

GM 514

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A COPPA, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

Testimony on GM 514
Confirmation of Bruce A. Coppa
Comptroller, Department of Accounting and General Services

Governor Neil Abercrombie

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

February 17, 2011
2:45 p.m. Room 224

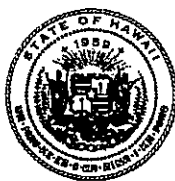
Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and committee members, I respectfully ask for your favorable support of my nominee Bruce A. Coppa as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Since being appointed on December 4, 2010, Mr. Coppa has shown tremendous leadership skills within the DAGS. His management abilities and skillset are exactly what is needed in the DAGS to move the state forward. He also understands the challenges ahead and that it will take all of us to make a difference.

Mr. Coppa is the right person to lead DAGS and I am proud to have him as a member of my team to ensure a New Day in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration to confirm this leader.

KRISTIN IZUMI-NITAO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 14, 2011

TO: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs

The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee

Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs

FROM: Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director
Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: **Testimony on G.M. 514, Consideration and Confirmation to the Comptroller of
the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee,
BRUCE A. COPPA**

Thursday, February 17, 2011
2:45 p.m. in Conference Room 224

Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Kidani, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in
support of gubernatorial nominee Bruce A. Coppa for the position of Comptroller of the Department of
Accounting and General Services ("DAGS").

As you know, Campaign Spending Commission is an administratively attached agency to DAGS. We
therefore receive administrative assistance and guidance from DAGS. In the brief time that we have
worked with Bruce Coppa, we have enjoyed his leadership and interest in improving our state affairs.
He is accessible, approachable, supportive, and helpful. In these challenging fiscal times, Bruce
appears to have the skills and strength to move DAGS forward collectively and collaboratively.

Accordingly, we are submitting our endorsement on his confirmation.

February 15, 2011

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, & Military Affairs
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
State Capital, Room 224
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero and Committee Members:

Subject: Governor's Message (GM) 514
Confirmation of Bruce A. Coppa
Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services

I am writing in support of the confirmation of Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS). While I have only had the opportunity to work with Bruce since I started with the State and DAGS in mid-December 2010, I believe he is the right person for the Director position at the right time.

Bruce's style is open and collaborative. He regularly pulls in not only his program administrators, but also subject matter experts from the various programs, to ensure everyone is involved in important discussions and brings in their varying perspectives for decision making. Bruce also regularly reaches out to other departments. For example, just a couple of weeks into the job, Bruce heard about concerns the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) was having with our data center's operating hours. Instead of letting that issue sit unresolved or responding via e-mail, he worked with Director Dwight Takamine to bring DLIR's key staff over to meet with DAGS and the Information and Communication Services Division (ICSD) leadership. This meeting allowed DAGS and DLIR to understand the issues and jointly formulate a plan to fix shortcomings in the ICSD staffing levels.

As another notable strength, Bruce communicates well with his direct reports and manages by walking around. This change in style and approach is noticeable and will be critical as DAGS works to improve sagging morale and refocus its staff on doing the best job possible to serve the department's customers even through staffing and funding shortages.

I respectfully request this committee confirm Bruce for the Director position with the DAGS.

Sincerely,



Ryan Okahara
Deputy Comptroller
Department of Accounting and General Services

February 14, 2011

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero:

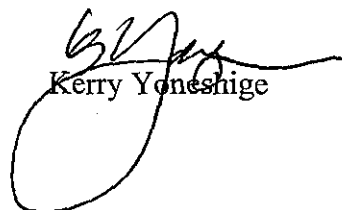
I have worked with Mr. Bruce Coopa from the middle of December 2010 at the Department of Accounting and General Services in my position of Business Management Officer. In my view he has renewed the spirit of the employees by going back to fundamental management principles which are as follows.

1. Meets and talks with all levels of employees from custodians to division chiefs. His discussions are meaningful to the employees because he is genuinely concerned about the challenges they face in the working environment and their well being. He is not one to have employees come to his office to talk; conversely, he visits and talks with employees in their work environment at their offices and in the field. I have heard only positive comments from employees on his visits.
2. He trusts his division chiefs and subject matter experts and shows it by providing them latitude in communication and decision making. Using an old cliché, he gives them a sense of empowerment.
3. Focuses the department on our core functions, our operating divisions. With nine (9) administratively attached agencies, it is easy for the comptroller to become intensely involved with the attached agencies and forget about the operating divisions. Our focus has returned to our operating divisions.

Mr. Coopa also excels in his verbal communication skills and facilitating discussions to resolve issues whether it be with employees or parties outside of the department. This proactive approach will help to foster a cooperative environment versus an adversarial one.

For the reasons stated, I urge the Committee to strongly support the nomination of Mr. Bruce Coopa for the Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services and State Comptroller.

Sincerely,


Kerry Yoneshige



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF
BRIAN Y. SAITO ADMINISTRATOR
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
AUTOMOTIVE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON

FEBRUARY 17, 2011

GM 514

RELATING TO THE CONFIRMATION OF BRUCE A. COPPA AS COMPTROLLER
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES.

Chair Espero and members of the Committee, thank you for the
opportunity to testify on the confirmation of Bruce A. Coppa as the state comptroller.

I've been employed with the State of Hawaii for a total of 18 years, at DAGS for
7 1/2 years. I've also been employed in the facility and vehicle maintenance field for 10
years prior to being employed by the State of Hawaii.

Working with Bruce I find him to be an individual with character and one who has
the compassion and drive to make a difference. He's a people person who entrusts his
front line managers to make correct decisions. He will take all matters into consideration
and will make an informed decision.

