy. We need someone who will lead and take steps toward a better future for this State. We need to move now.

Please consider our endorsement of Dwight Takamine and confirm his nomination to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,

Lance M. Miyake
Business Manager – Financial Secretary

DIANA L. VAN DE CAR
ATTORNEY AT LAW

10 KAMEHAMEHA AVENUE, HILO, HAWAII 96720
TELEPHONE (808) 935-7020 FAX (808) 935-4853

January 27, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Judiciary and Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii

Re: GM512, Nomination of Dwight Takamine as

Dear Senator Hee:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known Senator Takamine for many years and he is a dedicated public servant. He and I have been on opposite sides of issues and I have always found him to be a vigorous advocate for his clients and for the population he serves.

I can think of no better example of Senator Takamine's dedication than his willingness to educate himself about the special needs of our community. Senator Takamine has been an advocate for labor - I am thinking here of his dedication in representing workers in workers compensation matters - yet he has been willing to engage in a healthy dialogue looking for solutions from all perspectives, including that of the employer. I have been impressed with his candor, his willingness to consider all sides of an issue, and his graciousness in simply letting us be heard. My most recent interaction with him concerned issues related to the delivery of medical care on the Big Island. I can tell you that he devoted a lot of time to understanding the problems and helping us plan a course of action to address solutions.

Thank you for opportunity to support this nomination.

Yours truly,

DIANA L. VAN DE CAR

DLV

enclosure

From: Charles Crumpton [crumpton@chjustice.com]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 8:35 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: Nomination of Dwight Takamine as Director of DLIR - GM 512

To the Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and Members;

As a graduate of the William S. Richardson School of law and practicing attorney, mediator and arbitrator here since 1978, I have known Dwight Takamine since we were classmates in law school here from 1975. From personal and professional experience, I know that Dwight has consistently exhibited the highest integrity, dedication to public service, honesty, professional and personal ethics, sound judgment, respect and understanding for others of diverse backgrounds and positions, and the ability to handle leadership responsibly, fairly and compassionately, with the courage of his convictions. His decades of legal and legislative experience, reputation and working relationships, particularly in the labor field, will valuably serve the DLIR and those it serves, and will bring credit and respect to the Department, the community and the State. It is an honor and privilege to write in support of his nomination as Director of the DLIR.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles W. Crumpton

Crumpton & Hansen

Pioneer Plaza, Suite 1710

900 Fort Street Mall

Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 599-9200

Direct Phone: (808) 599-9201

Fax: (808) 683-7020

Direct Fax: (808) 697-6691

E-mail: crumpton@chjustice.com

Testimony In Support of GM 512
For consideration of the Nominee DWIGHT TAKAMINE
As Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Hearing before Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
February 1, 2011
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 016

Submitted by Jay T. Kimura

I support the confirmation of the Governor's appointment of Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Mr. Takamine for many years since moving to the Big Island in 1979.

Mr. Takamine has always been involved in working to improve the economic and social health of this island. My early contact with Mr. Takamine was as a guest lecturer at his night school GED class. Being a little older now, I realize that Mr. Takamine understood the importance of a highschool or GED degree when seeking employment.

Mr. Takamine has always supported economic development on the Big Island that would bring needed jobs to the Big Island. We were fortunate to have him as a representative during the downturn in our economy with the demise of the sugar industry.

Mr. Takamine was also instrumental in supporting more community capacity in his district with problem solving groups and expanding the facilitation skills of groups in his districts. We have all benefited from the leadership that Mr. Takamine has unselfishly provided to this island.

Mr. Takamine possesses the necessary education, skills, compassion and understanding to be an outstanding Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

From: Mike Gleason [mgleason@hiloarc.org]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 9:44 AM
To: JDLEstimony
Subject: Testimony In Support of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Aloha Chairman Clayton Hee and Committee Members,

As Chairman of the Hawaii County Workforce Investment Board, as President & CEO of The Arc of Hilo, as President of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, and as a member of a Hawaii Island Science and Technology task force, I have worked with Senator Takamine for the past several years. He has been very collaborative, worked well with members of committees and teams and spearheaded important initiatives that will serve our communities on Hawaii Island well into the future. I whole heartily support the selection of Senator Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mahalo

Michael E. Gleason
President & CEO
The Arc of Hilo
1099 Waianuenue Ave.
Hilo, HI 96720
808-935-8535 ext. 201
www.hiloarc.org

The Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
February 1, 2011
10:00 a.m. Room 016

Statement of the Hawaii Carpenters Union on the Confirmation of
Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

The Hawaii Carpenters Union is in strong support of the confirmation of Dwight Takamine. As an attorney and legislator, he has gained a lifetime of experience in the very responsibilities of this Department.

Dwight has earned a reputation for honesty, hard work and fairness over many years. He has also demonstrated the interest in, and ability to develop working knowledge of new subjects, methods and approaches. He is well versed in budgetary issues of departmental operations.

“Industrial Relations” is an appropriate description of his background, where both employers and employees, and any of their respective organizations, are recognized and viewed in an ongoing relationship. As a legislator, Dwight has also worked to sustain industries and companies that in turn provide employment.

Dwight will protect the majority of employers who must compete with a minority that do not comply with the law, in the course of diligent administration of the programs of the Department.

Thank you for considering our testimony in strong support of Dwight Takamine as Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR HEARING

Date: Tuesday, February 01, 2011

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016

State Capitol

**REFERENCE GM512 - TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF MR. DWIGHT TAKAMINE FOR
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

The Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I respectfully submit this testimony in support for the confirmation of Mr. Dwight Takamine as the Director of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations with the firm belief that the following factors emphatically contribute to meeting with the State's expectations:

- Mr. Takamine possesses to an unusual degree those qualities pre-requisite for the Director's position. He has 26 years of public experience, serving as the Chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Committee on Finance, and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor.
- He has demonstrated on many occasions his skills to bring about consensus supporting solutions to problems on disputed matters among opposing factions with the conviction that working together brings about successful outcomes.
- Mr. Takamine possesses the commitment and tenacity to guide the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to accomplish its mission with fairness to all segments of the community and state.

For these reasons, as well as, his specific knowledge of labor laws and his ever expanding understanding of industrial relations, I respectfully request your approval for the confirmation of Mr. Dwight Takamine as Director for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Respectfully,
George Yokoyama



Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Tuesday, February 1, 2011
10:00 a.m.