In closing I believe the appointment of Bruce Coppa, as the State
Comptroller would be a prudent decision, which would benefit the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BRUCE A. COPPA
COMPTROLLER
RYAN OKAHARA
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
JAMES C. RICHARDSON
ADMINISTRATOR, CENTRAL SERVICES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 17, 2011

NOMINATION OF BRUCE A. COPPA
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE TO THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

As the Administrator of Central Services, I have had the pleasure of working with Bruce A. Coppa for the past two (2) months as Comptroller and the past ten (10) years on the Hawaii 3R's Board. During this period, I was sincerely impressed by his ability to quickly understand the "big picture", as well as his attention to details. Bruce's background is filled with exemplary examples of fine leadership, most notably as either the Chairman or as a Director on Boards, i.e. Hawaii 3R's, March of Dimes, UH Foundation, Easter Seals, etc. Bruce also has a construction background with EE Black and was the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Communications Pacific and therefore I believe that he is well qualified to serve as our State Comptroller. He possesses both the vision and foresight to understand the "task at hand", and decisively move toward a successful conclusion.

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Nomination of Bruce A. Coppa to the Office of the Comptroller
Page 2

Bruce is a very hands on and approachable person, who has high expectations and expects the same of those who work with and for him. One of the many functions of Central Services is to oversee the public buildings repair and maintenance program and he realized immediately our concerns and what needed to be done. In this respect, I have had supportive conversations with Bruce and realizes his commitment towards innovation as a means of further improving the efficiency in our buildings and to address the backlog of repair that needs to be done.

For these reasons, I urge the Committee to support the nomination of Bruce A. Coppa for the State Comptroller position.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BRUCE A. COPPA
Comptroller

RYAN OKAHARA
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
DEBRA A. GAGNE, ADMINISTRATOR
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

ON
February 17, 2011

GM514

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kadani and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on G.M. 514.

My name is Debra A. Gagne. I am the current Administrator for the Information and Communication Services Division of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I am submitting my **support** for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A. COPPA, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Mr. Coppa has demonstrated his commitment to service and caring attitude since his arrival on December 7, 2010. A brilliant choice. He has personally come to visit me in my office several times and is genuinely interested in how effectively things are operating in the division. I am encouraged by his understanding and knowledge of the critical issues facing Information

Technology within the State of Hawai'i. His personable style, and honest and open approach to Department of Accounting and General Services information is refreshing. The staff meetings are relaxed, comfortable and often times sprinkled with laughter. I would be more than happy to call him my boss for the next few years.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



February 2, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Email senespero@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Senator Espero,

We are delighted to submit this letter of support regarding Bruce Coppa's appointment as Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services. Since 2004, Mr. Coppa has served as a trustee on University of Hawaii Foundation's board and has been an excellent volunteer and community citizen. He is a great supporter of the Foundation and of the University's initiatives and has been active in assisting us achieve the desired outcomes established by University leadership.

Bruce has been an integral part of the leadership team guiding the Foundation through the Centennial Campaign. During this time, he served as chair of the Foundation's Community Colleges Board Committee and as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. Mr. Coppa has also been an active participant in the University's priority setting and communications planning. His experience and knowledge, as well as his advice, has been immensely valuable to the Foundation and the University.

Bruce has also been an active member of both the East West Center Foundation Board and the Chamber of Commerce and these connections have been helpful to us in coordinating with these organizations. With his energy, experience, relationships and commitment to Hawaii, Bruce will no doubt be a great addition to the Department of Accounting and General Services

We wholeheartedly support this nomination and are pleased to be able to add our letter of recommendation to his appointment. If you have any other questions related to this appointment, please feel free to contact me at 956-5103.

Sincerely,

Donna Vuchinich
President & CEO

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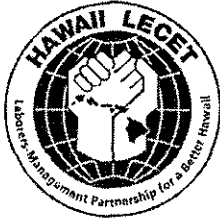
From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 8:46 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: victor.ramos@mpd.net
Subject: Testimony for GM514 on 2/17/2011 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 2/17/2011 2:45:00 PM GM514

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vicor K. Ramos
Organization: Maui Police Department
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: victor.ramos@mpd.net
Submitted on: 2/14/2011

Comments:

I support the confirmation of Bruce A. Coppa as Comptroller for D.A.G.S.



Testimony of Clyde T. Hayashi
Director
Hawaii LECET
1617 Palama Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Thursday, February 17, 2011
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 224

GM 514 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A. COPPA, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice-Chair K, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Clyde Hayashi and I am the director of Hawaii LECET (Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust). Hawaii LECET is a partnership between the Hawaii Laborers' Union, Local 368 and our union contractors.

I am submitting this testimony in **strong support** of the nomination of Bruce A. Coppa to serve as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Mr. Coppa has years 25 of experience in operations and management in Hawaii's construction industry. He was a Senior Vice President of Communications-Pacific, Inc. and the founder of Coppa Consulting, Inc.

My main experience with Mr. Coppa was when he served as the Director of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP). Under his leadership, PRP became widely known as an a strong advocate for the building industry.

I believe Bruce Coppa brings the needed skills, perspective, and qualities to the department as it strives to address the needs and priorities of the many DAGS programs and activities. He has the passion and commitment to take on the many challenges that will be put before him.

Hawaii LECET respectfully asks your favorable consideration of the nomination of Bruce Coppa.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

February 17, 2011

THE HAWAII STATE SENATE
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Michele Kidani, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: February 17, 2011
TIME OF HEARING: 2:45 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING: Conference Room 224

**Favorable Testimony of Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director
of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO
in Support of GM 514,
Relating to the Consideration and Confirmation of
BRUCE A. COPPA as Comptroller of the
Department of Accounting and General Services**

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua and I am the State Director of the United Public Workers (UPW), AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW represents approximately 11,700 employees of the State of Hawaii, the City and County of Honolulu, and the Counties of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai, all of which constitute approximately 8,800 blue-collar non-supervisory employees in bargaining unit 1 {as that unit is defined in HRS, § 89-6 (a)} and approximately 2,900 institutional, health and correctional workers in bargaining unit 10 {as that unit is defined in HRS, § 89-6 (a)}. In addition, UPW represents many private industry employees who are either blue collar, institutional or health workers.

On behalf of the UPW and its approximately 11,700 members who are public employees, as well as its multitude of private sector employees, this testimony is in support of the appointment of Bruce A. Coppa as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services ("DAGS").

I have known Mr. Coppa since he was the Executive Director of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), the joint union and management industry promotional entity which was created pursuant to an agreement between the organized Hawaii general building and construction contractors and the Hawaii Carpenters Union (Mr. Coppa was appointed to the Executive Director's position at PRP upon the suggestion of the Hawaii Carpenters Union).

It is my understanding that prior to being the PRP Executive Director, Mr. Coppa was a management official of the now dissolved general building construction contractor named E.E. Black, Ltd., and that subsequent to his leaving the PRP Executive Director's position, he became a media consultant, and independent land developer of commercial properties, and a business consultant. Mr. Coppa was also the chairman of the Board of Directors of Hawaii 3R's, an entity spearheaded by U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, which was created to bring outside financial and human resources to assist in diminishing the \$640 million public school repair backlog.

Throughout Mr. Coppa's distinguished career, I have known him to be highly intelligent and highly motivated to accomplish the task at hand. I have also known him to have a deep understanding of complex financial matters, and to be "people" person.

I am confident that Mr. Coppa possesses the skills and temperament to be a truly outstanding State Comptroller. Therefore, the UPW wholeheartedly supports his nomination to the position of State Comptroller, and requests that this committee give its advice in favor of Mr. Coppa's foregoing nomination, and consent to his appointment to the position of State Comptroller.



**International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 50**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION 2011

TIME/DATE: 2:45 p.m., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 514 – "SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE COMPTROLLER OF THE BOARD OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BRUCE A. COPPA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 1, 2014."

TO SENATOR WILL ESPERO, CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS:

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50, appreciates the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Governor's Message No. 514 – Gubernatorial Nominee, Bruce A. Coppa, to the position of Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services. My name is Lynn Kinney, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50, an organization comprised of four (4) unions, the Painters, Local Union 1791; the Glaziers Architectural and Glass Metal Workers, Local Union 1889; the Carpet Linoleum and Soft Tile, Local Union 1926; and the Drywall, Tapers Finishers, Local Union 1944, representing approximately 2000 members throughout the State of Hawaii.

I am writing in strong support of Mr. Burce A. Coppa to the position of Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

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FINISHERS
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I believe that Mr. Coppa brings a positive approach to the department. He possesses a wealth of knowledge; from developing business strategies to construction and labor management. Mr. Coppa has been very a successful business manager and has over 25 years of professional operations management experience. His exceptional communication skills and continued involvement in the community enables him to build and foster relationships and bring progressive ideas to the department. I also believe that Mr. Coppa's experiences in the private sector are an invaluable asset, providing a distinct outlook and understanding that will aid in the challenges that lay ahead. Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I humbly request you support the confirmation Mr. Bruce A. Coppa to the position of Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.



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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
THE HONORABLE WILL ESPERO, CHAIR
THE HONORABLE MICHELLE KIDANI, VICE CHAIR**

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as
Comptroller of the Department of Accounting & General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee,
BRUCE COPPA, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Testimony in Strong Support

**By Glenn Hong, President, and Roy Catalani, Vice President, Young Brothers, Limited
February 17, 2011**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message 514 concerning the Governor's nomination of Bruce Coppa to the position of Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services of the State of Hawaii ("**DAGS**"). **We submit this testimony in strong support of Mr. Coppa's nomination.**

Mr. Coppa has an ideal combination of leadership and experience in business, labor and community issues. He most recently headed a boutique management-consulting firm, Coppa Consulting, Inc., that specializes in business development, strategy and general management. Prior to that, Mr. Coppa served as the Chief Operating Officer of Communications Pacific and executive director of Pacific Resource Partnership. Mr. Coppa also has over 25 years of professional experience in operations and management in Hawaii's construction industry, including 20 years of experience as the Vice President of Operations of E. E. Black construction. Mr. Coppa received his Master's degree in Business Administration Global Management and Bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix.

Mr. Coppa has tremendous experience in bringing the private and public sector together and energizing them to work toward a common goal, which will be a great asset to DAGS and the State as it works toward creative solutions to address the current budget crisis. Mr. Coppa's leadership on the Board of Directors of Hawaii 3Rs, a nonprofit organization that helps to maintain and repair public-school buildings and property, is an excellent example of this ability. He helped Hawaii 3Rs develop many partnerships with the private sector, the military and other segments of our community in order to keep schools in working physical condition, bridging gaps in funding and manpower (volunteers). As a result, dozens of schools received renovation, restoration and repair work in the last several years thanks to Hawaii 3Rs.

There have been several other organizations that have benefitted from his skills, creativity and leadership in partnership development, such as the March of Dimes, Hawaii Chamber of Commerce and YMCA, just to name a few. We believe Mr. Coppa will use this same "know-how" as Director of DAGS and help Hawaii to efficiently move forward, even in these challenging economic times.

In short, Mr. Coppa's strong professional background and leadership skills make him an excellent choice to lead the DAGS and undertake responsibility for complex and crucial issues and challenges under the DAGS' jurisdiction. We respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination as Director.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment of Governor's Message 514.

Radcliffe & Associates, LLC

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

February 16, 2011

Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 224

RE: GM 514 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A. COPPA, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

My name is John Radcliffe and I strongly support the nomination of Bruce Coppa as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services. I have known Bruce for about eighteen years and have worked closely with him on numerous community activities—where he has been an outstanding leader.