GM 512, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Dear Chairperson Hee and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA), we wish to give our unreserved support to the nomination of Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I have known and worked with former Senator Takamine for two decades. I can think of no one else in the state of Hawai'i better prepared to assume this position. His understanding of the relationship between employers and employees is full, complete, and unbiased. He has personally experienced and participated in the consequences that arose from the closing of the one of the major industries on the Big Island, Hamakua Sugar Company. He understands both the role of unions and the needs of employers. He is committed to the implementation of the fair employment standards in our state, and his legal background prepares him for the duties that he will assume as the Director. Finally, his years in the legislature make him well aware of the need for the administration to have a positive working relationship with those elected by the citizens to pass our laws.

Dwight Takamine deserves your support and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.N. Musto', with a long, sweeping underline.

J.N. Musto, Ph.D.
Executive Director

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
PROFESSIONAL ASSEMBLY

1017 Palm Drive • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1928
Telephone: (808) 593-2157 • Facsimile: (808) 593-2160
Web Page: <http://www.uhpa.org>



LAW OFFICES OF
STANLEY H. ROEHRIG

ATTORNEY AT LAW
A Law Corporation
101 AUPUNI STREET, SUITE 124
HILO, HAWAII 96720
TELEPHONE: (808) 969-1441
shroehrig@hawaii.rr.com

January 28, 2011

Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Senator Clayton Hee, Chairman
417 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

Re: Dwight Takamine Appointment as Labor Director for the State of Hawaii

Dear Senator Hee and Committee Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to highly endorse Governor Abercrombie's nomination of former Senator Dwight Takamine to be the Director of Labor. I have practiced law in the private sector in East Hawaii for 45 years. As a consequence, I have seen numerous public officials come and go, some good, some challenged. Dwight Takamine has been outstanding.

I had the good fortune to work with him on Governor Abercrombie's campaign. Dwight's leadership skills and consensus building between diverse groups as the campaign heated up and entered its final days was remarkable. We met each Sunday at the campaign headquarters in Hilo. Dwight always took the high road and never criticized other candidates. He stressed the need for all sectors of the community to work together if we expected society and the economy of East Hawaii to improve. In the face of 11% unemployment in the Hilo area, our core group included labor, management, social service providers, educators, and a large faction of retirees from all walks of life. Dwight's ability to bring out the best in each of us over the last four months of the campaign when it was anybody's guess as to how the election would end up was a credit to his grass roots approach to solving problems by encouraging us all to work together without name-calling and divisive rhetoric. I cherish the fact that I was a witness to his successful efforts leading a diverse community towards a "New Day in Hawaii."

Dwight will make a great Director of Labor. Please support him.

Sincerely,



Stanley H. Roehrig

SHR/ghk

COLIN S. NAKAGAWA
c/o Hilo Seaside Restaurant & Aquafarm
1790 Kalaniana'ole Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

January 27, 2011

By Electronic Mail

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maite S.L. Shimabukuro Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM No. 512 – Dwight Takamine, Gubernatorial Nominee As Director Of The Department Of Labor and Industrial Relations, For Term To Expire On December 1, 2014; Hearing on February 1, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

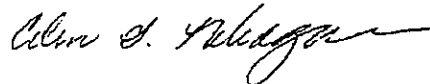
Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on GM No. 512. I strongly support the appointment of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations ("DLIR").

I was born and raised on the Big Island, and have known Mr. Takamine for quite some time. As a small business owner for over 20 years in Hilo, I truly believe that he has served the people of the Big Island well as our legislator in both the State House of Representatives and the State Senate. Mr. Takamine has the requisite knowledge, experience and leadership skills to perform the duties required and expected of the Director of the DLIR. His legislative and leadership experience with both the House of Representatives and Senate will definitely be useful in his role as Director of the DLIR. I am also confident that he will be fair, impartial and balanced in addressing many of the State's labor issues by considering both the employer's and employee's perspectives in his decision-making process. Accordingly, I believe Mr. Takamine will be a great asset to the DLIR and the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully request your favorable consideration in the appointment of Mr. Takamine as Director of the DLIR.

Sincerely,



Colin S. Nakagawa
President

Scott E. Enright
PO Box 42
Ookala, HI 96774

January 25, 2011

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro

RE:

GM 512

Confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE.

HEARING:

Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2011

10:00 A.M.

Conference Room 016

State Capitol

415 South Beretania St.

Dear Chairman Hee and Committee Members:

Please allow me to express my strong support for the confirmation of Dwight Takamine for the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I am a 21-year resident of Hamakua in House and Senate District 1 where Mr. Takamine has long served. I was cultivation superintendent at Hamakua Sugar, and now serve as District Chair for District 1 of the County of Hawaii's Democratic Party. In all my years as a constituent of Mr. Takamine, and in all my community and public service activities, I have known Dwight to be a dedicated and respected leader of our Big Island community.

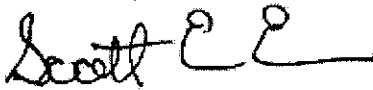
I believe the state and its citizens will be well served by Mr. Takamine's wealth of relevant experience and knowledge in labor issues. Dwight's years serving on both the House and Senate Labor Committees, coupled with his private law practice specializing in labor issues, provide him with strong labor law experience and perspective that will allow him to work effectively with the legislature in addressing one of Hawaii's most important issues: workforce readiness and workforce development.

Mr. Takamine has proven himself, through his years of public service, to be a dedicated professional respected by both business and labor communities. Dwight's leadership style is characterized by his positive attitude that motivates those around him. Further, Dwight has always demonstrated that he understands the need to communicate and cooperate with all stakeholders on an issue. In sum, Dwight Takamine's even-handed and skilled leadership is

exactly what is required from our Director of Labor and Industrial Relations in these difficult economic times.

Thank you for allowing me to express my strong support for the appointment of Dwight Takamine as Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott E. Enright". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Scott E. Enright

From: Joel Fischer [jfischer@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 2:39 PM
To: JDLEstimony
Cc: jfischer@hawaii.edu
Subject: GM512; JDL; Tuesday, 2/3/11; 2PM; Rm325

Importance: High

GM15, Re: Dwight Takamine
JDL; Chair, Sen Hee

IN SUPER STRONG SUPPORT OF CONFIRMING TAKAMINE!