Bruce gets things done, and that is why he has earned such a high profile in Hawaii for his volunteer service on behalf of us all. When he applied to be in the Cabinet, I was very happy, knowing that he would be a great public servant. His knowledge of the construction industry, the unions, the community itself, not to mention the political leaders in Hawaii, is unique. When Governor Abercrombie turned to Bruce to be his Comptroller, he did so because he knows that Bruce is a builder and will get things done.

Bruce is tireless, dedicated, very competent, and comes to the job and life in general with the positive attitude that the job, regardless of what it is, can be done. And his optimism is borne out by the fact that he has accomplished that which has set out to do.

Please vote to confirm Bruce Coppa as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments.

Sincerely,

John H. Radcliffe

Cockett Communications Inc.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations and Military Affairs
Thursday, February 17, 2011
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 224
State Capitol**

**Re: GM514 – Bruce Coppa
Comptroller, Dept. of Accounting and General Services**

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kevin Cockett, president of Cockett Communications Inc. (a communications consulting firm) and a former colleague of Bruce Coppa while he was Chief Operating Officer of Communications Pacific. I want to thank you for allowing me to submit testimony to voice my strong support of Governor Abercrombie's nomination of Bruce as Comptroller, Dept. of Accounting and General Services.

I had the good fortune to learn from and work alongside Bruce for five years while at Communications Pacific. I firmly believe he has the right set of skills, deep experience, collaborative nature, sound judgment, business instincts and proactive mindset to serve the State as the Comptroller.

I want to begin by discussing Bruce's management style. He is a leader who inspires the best from those around him – best efforts and best attitude – and does so by example. Bruce is not one to abuse authority given to him but instead stewards it in humility. He is approachable and likes to make work fun for the entire team. He is quick to recognize others' achievements and hard work. He is also one to identify challenges and/or areas for improvement, for himself and the organization, and to be transparent about those areas. Overall, he creates a productive work environment which I believe will permeate DAGS.

Bruce also brings a ton of energy and passion to the office each day. He truly understands it is his responsibility to do so when blessed with the opportunity to lead an organization. Simply put, Bruce is the type of person who says, "Why put off until tomorrow, what we can accomplish today?" This is an important attribute for the person taking on the leadership role of Comptroller. We cannot underestimate the importance of having the right leaders in place at the right time (meaning right now), as the State of Hawaii continues to struggle with the challenges of the current fiscal budget (and endeavors to plan strategically in the face of an uncertain future).

Bruce is the right person at the right time. It gives me great hope to know that someone with his ability, experience and dedication will help lead our State forward.

GM514 – Bruce Coppa
Page 2

He will ask how things are done, why they are done the way they are, and if there is a better way to do so. He will ask about the hurdles in place and figure out how to remove them. He will empower those on his team to make wise decisions and do things differently. He will bring new people to the table – from the government sector, private sector, nonprofit sector, military sector, and more – to collaborate on solving problems or improving the status quo. He will plan with them and give everyone ownership. He will see to it that people execute on their commitment. He will seek advice from others but take ownership of his decisions. This is how he led when we worked together for five years. This is how he is wired.

Finally, I think it's worth pointing out that Bruce has shared these talents with numerous nonprofit organizations – all in the name of helping their respective causes and helping our community thrive. Several come to mind, such as Hawaii 3Rs, YMCA, March of Dimes. There are countless others. This speaks to Bruce's mighty character and heart.

In closing, I want to again thank the Committee for allowing me this time to submit testimony. I respectfully urge that you approve Bruce Coppa as the State's next Comptroller.

Respectfully submitted,



THE GAS COMPANY

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

February 17, 2011

To: Chair, Senator Will Espero
Vice-Chair, Senator Michelle Kidani
Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations &
Military Affairs

**Re: GM 514: Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the
Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services,
Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A. COPPA, for a Term to Expire
December 1, 2014.**

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Bruce Coppa's appointment to serve as the Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

My name is Jeff Kissel and I am the Chief Executive Officer of The Gas Company.

From knowing Mr. Coppa, I can personally attest to his outstanding qualifications to serve in this important new role. As the owner of a boutique management-consulting firm, Coppa Consulting, Inc., Mr. Coppa is known for his business development acumen, strategy and general management skills. I have had the privilege of working with him when he served as a key member of the Communications Pacific leadership team and when he was the executive director of Pacific Resource Partnership.

The role of the Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services is so critical to the operations of state government and the implementation of construction and economic development in the state that the job is best suited for a genuine leader. Mr. Coppa's intelligence, community-spirit, business "street smarts" and his diligent undertaking of any assignment makes him a superb leader and will make him an asset to not only the Department, but to the people of the state of Hawaii.

Please confirm Mr. Coppa's appointment.

Michael J. Chun, Ph.D.
111 Ke Ala Ola
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

February 14, 2011

Senator Will Espero, Chairman
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Senatorial District 20
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Honorable Chairman Espero,

Mr. Bruce A. Coppa has been appointed by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the position of Director, Department of Accounting and General Services. I have known Bruce for many years and offer my strong endorsement of his appointment.

With over three decades of experience in Hawai'i's business and labor community, Bruce brings a wealth of knowledge, skills and expertise to the department that is responsible for all State of Hawai'i accounting, general services and contracting functions. The responsibilities of this position are diverse, complex and broad and require one who can understand issues at the ten-foot elevation without losing sight of the landscape at the ten thousand-foot elevation. Bruce is one who can. His professional background has prepared him well for this important position and the challenges with which it brings.

But Bruce is more than a businessman. He is a community leader as well. It is within this sphere that I have come to know Bruce well. We both serve as directors on the Board of the YMCA of Honolulu. As chairman of the Facilities and Property Committee he also sits on the Board's Executive Committee with me.