I have known Dwight since I testified before him in the late 1980's when he was chair of Labor. Since then, I have testified before him when he was chair of Finance many, many times. I also have met with him a number of times to discuss some of the issues before his committee.

In EVERY instance, and I mean **every** one, Dwight was patient, on top of the issue, helpful, humorous, and just a delight to testify for. I really mean it. No matter how bizarre some of the people were who testified before him (including me, of course), Dwight was always polite and patient.

This is a GREAT public servant!

I will miss Dwight in the lege, but I consider this one of Gov. Abercrombie's best appointments. I know Dwight will be more than up to the task of managing the bureaucracy in the same way he managed the Finance Committee. I am very confident that he will bring a sense of dignity and objectivity to the position.

There simply could not be a better person for this position.

Thank you to the Committee for your support!

Aloha, joel

Dr. Joel Fischer, ACSW
Professor (Ret.)
University of Hawai'i, School of Social Work
Henke Hall
Honolulu, HI 96822

"It is reasonable that everyone who asks justice should DO justice."
Thomas Jefferson

"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right."
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Never, never, never quit."
Winston Churchill

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Laura Robertson, President/CEO, Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.
Danielle Moskowitz, VP of Human Services, Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.
Edwina Minglana, Director of Employment Services, Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.

Date: February 1, 2011

Re: **Letter in Support of the Nomination of Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc., submits this testimony in full support of Mr. Dwight Takamine's nomination as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Takamine possesses extensive professional, legislative and legal experience that will enable him to be a successful Director. Mr. Takamine has a highly distinguished background of public service and labor law expertise that clearly demonstrates his commitment to working to benefit Hawaii's citizens. The State of Hawaii is facing dire economic times. Mr. Takamine's in-depth understanding of labor and human services issues is crucial to developing thoughtful and innovative solutions and programs necessary to help our community thrive.

Goodwill has worked with Mr. Takamine during his tenure as a Hawaii State Senator, District 1 on the big island. He assisted Goodwill to become established on the big island with our workforce development services.

Goodwill is also a partner in the State Energy Sector Partnership being headed by the Workforce Development Council. This important initiative provides training for Hawaii's "green" workforce. Mr. Takamine's leadership will benefit this ongoing project, among others.

Goodwill is among the largest human service non-profit organizations in Hawaii. Our mission is to help people find and succeed in employment. Last year, we served over 13,000 people statewide and placed 1,667 people in our community in jobs. Goodwill has fifty (50) years of experience assisting people who have employment barriers find jobs and gain self-sufficiency.

Goodwill strongly urges you to confirm the appointment of a highly experienced and qualified candidate such as Mr. Takamine to fill the vacancy of Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Takamine's nomination.

The Senate
The Twenty-sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Date: Tuesday February 1, 2011

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016
State Capitol

My name is Kahu Manu Mook. I am President of the Hawaii Injured Workers Alliance, a Navy Veteran who served on 3 tours in Vietnam fighting for Hawaii's safety and future as well as an injured worker, and massage therapist.

I am here in support of Mr. Dwight Takamine's confirmation as the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have heard nothing but good things about what Mr. Takamine has done for his past colleagues in the legislature and the people of the State. He is a humble and compassionate person. He has the leadership this State needs for caring for us all, the little people.

Please consider my support for Mr. Takamine's confirmation as the Director of Department of Labor. Mahalo and God Bless us all for a better future.

Sincerely,

Kahu Manu Mook
President of Hawaii Injured Workers Alliance
2029 Alawai Boulevard #404
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
Telephone #: 741-5590

THE GAS COMPANY

P.O. Box 3000
Honolulu, Hawaii 96802-3000
www.hawaiigas.com

February 1, 2011

To: Chair, Senator Clayton Hee
Vice-Chair, Maile S.L. Shimabakuro
Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Labor

**Re: GM 512: Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the
Director of Department of Labor & Industrial Relations**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Dwight Takamine's appointment to serve as the Director of the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations.

My name is Stephanie C. Ackerman and I am the Vice President of Public Policy and Communications of The Gas Company.

After practicing law, Mr. Takamine served the people of Hawaii in the State Legislature for 26 years, first in the State House of Representatives, then later in the State Senate. His experience on the Senator Labor Committee and House Labor & Public Employment Committee will serve him well in this new role.

Mr. Takamine played a key role in helping displaced sugar industry workers find new jobs in the 1980s and 1990s. He also worked with employers and employees on programs to put back to work people who lost their jobs in the latest economic downturn. These are indicative of the passion and dedication Mr. Takamine will bring to the job. In these tough economic times, that is exactly the kind of experience and leadership we need at the Labor Department.

Please confirm Mr. Takamine's appointment.

R. Brian Tsujimura
745 Fort Street, 17th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
rtsujimura@imanakakudo.com

January 28, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Room 016
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Testimony in Support of GM 512: Consideration and Confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE, for a term to expire December 1, 2014

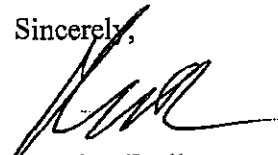
Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing in SUPPORT of the Governor's nominee for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Dwight Takamine. I have known Dwight for many years, and while we may have disagreed on many issues, we have maintained a friendship which transcends such disagreements. We have done so during my years as president of AMFAC Property Development, my years in private development, and now as a representative of different business interests.

I have found Dwight to be thoughtful and considerate of my views and we have managed to resolve and compromise on certain but not all issues. But having Dwight support me on all issues is not the question, nor should it be for this Committee. I believe Dwight qualifies for this position not because of his advocacy of labor, or his many years of service to the people of the Big Island. He deserves to be supported for this position because he has the character one desires in a leader, and especially a department director.

Having served for many years in the administration of Governor Ariyoshi as a supervising deputy attorney general, I have had the good fortune and opportunity to interact and become friends with many of his department directors. I can say without equivocation that Dwight rises to the same quality and level as those directors. I encourage you and your committee to approve his nomination.