One's leadership capacity is tested not during times of plenty; it is tested during periods of challenge and scarcity. For not-for-profit organizations like The Y, the impact of scarcity is much more profound and deep, and the skills of their leaders become readily apparent. Like other not-for-profits in Hawai'i, The Y has had its share of challenges and an abundance of scarcity. Bruce has been in the middle of the solutions that have emerged over the past three years and his contributions have been instrumental in the stability and strength of The Y today. He serves with energy, wisdom, understanding and passion. Indeed, he is highly respected and deeply admired by all members of the

Board, which consists of business and community leaders from throughout O'ahu. He truly has been an asset to The Y.

Through my association with Bruce on The Y's Board, I have come to know him as a friend. Though he has many wonderful attributes that attract people to him, I find his collaborative spirit and commitment to teamwork to be particularly valuable in the work we have accomplished at The Y. These attributes allow him to successfully engage audiences with diverse views to achieve shared outcomes. These qualities will also serve him well as Director.

I know I join with many throughout the community in support of Bruce's appointment as Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services and respectfully ask favorable action from your committee. Bruce will serve our community with honor and distinction in that capacity.

Mahalo for this opportunity to speak in support of distinguished citizen and leader.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Chun", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Chun, Ph.D.

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

February 15, 2011

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations,
and Military Affairs
State Capitol, Room 224
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Testimony in Support of GM 514: Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A. COPPA, for a Term to Expire December 1, 2014

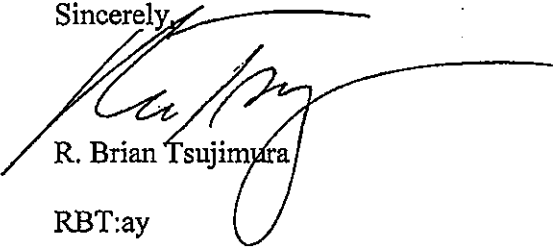
Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs:

I am writing in support of Bruce Coppa for Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services. I have known Bruce for many years and believe that he would be an excellent Comptroller for the State of Hawaii.

Bruce brings with him an understanding of what it takes to get the economy running due to his business and labor background. I believe he will be a tremendous asset as the state attempts to move this economy forward. We have worked together as colleagues on projects and I can affirm his character and integrity in all that he does.

I urge this committee to approve of his nomination.

Sincerely,


R. Brian Tsujimura

RBT:ay

February 14, 2011

Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: Governor's Message 514: Testimony in Support of Bruce A. Coppa as
Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services
Hearing Date: Thursday, February 17th, 2011 at 2:45 p.m. in Room 224**

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

Please accept my testimony in support of Mr. Bruce A. Coppa for the position Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Through my work as a business and management consultant, I have worked with and come to know Bruce Coppa over the past couple of years. Based on his qualifications and professional experience, I believe Mr. Coppa is well versed in government policies and procedures. I expect Mr. Coppa will bring his knowledge, skills and experience to the forefront and provide leadership and direction, guidance and understanding, compassion and advocacy to the public and all those who interact with the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I strongly urge you and the members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs to confirm the appointment of Bruce A. Coppa as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Steiner

Michael Steiner, CLM
Steiner & Associates
702 Kanaha Street
Kailua, HI 96734

Testimony In Support of

Mr. Bruce A. Coppa

As Director of the Department of Accounting and General
Services

GM514

Thursday, February 17, 2011
Room 224, 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol

By

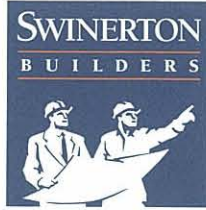
Peter A. Ganaban, Business Manager,
Hawaii Laborers' Union

Senator Will Espero, Chair; Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and Members of the
committee:

The Hawaii Laborers' Union supports the consideration and confirmation of
Mr. Bruce A. Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services,
State of Hawaii.

Mr. Coppa has a strong business background and understands deeply what it will take to
keep state government operating effectively especially with the operations of the
Information & Communication Services Division, the Accounting Division and a
working partnership with the State Procurement Offices. We believe that his knowledge
and many years of management experience in the construction industry and business in
general, will be an asset to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of Mr. Bruce Coppa.



INNOVATION
INTEGRITY
EXPERIENCE

January 24, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations & Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Mr. Bruce Coppa's Nomination to Director of DAGS

Honorable Will Espero:

As a principal of a business with over 150 employees in Hawaii, I was happy to learn that Mr. Bruce Coppa has been nominated by Governor Abercrombie to the position of Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services (DAGS). I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Coppa for many years when he was the Executive Director of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP). As the Executive Director of PRP, Mr. Coppa served as a critical link between unionized contractors like ourselves and the construction trade unions. He helped to build strong partnerships between management and labor that helped strengthen our construction industry in Hawaii for the long term.

Mr. Coppa brought twenty years of executive experience as a principal at EE Black (a commercial contractor) to his role at PRP. This has given him a well-rounded perspective on our industry. He understands our industry and the challenges facing both labor and management in these economic times.

Mr. Coppa's service in these various leadership roles have allowed him to form strong relationships with many of the decision-makers in our community, including developers, designers, contractors, union officials, and our elected representatives. He is widely respected in the community not only for his leadership, but also for serving as a volunteer on many boards for organizations that serve our community.

I strongly support Mr. Coppa's nomination as Director of DAGS based upon his knowledge of the design and construction industry, his demonstrated experience and leadership, and his willingness to serve our community. Please feel free to call me with any questions at 808.330.1030.

Sincerely,

SWINERTON BUILDERS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George S. Ehara", is written over the printed name and title below.

George S. Ehara
Vice President & Division Manager

Swinerton Builders

Pauahi Tower, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 1340, Honolulu, HI 96813

Tel: 808.521.8408 Fax: 808.521.8438 www.swinerton.com Hawaii Contractors License No. ABC-3753

CRUMPTON & HANSEN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Pioneer Plaza, Suite 1710
900 Fort Street Mall
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-3794

Telephone: (808) 599-9200

Facsimile: (808) 683-7020

Charles W. Crumpton

Direct Line: (808) 599-9201

Direct Fax: (808) 697-6691

E-mail: crumpton@chjustice.com

January 24, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Email senespero@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Senator Michelle Kidani
Vice-Chair, Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 17
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
E-mail senkidani@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: Bruce Coppa, Nominee as Director, Dept. of Accounting & General Services

Dear Chair/Senator Espero, Vice Chair/Senator Kidani and Committee Members:

Having practiced civil litigation, mediation and arbitration in Hawai'i for over 32 years, and having personally known Bruce Coppa for a number of years, and the professional and personal qualities he has consistently exhibited throughout that time, it is an honor and privilege to write in support of his nomination as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services ("DAGS"). With his twenty years of construction industry leadership experience, his MBA and his extensive experience in business, labor and the community generally, Bruce has distinguished himself in knowledge, integrity, fairness, honesty and skill in challenging private and public sector situations, and in his abilities as a negotiator and problem solver to resolve them justly, equitably and cost-effectively. He has shown solid dedication to public interests and public service, accessibility to and appreciation for diverse groups and individuals, and is widely and highly respected in the business community and government. His qualities and credibility will make his role and service as Director of DAGS particularly valuable and beneficial not only to that Department and those it serves, but to the community and State as well, in providing collaborative leadership attributes, fostering working relationships based upon mutual respect and benefit and evaluating and balancing competing interests fairly. Even in challenging, emotionally or politically charged situations, Bruce has consistently shown a professional demeanor, a sense of humor and a heart with the capacity for

Senator Will Espero
Senator Michelle Kidani
January 24, 2011
Page | 2

understanding and appreciation of those he encounters. He will bring honor, dignity and credit to DAGS and the State.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Crumpton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Charles W. Crumpton

CWC:lah

January 27, 2011

To: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair,
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations,
and Military Affairs

From: Jeff Bloom

Nomination of Bruce Coppa, Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Mr. Bruce Coppa. My name is Jeff Bloom and I have been very active locally in education and workforce development issues for over 25 years including owning a technology company in Hawaii for many of those years. During that time I have been a member of the Workforce Development Council (6 years), Board Member of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (6 years) and Enterprise Honolulu (4 years).

Over the last 20 years I have had the pleasure to work closely with Mr Coppa on a number of initiatives concerning both education and workforce development in his role as Board member of the Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise Honolulu.

I first met Mr Coppa when he was Executive Director of Pacific Resource Partnership and we worked together on the "School to Work" initiative. Since then we have worked together on many service projects and most recently created a program to match business mentors from the community with students involved in the DOE's "Senior Project" initiative. At the time, Mr Coppa was Chair of the Chamber's Education Committee.

As a local business owner for over 20 years I understand the difficult task of leadership and working with various stakeholders to transform ideas into tangible results for the betterment of the community. Mr Coppa has been extremely successful in producing results during his 25 plus years as an active leader in our state and I strongly support his nomination to be the Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services.

I respectfully ask for your confirmation of Mr. Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my comments.


Jeff Bloom

January 24, 2011

The Honorable Will Espero
Chairman
Public Safety, Government Operations
and Military Affairs Committee
Hawai'i State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 207
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

The Honorable Michelle Kidani
Vice-Chair
Public Safety, Government Operations
and Military Affairs Committee
Hawai'i State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Espero and Senator Kidani:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter to you in support of the nomination of Bruce Coppa to the position of Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I have known Bruce in a business setting for the past seven years and have found him to be an astute businessman of the highest integrity. His past years of experience in construction, business, and labor will be an asset to the department especially in the issuance of contracts.

Thank you for your consideration of Bruce Coppa's appointment by Governor Abercrombie.

Sincerely,



John Monahan

January 22, 2011

The Honorable Will Espero
Hawaii State Senate
Chair, Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Espero and Committee Members;

Subject: Letter in Strong Support of Bruce A. Coppa as DAGS Director

I am writing to strongly support the appointment of Mr. Bruce A. Coppa for the position of Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services. Bruce, with his extensive and varied work experience, is an excellent choice for DAGS Director.

My association with Bruce is primarily through mutual participation on non-profit organizations. We have worked extensively on education related matters at the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and on Hawaii 3Rs, an organization dedicated to the repair of public school facilities. Through those associations, I have come to know Bruce as an action oriented, community minded leader. He is deeply committed to making Hawaii a better place and that passion will serve him well as a public servant. Additionally, his understanding of construction and procurement related issues due to having worked for two decades in general contracting, makes him technically sound for the type of work he will be involved with at DAGS.

For all these reasons, I believe that Bruce will make an outstanding director and I urge you to confirm his appointment.

Aloha,

Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
95-1120 Kualapa Street
Mililani, HI 96789



MW Group, Ltd.
Real Estate Development

January 21, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations,
and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Recommendation of Bruce Coppa for Director of the Department of Accounting and
General Services

Dear Senator Espero,

It is without hesitation and with absolute pleasure that I recommend Mr. Bruce Coppa for the position of Director of Department of Accounting and General Services.

I experienced Mr. Coppa's leadership as Chair of the Board of Governors of The Plaza Club when he helped transition the Board and the Club through new ownership and extensive renovations. He was always organized, candid and efficient in all board meetings.

In addition, I have seen his creativity while he worked at Communications Pacific assisting our company in a variety of public relations matters.