Sincerely,



R. Brian Tsujimura

RBT:ay

Ahuna Farms
215 W. Kawaihoni St.
Hilo, HI 96720
January 17, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee and the Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
State of Hawaii Capitol Building
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Hee and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee:

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR CONFIRMATION OF DWIGHT TAKAMINE

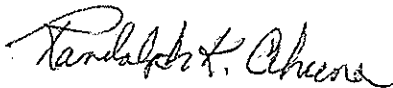
I am pleased to support Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Takamine has worked closely with the Hawaiian Community, in particular with the Keaukaha Panaewa Farmers Association, of which I am a board member, encouraging our efforts to expand agricultural production in our Hawaiian Homes farm lots, working with us to expand community involvement, and listening to our concerns as engaged constituents.

I have been honored to work closely with Mr. Takamine for many years on various issues affecting the community. Through his involvement in the house and later in the senate, he is exceedingly knowledgeable in labor matters. He has shown wonderful skills in bringing people together, has a positive can do attitude, and works tirelessly in fulfilling his obligations in posts he occupied. I have no doubt that these qualities will benefit the people of Hawaii in managing this important department.

For all of these reasons, I am pleased to strongly recommend your support for Mr. Takamine's confirmation. If you have any questions, please call me at (808) 959-7049.

Sincerely,



Randolph K. Ahuna, Jr.

KEAUKAHA PANA'EWA FARMERS
ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 6844
HILO, HI 96720-8935
TEL/FAX: 808-959-5026
EMAIL: KPFA@HAWAII.RR.COM

January 17, 2011

OFFICERS
2010-2011

President
Mele U. Spencer

Vice-President
Ian Lee Loy

Secretary
Luahiwa Namahoe

Treasurer
Florence Pua

Directors
Randy Ahuna
Doug Awai, Sr.
Ed Bumatay
Louis Hao
Angela Lee
Kenneth Lee
Milnor Lum
Maile Lu'uwai
Patrick Kahawaiolaa
Jerryl Mauhili
(Howard Pea
Eric Reff
Robert Yamada II

Senator Clayton Hee and the Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee
State of Hawaii Capitol Building
417 South Beretania Street, Room 219
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee:

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR CONFIRMATION OF DWIGHT TAKAMINE

The Keaukaha Pana'ewa Farmers Association (KPFA) submits this letter of support for Dwight Takamine to be confirmed as Director of the State of Hawaii, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

KPFA is an active working association of Hawaiian Homes lessees whose mission is:

"To support, motivate and educate Keaukaha Pana'ewa agricultural lessees to establish a viable, sustainable farm community; preserve Hawaiian culture; achieve self sufficiency; and strengthen pono management and respect for the 'aina."

KPFA has had the privilege of working closely with Mr. Takamine as he represented District 1 in the State of Hawaii House of Representatives, then District 1 in the Hawaii State Senate as a respected elected official. Mr. Takamine demonstrated honorable devotion to his constituents through countless meetings in the labor-backed communities in District 1. His tireless work ethic and highest integrity standards demonstrated through land use initiatives and reviving interest in rural Department of Education facilities earned him trust and respect in both the public and private business sectors.

His nomination by Governor Neil Abercrombie as Director of the State of Hawaii, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, is an excellent choice and will be a natural fit; KPFA supports Mr. Takamine's nomination. Mr. Takamine will undoubtedly serve the State of Hawaii very well.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support of Dwight Takamine to be confirmed as State of Hawaii, Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Sincerely,



Mele U. Spencer, President

"To support, motivate and educate Keaukaha Pana'ewa agricultural lessees to establish a viable, sustainable farm community; preserve Hawaiian culture; achieve self sufficiency; and strengthen pono management and respect for the 'aina."



Custom Glass & Screen Service

20 KUKILA STREET • HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: (808) 935-5485 FAX: (808) 969-3376
Contr. Lic. C-20001

January 25, 2011

Hawaii State Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Senator Clayton Hee, Chairperson
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard
Senator Les Ihara Jr.
Senator Sam Slom

Re: GM512 Confirmation of Dwight Takamine

Senators:

I am writing in support of Dwight Takamine's nomination to be the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Dwight Takamine for a over twenty five years and his service to the community as a State Representative and State Senator has more than exemplified the model of a public servant. His work ethic, commitment and drive will allow him to transition well to leading the DLIR.

Dwight Takamine has developed a good rapport with many people over the years within government, the community and the business sector. This will allow him to reach out and serve the public with a balanced perspective and to deal with the challenges ahead.

Once again, I humbly request your favorable approval of Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Conrad Hokama
Vice-President

From: Derrick Ishihara [derrick@islandpt.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2011 2:16 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: GM 512 -

Date of Hearing: 2/1/2011

Time of Hearing: 10:00 am

To: Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Derrick Ishihara
President, Island Physical Therapy, Inc.

RE: Confirmation Hearing, Dwight Takamine for Director, DLIR

Position: Strong Support

Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I strongly support Governor Abercrombie's choice of Dwight Takamine for Director of the Dept of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known Mr. Takamine for several years, most recently in his capacity as Chair of this committee. I have testified on various issues regarding Workers Compensation Insurance before his committee.

I have always known him to be responsive to questions and willing to listen to different points of view. We do not always agree on every issue, but he is always willing to explain his position on the issues and I believe that he will be fair to all stakeholders in the Work Comp arena.

For too long, disagreements between insurers and providers have resulted in delayed or denied treatment of injured workers. Many physicians no longer accept patients who are injured at work. Many injured workers are hesitant to file injury claims for fear of being involved in such a dysfunctional system.

Mr. Takamine, I believe will be able to bring together providers, employers, and insurers to initiate positive changes to Workers Compensation Insurance that will benefit all stakeholders, most importantly the injured worker.

I believe that the hard work and conscientious nature I have observed in Mr. Takamine will translate into improvements throughout all areas within the Department of Labor.

Thank-you for this opportunity to testify,

Derrick Ishihara

January 29, 2011

Hawaii State Senate judiciary and Labor Committee
Senator Clayton Hee, Chairperson
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard
Senator Les Ihara Jr.
Senator Sam Slom

RE: GM512 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE, for a term to expire December 1, 2014

Honorable Senators:

I am writing this letter in support of Dwight Takamine's confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

I have known Dwight Takamine for many years as Hawaii Island's State Representative and Senator. During his years as a public servant, he has represented his constituents with high regards and has performed with excellence for the County of Hawaii and the State of Hawaii. With his many years representing the people of Hawaii and his commitment to high standards and fairness, I believe that Mr. Takamine is a natural choice for taking charge of the DLIR.