Mr. Coppa's MBA, business experience, labor, and community leadership make him ideally suited for this position. He is an honest, hard working, creative and a determined leader who will do an excellent job in representing the State's interests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen B. Metter".

Stephen B. Metter
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Vice-Chair Senator Michelle Kidani
Bruce Coppa

Pioneer Plaza



DTRIC Insurance Company, Limited
1600 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1520
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-3801
(808) 951-1700
www.dtric.com

January 18, 2011

Honorable Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations,
and Military Affair Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Appointment of Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of
Accounting & General Services**

Dear Senator Espero:

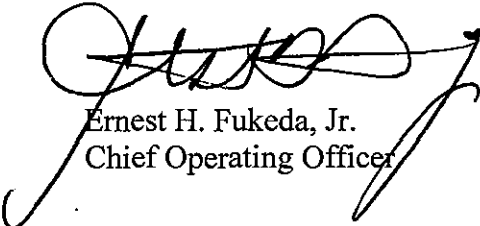
It is with great pride that I submit my highest recommendation to affirm the confirmation of Bruce Coppa to this prestigious post.

I have known Bruce for approximately 10 years and with each year, I have a growing appreciation of his business and community savvy that is driven with fairness and the betterment of all.

Over the years, Bruce has accumulated an amazing and successful background in business and with labor. To enhance this, he has the business academia (MBA) to support his creative nature to visualize a more global perspective and solution that will be fronting him. In addition, Bruce has the leadership qualities to articulate a clear direction with equally clear model to move any project forward, no matter the size nor complexity. Bruce consistently maintains a professional and level demeanor to ensure a win/win result for all parties. Finally, Bruce is the kind of person that gives his best to any and all of his commitments and I know he is committed to doing the best for the State of Hawaii.

It is my humble opinion that Bruce will bring fresh eyes, high energy, and a realistic outlook to all facets to the position. With this, I highly recommend his confirmation to this appointment.

Very truly yours,



Ernest H. Fukeda, Jr.
Chief Operating Officer

From: Dennis Francis [mailto:DFrancis@staradvertiser.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 10:33 AM
To: Sen. Will Espero
Subject: Bruce Coppa Confirmation

Dear Senator Espero,

I have known Bruce professionally and personally for nearly 20 years and believe he would serve the State of Hawaii honorably. I urge you to confirm his appointment as the Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services. Governor Abercrombie has made an excellent choice.

Aloha,

Dennis E. Francis

*President & Publisher
Honolulu Star-Advertiser
Direct: (808) 529-4702
Fax: (808) 545-4918*

Star  Advertiser



dck pacific construction, LLC
a dck worldwide company

building solutions

January 17, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Email: senespero@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Vice-Chair Senator Michelle Kidani
Senatorial District 17
Hawaii State Capital, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero and Senator Kidani:

RE: BRUCE COPPA

It is with great pleasure that I write you to support the nomination of Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services for the State of Hawaii.

I have known Bruce for two and one half years and first met him when he was an officer with Communications Pacific. He was quite helpful in providing me with a quick education on the status of the construction industry upon my arrival in Hawaii in 2008. Bruce's experience as an officer with E.E. Black and then with Pacific Resource Partnership has given him a wealth of knowledge of the dynamics of the construction industry that few people in Hawaii possess. Coupling this with his energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to the construction industry throughout his career, will serve him well as Director of DAGS. In addition, and not to be understated, Bruce has exhibited the utmost in sincerity and integrity in all his interactions with me. I cannot think of a better person to represent Hawaii as the Director of DAGS.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-533-5000 or email at rpeters@dckww.com.

Very truly yours,

dck pacific construction, LLC

Roger J. Peters
Executive V.P. & General Manager

RJP/ehc

January 11, 2011

Honourable Senator Will Espero

Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Honourable Senator Espero,

I am President of the Filipino-American-Multi-Ethnic-Society (FAMES) a 501(c-3) non-profit. Bruce is an Executive Advisor with FAMES. He has devoted many hours advising me in my capacity as President. In addition, Bruce has mentored FAMES members for free as part of the FAMES Mentorship Program (FMP). Bruce always found time to help others in need at FAMES. This meant sacrificing many hours. Not only did Bruce do this, he considered it an honor and privilege to serve and to mentor.

Bruce is a Leader and he inspires others. In May 2009, I first heard Bruce Coppa speak at FAMES. After that speech I was inspired to give back by doing community service.

He is an Inspiration to many in the Business community. I have introduced many people to Bruce Coppa and all of them are impressed with Bruce's work ethic, honesty, intelligence and humbleness. As accomplished as Bruce is, he remains down to earth. Accessible and easy to talk to are compliments I hear about Bruce all the time.

In the 1 and 1/2 years I have known Bruce Coppa, he has repeatedly devoted himself to public service in an unselfish way. Bruce Coppa will do a Great Job as Director of Accounting and General Services. Governor Abercrombie has chosen wisely.

I humbly ask you to confirm Bruce Coppa's nomination.

Sincerely,

Brodi Goshi
President FAMES 2011
808-533-6708
brodi54@hotmail.com

Norman M. Noguchi
2742 Laniloa Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

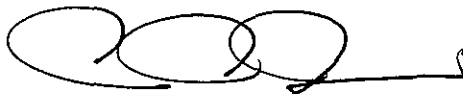
Vice-Chair Senator Michelle Kidani
Senatorial District 17
Hawaii State Capital, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators,

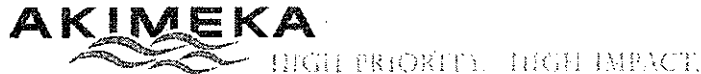
I am writing to you as a personal friend and business associate of Mr. Bruce Coppa who is subject to confirmation of his appointment by Governor Abercrombie to the position of Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services. I have known Mr. Coppa for over 10 years and support his nomination for the position. Over the years he has shown me to be a person of high integrity and moral character. He has over 20 years of experience in construction and labor relationships through his experience as Vice president of Operations of E.E. Black construction and involvement with many non profit organizations.