Dwight Takamine has the ability to bring people together to discuss problems and come up with viable solutions to solve these problems. He not only has the experience of how government works and is able to speak his mind, but he is also willing to listen to individuals of all "walks of life" with an open mind. With his experience, background and leadership, I'm sure Dwight Takamine will oversee the DLIR during these difficult economic times and work diligently to create more jobs and lower unemployment in the State of Hawaii.

In closing, I humbly request your favorable vote to approve Dwight Takamine as our next Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Thank you for the opportunity to write this letter and for your consideration.

With Aloha,

Jack K. Fujii, PhD
Emeritus Dean and
Emeritus Professor of Entomology
CAFNRM, UH Hilo
2332 F Pihonua Road
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

January 30, 2011

Gregory P. Gauthier
P.O. Box 6412
Kamuela, HI 96743
Greg142@hawaiiantel.net

RE: GM512
Tuesday, February 01, 2011, 10 am.

Dear Senator Hee,

I am writing this letter to implore the Committee on Judiciary and Labor to support the confirmation of Dwight Takamine for the position of the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As a former constituent of Dwight Takamine, and as a participating citizen within my community, I have had numerous opportunities over the last ten years to witness Mr. Takamine's leadership style. I have always been impressed by his ability to listen to all sides on any particular issue, to build consensus through discussion and compromise, and his tenacity when it comes to executing the plan. I cannot say enough about his credibility and follow-through. If confirmed, the people of this great state will truly have found an asset in having someone as qualified as Dwight Takamine serve in this very important position.

Yours Truly,

Gregory P. Gauthier

STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 512

Gubernatorial Nomination of DWIGHT TAKAMINE

Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

For a term to expire Dec. 1, 2014

TESTIMONY TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

10 a.m., Tues., Feb. 1, 2011 – Conference Room 016

January 30, 2011

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Honorable Committee Members:

I am writing as an individual to support the confirmation of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have know Dwight and his family many years and while he was not my immediate District Representative, I came to recognize that he was an extremely dedicated, hard working, principled elected official who got things done for his constituents and all of Hawai'i Island by collaborating effectively with community residents, groups and organizations, as well as with County, State and Federal leadership and the public employees both on the front line and behind the scenes who are so important to getting things moving.

My perspective was reinforced once Dwight was elected Senator for District 1, which includes Waimea. His depth of understanding of how to get projects moving, and his thoughtful attention to detail, follow-through and the respect he has for others and they for him proved immensely valuable to our community and island. He is tireless, fair and always a good listener, and he possesses a gift for getting people from divergent viewpoints, backgrounds and styles to work together to solve problems and build community. This included addressing educational needs, public safety concerns, agricultural diversity, infrastructure, health and senior services, and much more.

These abilities, his deep roots, and his work style – coupled with his passion for social justice and doing what's best for both the present and future while honoring the past – will serve the people of Hawai'i well in this new position. I respectfully urge this committee to concur with Governor Abercrombie and confirm his nomination.

Mahalo for your time and your own commitment to public service.

Patti Cook

P.O. Box 6960 - Kamuela, HI 96743

Cell: 808-937-2833

Email: cookshi@aol.com

From: Jim Williams [jimdwiliams@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2011 8:08 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: Testimony; GM 512; JDL; Feb 1, 10 a.m.; Room 016
Attachments: Testimony - GM 512 - Takamine 02012011.doc
Importance: High

Testimony attached as follows:

Senate

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Tuesday, February 1, 2011; 10:00 a.m.
Capitol Conf. Room 016

Testimony
GM 512

Senate

Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Tuesday, February 1, 2011; 10:00 a.m.
Capitol Conf. Room 016

Testimony
GM 512

Chairman Hee and members of the Committee on Judiciary and on Labor.

My name is Jim Williams and I am testifying in strong support of confirmation of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I urge your committee to recommend confirmation to the full Senate.

I have known Mr. Takamine since he began serving the people of our State in the legislature. His conduct, both in public hearings and in private has always been above reproach. He is a reasoned advocate of positions he supports. He gives a fair hearing to all positions, even those with which he may disagree. Individuals testifying before his committees were treated with respect and dignity.

As a department head, particularly as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, I am confident Mr. Takamine will improve morale within the department, manage the department effectively, and communicate with labor, business and this Legislature openly and effectively.

I urge you to support confirmation of Mr. Takamine.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of confirmation of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Jim Williams
Honolulu



WAIMEA MIDDLE PUBLIC CONVERSION CHARTER SCHOOL
67-1229 MAMALAHOA HIGHWAY * KAMUELA, HAWAII 96743
PHONE: (808) 887-6090 Ext. 225

January 31, 2011

Gubernatorial Nomination of DWIGHT TAKAMINE

Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

TESTIMONY TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

10 a.m., Tues., Feb. 1, 2011 – Conference Room 016

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Honorable Committee Members:

It may seem unusual for a school leader to comment on the nomination of the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, but I am compelled to do so because of the exceptional leadership, wisdom and dedication now former Sen. Dwight Takamine has demonstrated over the past two years in support of the children and families of Waimea.

WMS shares a campus with Waimea Elementary and together, the schools have struggled with an extraordinarily dangerous traffic congestion issue every morning and afternoon since the County widened Mamalahoa Highway. We actually anticipated the worsening of the problem well before the much needed widening occurred, but we simply could not find a solution. There were roadblocks at every turn – from lack of funds to concerns from surrounding landowners. In fact, I stood in the center of the school office one day declaring in exasperation to anyone in earshot that we would never resolve this problem and would probably lose a child before anything was done.

Then Sen. Takamine was elected and he began sizing up the situation. He suggested bringing together a school-community work group and gradually chipped away at the obstacles. He succeeded in gaining support from DOE, DAGS, the State Attorney General, Parker Ranch, the nearby shopping center, the County of Hawai'i and professional planner-engineer, all of whom were persuaded to do their part to resolve the problem. (I'm sure I've forgotten some of the partners who helped with this and apologize for this.) The resolution is a temporary gravel entry drive that is open each morning and afternoon to expedite safe drop off and pick up of children by families and buses.

This is only one of several examples of the exceptional collaborative work and support Dwight has provided our school-community.

I am writing to you because it occurs to me that serving as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the State of Hawai'i will require these same skills to bring divergent views and interests together to help resolve some of the tremendous challenges facing our state. Dwight is consistently respectful, thoughtful, pays attention to minute detail, and is willing to do the heavy lifting, and because of this, he is able to gain the trust and cooperation of others. He is a man of great integrity and he will be an excellent Director for the Department of Labor and member of the Governor's cabinet.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Malama pono,

John R. Colson

Chief Education and Executive Officer (CEEO/Principal)

From: Clarence Mills [millsc003@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2011 9:59 PM
To: JDLEvidence
Subject: Bill Gm512

I am writing this e-mail in support of Dwight Takamine for Director, Department of Labor. He is an excellent choice. He works for all the people of the State of Hawaii.

He has done a tremendous job as a Representative and Senator. I have known Dwight since he was a senior in high school. He was an excellent student and respected by faculty and fellow students. He is extremely intelligent, loyal, and gets the job done by working through ideas of other people. He will be an asset to our government.

A man with high values and integrity. I am very proud of him. He comes from a family that gives a lot to others. The Takamine family is highly respected.

The governor has made a very wise choice. I encourage you to support Dwight Takamine for Director, Department.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Clarence Mills
66-1313 Ahuli Circle
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

Phone # Home 885-7075
Cel 938-0820

From: George Robertson [lopekana@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2011 10:20 PM
To: JDLEstimony
Subject: Confirmation of Dwight Takamine

10 a.m., Tues., February 1, 2011 before the Senate Judiciary and Labor Committees (GM 512), in Conference Room 16

To: Senators, Judiciary and Labor Committees

From: George H. Robertson

Subject: Confirmation of Dwight Takamine

I urge you to confirm Mr. Takamine as Director of the Hawaii State Department of Labor. I've known Dwight for years and have seen him progress as a Representative and Senator on the Big Island. He has served the people of our island and our state with distinction, intelligence, and wisdom. He's a strong leader. He is an excellent choice to run the Labor Department. Having come from a plantation community, Dwight has the working man in his heart and soul. I can't think of anyone better suited for the position.

Sincerely,

George H. Robertson

P.O. Box 44490
Kamuela HI 96743

tel: 808-882-7598

TESTIMONY GM 512
International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

January 30, 2011

Support Confirmation of Dwight Takamine

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan S. Ogawa and I have been providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services for 31 years assisting injured and disabled individuals/workers of Hawaii. As the current President of the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals-Hawaii Chapter and on behalf of our members, **we support the confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dwight Takamine, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.**

“The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP) brings together rehabilitation professionals in Hawaii and across North America to promote the availability of effective, interdisciplinary services for persons with disabilities.”

Thank you for the opportunity of addressing this committee.

Alan S. Ogawa, M.ED. CRC, LMHC
President-International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals
Hawaii Chapter
1834 Nu'uuanu Ave, Suite 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 523-7755

Date: 2/1/2011 Time: 10:00 am

Place: Conference Room 016, State Capital, 415 South Beretania Street

JDLTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov.

TESTIMONY GM 512
International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

January 30, 2011

Support Confirmation of Dwight Takamine

The Honorable Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee:

My name is Alan S. Ogawa and I have been providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services for 31 years assisting injured and disabled individuals/workers of Hawaii.

I support the confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, Dwight Takamine, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Mr. Takamine has proven to be a fair and honorable man who supports the rights of all.

Thank you for the opportunity of addressing this committee.

Alan S. Ogawa, M.ED. CRC, LMHC
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor
1834 Nu'uuanu Ave, Suite 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
Phone: 523-7755

Date: 2/1/2011 Time: 10:00 am

Place: Conference Room 016, State Capital, 415 South Beretania Street

JDLEvidence@Capitol.hawaii.gov

UNITE HERE!

LOCAL 5 HAWAII

Eric Gill, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Hernando Ramos Tan, President

Godfrey Maeshiro, Senior Vice-President

Monday, January 31, 2011

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members
Hawaii State Legislature
Committee on Judiciary & Labor
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street

Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor:

On behalf of UNITE HERE Local 5, a local labor organization representing nearly 11,000 hotel, health care and food service workers employed throughout our State, I hereby register our organizations full support of GM 512 and the nomination of Mr. Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As a member of the Hawaii State Legislature, we have come to know Mr. Takamine to be a steadfast yet fair advocate for Hawaii's working people. He possesses the knowledge, relationships, temperament and skills needed to help lead the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and our State through our period of economic recovery. More importantly, we have observed first-hand his steadfast commitment towards defending the public's interest.

As a resident of the State of Hawaii, born and raised in Honoka'a on the Big Island of Hawaii, I have known Mr. Takamine for nearly all of my life. As our State legislator and member of the Honoka'a Hongwanji Mission Buddhist Temple, I know him personally to be an outstanding member of our community. With a long and distinguished record of community service, Mr. Takamine is a proven advocate for working families; most notably for families like my own that saw the rise and fall of the sugar industry throughout our State.

We humbly ask for your Committee's full support of GM 512 and the nomination of Mr. Takamine.

Sincerely,

Cade Watanabe
Community/Political Organizer

From: Joanne Kealoha [jkealoha@ilwulocal142.org]
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 9:46 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY: G.M. 512 (Dwight Takamine for Director of Labor)

Attached is testimony from the ILWU Local 142 on G.M. 512 regarding the appointment of Dwight Takamine to Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. G.M. 512 will be heard tomorrow (February 1) by the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor at 10:00 a.m. Thank you for considering our testimony.

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016
Tuesday, February 1, 2011; 10:00 a.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON G.M. 512
DWIGHT TAKAMINE
FOR DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

The ILWU strongly supports the confirmation of **Dwight Y. Takamine** as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Mr. Takamine is familiar to the State Senate as he chaired the Senate Labor Committee as recently as the 2010 legislative session. During his tenure that spanned more than 25 years in the State House of Representatives and the State Senate, Mr. Takamine served in many leadership positions, including House Labor Chair, House Finance Chair, and Senate Labor Chair. Through his experience chairing these important committees, Mr. Takamine has been schooled in the intricacies of unemployment insurance, safety and health, and workers' compensation. The Governor could not have found a more capable director for the Department of Labor--someone who was able to "hit the ground running." Mr. Takamine is familiar not only with the workings of all Divisions within the Department but with many of its personnel as well.

Throughout his career, as an attorney and as a legislator, Mr. Takamine has distinguished himself with his commitment to the working men and women of Hawaii. We believe that Mr. Takamine will do for the people of this state what he has always done for his constituents on the Big Island.

In the early 1990's, Mr. Takamine home district faced major economic challenges as two sugar plantations, Hamakua Sugar and HCPC, announced closure almost at the same time. These two companies were the largest employers in their communities and employed hundreds of workers, who were soon dislocated from their jobs and had to find new careers and make major adjustments in their lives. He worked to organize the community, seek out government and private resources to aid the workers, encourage new employers in the area, and bring hope to sugar workers who faced a bleak future. Through his efforts, many workers got training in new careers and became nurse's aides and farmers in diversified agriculture. Others went to work at the hotels on the westside of the island.

Throughout the economic crisis facing his community, Mr. Takamine remained upbeat and optimistic. He helped to lift the spirits of his constituents and showed others the value of collaboration.

One of Mr. Takamine's singular traits is his ability to advocate for his constituents. As Labor Director, Mr. Takamine's constituents are now all the working men and women of Hawaii. We are confident that he will work to ensure that they receive compensation when they are injured on the job, that they are protected against workplace hazards and diseases, that they receive proper wages in a timely manner, that they get unemployment benefits when they're laid off, and that they are helped to find new jobs and remain productive members of our community.

However, as much as he will advocate for workers, Mr. Takamine also understands the need for balance. He knows that employers and business are necessary for workers to have jobs to sustain themselves and their families while contributing to the overall economy. He will work with employers to ensure fairness and help to keep the economy growing.

For all of these reasons, the ILWU strongly supports the confirmation of Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Thank you for considering our views.

From: Mike Klungness [klungnesm001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2011 9:05 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: Letter in support of the appointment of Dwight Takamine to the Cabinet

To the Committee to review the appointment of Senator Takamine to the Governor's Cabinet

I have been very impressed with Senator Takamine. In fact, I would say he has singlehandedly restored my faith in government. In this day of high-finance politics, it is hard to really know that the candidates are truthful. Senator Takamine is a truthful man. He is also very loyal to his party and to his Governor. He is also very fair and balanced in his approach to campaigning. He kept the Hilo based campaign for Neil Abercrombie on track and in line. When individuals in the campaign wanted to get down and dirty, Dwight always brought everyone back to the high road. In addition, Dwight has a fundamental belief that the business of government is the service of the people. Not just the powerful and well connected, but all the people, the small business person, the union workers, the unemployed, the underemployed, the disenfranchised. Dwight truly believes that the State will only succeed when we all succeed.

I was literally shocked when I heard that there would be any opposition to the Governor's appointment of Dwight to the cabinet secretary of Labor and Industry. It leaves a bad taste in my mouth about the old boy political system in Hawaii. We the voters have spoken loudly and clearly. We wanted reform in politics, and we elected Neil Abercrombie as our best hope for cleaning up the broken system that has been State government in recent years. That recent Administration only defeated their Democratic opposition, because the people viewed the old-boy Democratic machine as corrupt. Now the Democrats have an opportunity to clean up their act, and Neil Abercrombie is leading the way. In my opinion, the best appointment he made for integrity in government, was Dwight Takamine. I strongly advise the Committee not to screw this up!

L. Michael Klungness
Microenvironmental
POB 364
Mountain View HI 96771
808-968-6789
cell 808-895-3075

From: Sandra Song [sandrasong@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2011 1:05 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Subject: GM 512 - Testimony in Support of Dwight Takamine for Director of Labor and Industrial Relations
Attachments: Takamine Recommendation GM 512.pdf

Per the Notice of Hearing for the above-referenced matter, I am transmitting the attached testimony.

Thank you.

Sandra P. Song
Attorney at Law
10 Kamehameha Ave.
Hilo, HI 96720
Tel: (808) 933-9212
Fax: (808) 935-4853

Testimony In Support of
Dwight Takamine as Director of the
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

By Al Lardizabal, Director of Government Relations
Hawaii Laborers' Union
1617 Palama St.
Honolulu, HI. 96817

To the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Tuesday, February 1, 2011
Room 016, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair; Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Mr. Peter Ganaban, Business Manager, and the officers and
members of the Hawaii Laborers' Union, we express our strong support for
Mr. Dwight Takamine, as Director of the Department of Labor and
Industrial Relations.

Dwight Takamine has devoted more than 26 years of community and
government service for the people of this state. Since 1984, the year he was
first elected to the State House of Representatives, until today, he is always
at the forefront helping people. He is a true public servant.

He helped the elderly from being evicted and helped them to find housing;
he helped to create jobs when the sugar plantation closed down in Hamakua;
and he helped to modernize a community's water system badly needed by a
small and remote community. These are just a few examples of Dwight
Takamine's quest to help the community. He has done much, much more
over the 26 years. The record speaks for itself.

Mr. Dwight Takamine's valuable experiences in establishing policies and legislation for state agencies, especially as Chair of the House Finance Committee, gives him comprehensive insight into the operations of state government and the concerns of employers and employees, both in the private and public sectors.

Part of the mission of the DLIR is, "...protecting the rights of working people while ensuring the interests of business and employers."

At a recent hearing at the House Committee on Labor and Public Employment, where a bill to raise the fees on employers who violate OSHA rules was under discussion, Dwight Takamine expressed his concern for business on increased fines especially in this recession. He is thus able to strike a balance between the needs of workers and needs of business.

Dwight Takamine and his outstanding deputy, Audrey Hidano, a talented business woman and co-founder of a successful construction company, fully understand that partnering with stakeholders, especially business and labor, is paramount to creating new employment and business sustainability. This we believe, they will do.

We humbly request the Committee's favorable decision for Dwight Takamine as the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401, Honolulu, HI 96813-2453 Phone (808) 524-4459 Fax (808) 599-4340

January 30, 2011

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016

RE: GM512 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Gubernatorial Nominee, DWIGHT TAKAMINE, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

I am in strong support of the confirmation of your former colleague, Dwight Takamine, to become the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

I have known him for over thirty years. He is, simply, one of Hawaii's great legislative leaders, and I was overjoyed when he decided to take his knowledge, experience, and talent into the executive branch in order to advance the interests of business and labor in our state. To have one of the most important inventors and shapers of labor legislation decide to later become an enforcer and interpreter of that legislation is very valuable. In short, Dwight Takamine is not going to have to guess what the legislators intended when they wrote and then passed legislation—because he will probably have authored it or shepherded it into law.

Beyond his very considerable skill set and knowledge, is his talent for leadership. He has been a leader in the Legislature for decades, and is fast becoming a leader in the Cabinet. And beyond all of that, his personal qualities are exceptional.

Dwight Takamine is a rare, even unique person, who is also uniquely qualified for the position to which the Governor has nominated him. I urge that you and your Committee vote in favor of his nomination and hope that all twenty-five Senators do the same when his name comes to the floor for a vote.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.

Sincerely,

John H. Radcliffe

TESTIMONY OF Curtis Muraoka, Co-Director,
West Hawaii Explorations Academy Public Charter School

SUPPORT OF GM512
BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

February 1, 2011

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Honorable Members of the
Committee:

I am writing as a Big Island resident and educator in support of Dwight Takamine,
now before you for consideration and confirmation as Chair of the Hawai'i State
Judiciary.

Dwight has consistently performed admirable work as a state senator representing
Senate District 1. He is intelligent, collaborative, courageous and fair—a great skill
set by any measure.

As a Senator, Dwight displayed his commitment to children in all communities, and
all aspects of public education. The "Big Island" is truly big, and Senate District 1
hosts the lion's share of public charters schools due in large part to rural
communities' isolation from public education infrastructure.

In my opinion, his legislative record, and proud family history in grassroots public
service makes him an outstanding choice for this position.

Therefore, I respectfully urge this esteemed committee to concur with Governor
Abercrombie, and confirm this nomination.

For more information, please contact me at (808) 987-2522.

Sincerely,



Curtis Muraoka, Co-Director
West Hawai'i Explorations Academy Public Charter School

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2011 11:16 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: tonysurbigisle@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for GM512 on 2/1/2011 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: IMG.tif

Testimony for JDL 2/1/2011 10:00:00 AM GM512

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anthony Sur, DDS
Organization: Individual
Address: 280 Ponahawai Street, Suite 201 Hilo, HI 96720
Phone: 808 969-6665
E-mail: tonysurbigisle@aol.com
Submitted on: 1/30/2011

Comments:



ROBERT P. MARX

Attorney at Law, A Law Corporation

688 Kinoole Street, Suite 105
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone: (808) 935-8988
Fax: (808) 935-8578

January 28, 2011

Sent via facsimile and U.S. Mail to: (808) 586-7334

Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
Attn: **Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair**
Hawaii State Capital, Room 403
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RECEIVED JAN 31 2011

Re: **GM512 - Appointment of Former State Senator Dwight Takamine
as Director of Department of Labor**

Dear Chairman Hee and Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee:

This written testimony is submitted in support of the appointment of former State Senator Dwight Takamine as Director of the Department of Labor.

Senator Takamine has demonstrated a life-long commitment to working with, and for the people of the Big Island. Since his early days in politics serving in the House of Representatives, he has shown his constituents that he truly cares about each and every one of them, and as the community as a whole. He grew up in Honoka'a on his grandparents' farm where he learned that it takes hard work to get things done, and that you need a strong work ethic to be successful. He has carried these values with him throughout his career in the State Senate.

Over the past ten (10) years, Senator Takamine has ensured that the people of the Big Island, whom he represented, were given the opportunity to be successful. He has implemented the growth and diversification of our economy by securing over \$100,000,000 in funding to improve and renovate the UHH system here on the Big Island, over \$44,000,000 in funding to expand the Hilo International Cargo and ramp facilities, \$37,000,000 to restructure the Judiciary by creating the new Judiciary Complex, and \$2,500,000 to renovate and expand the much needed Hilo Medical Center's Emergency Department. These projects created thousands of jobs and ensured that quality services were more available to the public.

He strongly believes in the power of education, and received \$36,000,000 to renovate and improve our school facilities. Education is an investment, and Senator Takamine and his wife both hold a strong commitment to early childhood education and understanding. A strong foundation ensures that the children, our future, will be successful in their education endeavors. By supporting community involvement in the form of Charter Schools and community school boards, Senator

Takamine has shown that he is open minded to making sure the children are getting the best education money can buy.

I believe that Senator Takamine's commitment to renewal and green sources of energy is paramount. He understands why we need to keep Hawaii as one of the leaders in renewable and clean energy. In 2007, 30.9 percent of Hawaii's energy comes from renewable sources (geothermal, wind and hrdro). Senator Takamine will ensure that Hawaii's continues to lead the Country to promoting green living and energy independence.

In closing, Senator Takamine knows the importance of small businesses in Hawaii. Small firms represent 95% of our employer business. This is important because it fosters growth, opportunity and innovation, all of which create a better future. The studies have shown that for every \$1.00 our taxpayer dollars put into our economy through providing better early and higher education, more funding for small business programs, more consciousness about our energy and renewal sources, that we see at least double our money back on the return by creating productive members of society, and we owe this to Senator Takamine's diligence and commitment to the community.

I strongly believe that Senator Takamine is the best choice for this appointment for the following reasons:

1. We on the Big Island are familiar with Senator Takamine's work and interests.
2. During the last two years I have become personally familiar with his organizing and communication ability, his administrative and leadership skills, and his outstanding commitment to the people.
3. Senator Takamine is familiar with the unique obstacle that small business owners face on the Big Island. He and his wife own and operate the wildly popular Yogurtland shop here in Hilo. Having intimate knowledge of such day-to-day exposure to the issues facing small businesses can only be a tremendous asset for Hawaii's new Director of the Department of Labor.

As small business owner of a newly opened bookstore, and a 30 year veteran as an Attorney in Hilo, I can tell you that Senator Takamine's down to earth approach to problem solving is what is needed for Hawaii's working people and business owners.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT P. MARX, Esq.