I feel that the Department and the State would truly benefit from an appointment of Mr. Coppa to this position.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Norman M. Noguchi



January 18, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman, Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawai'i State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero,

I am providing this memorandum of support to you as you consider the nomination of Mr. Bruce Coppa to the position of Director, Department of Accounting & General Services (DAGS).


I first met Bruce in 2001, and have been impressed with his record of achievements. He was a visible and ardent supporter of the Hawaii Pacific Resource Partnership. In follow-on positions with private industry and, in particular, the construction sector, he possessed innate skills to facilitate parties working together in a cohesive and effective manner.

As we fast forward to today's economy, it's critical to have someone who can transition the State's government contracting process, and I strongly believe Bruce can execute this mission. In particular, the process needs to be streamlined and simplified to facilitate more participation by our State's small businesses. The Hawai'i Procurement Institute (HPI) at the University of Hawai'i has laid the groundwork to establish a set-aside program for qualified small businesses – putting this practice in place for 2011 and beyond would be extremely beneficial in every County and our State.

Bruce is the right person to be the next Director of DAGS. He has my wholehearted support, and I trust you will feel the same after you've had an opportunity to review his qualifications and stand before your Committee to respond directly to your candid questions. He will provide forthright answers.

Please feel free to contact me if questions – my email is vaughn@akimeka.com and my direct line is 808.943.9545, ext. 11.

Me Ke Aloha,


Vaughn G. A. Vasconcellos
Chief Executive Officer

Akimeka, LLC | A Subsidiary of VSE Corporation
Corporate Headquarters: 1305 N. Holopono St., Ste. 3, Kīhei, HI 96753. t: 808.442.7100. f: 808.442.7140.
Honolulu Office: 1600 Kapiolani Blvd., Ste. 527, Honolulu, HI 96814. t: 808.943.9545. f: 808.944.3910.
San Antonio Office: 8610 Broadway, Ste. 250, San Antonio, TX 78217. t: 210.824.8477. f: 210.324.8366.
D.C. Office: 4501 Ford Ave., Ste. 310, Alexandria, VA 22302. t: 703.845.9010. f: 703.845.9014.
Florida Office: 901 N. Lake Destiny Dr., Ste. 151, Maitland FL, 32751. t: 407.875.2457. f: 407.875.3640.
Tampa Office: 500 N. Westshore Blvd., Ste. 405, Tampa, FL 33609. t: 813.341.4800. f: 813.341.4801.



Hawaii Employers' Mutual Insurance Company, Inc.

1003 Bishop Street
Suite 1000
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: 808-524-3642 ext. 201
Fax: 808-522-5510
e-mail: bdove@hemic.com

January 12, 2011

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Public Safety, Government Operations,
and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Public Safety, Government Operations,
and Military Affairs Committee,
Senatorial District 17
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senators Espero and Kidani:

I write this letter to support the confirmation of Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services. I have known and worked with Bruce for nearly fourteen years. I believe he is uniquely qualified to fill this very important position. Bruce was an original HEMIC At-Large-Director, elected by HEMIC's founding Board of Directors in 1996. This is testament to the trust and confidence that the Board had in Mr. Coppa during that critical stage. He served on the HEMIC Board for a total of nine years in leadership positions, including nearly four years as Board Chairman. His role on the HEMIC Board continued until term limits made him ineligible for re-election.

I have also served with Bruce on the Plaza Club Board of Governors where he ascended to Chair. This again gave me the opportunity to observe Bruce's dedication and commitment and his ability to lead.

During the entire fourteen years of our association I have observed the selfless service that Bruce has provided to numerous non-profits and other organizations within the Hawaii community. What I have admired most is his sincerity and diligence in representing those good causes. Some serve on boards and commissions to pad a resume. Bruce does so to make Hawaii a better place to live.

I speak of Bruce's extensive knowledge and expertise across the business and financial spectrum, his outstanding leadership skills, and his generosity to share his knowledge and time for the betterment of the community and the State of Hawaii from firsthand experience and observation.

Senators Espero and Kidani
January 12, 2011
Page two

As Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services, I am confident that Bruce Coppa will be a tremendous asset to the department and to the State. He is uniquely qualified for the position: credentialed with an MBA, and as a seasoned business executive with a deep knowledge base that encompasses construction, insurance, labor, and community. Specifically, a large part of the Director's responsibility is issuance of contracts, many of which include construction contracts. Bruce's life experience is a perfect fit for the position. He will hit the ground running.

For those reasons and more, I am honored to write this letter in support of his confirmation. He was a tremendous benefit to our Company and he will be a tremendous asset to this department and to the State of Hawaii. You are fortunate to have him.

Should you have any questions or need any further information from me, please feel free to contact me at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. Dove". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, prominent "D" at the end.

Robert L. Dove, CWCP, WCP
Chief Executive Officer

Testimony in Support of Bruce A. Coppa

As Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services

By Jim R. Yates

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Bruce A. Coppa, Governor Abercrombie's recent selection as Director of Accounting & General Services. My name is Jim R. Yates. I am president of Grace Pacific Corporation, CEO of Mid Pac Petroleum, LLC and chairman of the YMCA of Honolulu. I have been associated with Mr. Coppa for more than a decade and strongly support his appointment to this critical position.

Like many states, Hawaii faces daunting challenges to secure our future. Budget shortfalls, stagnant economies and increasing demands for public services demand decisive, often unpopular, decision making to ensure we weather this period and emerge stronger and more vibrant. I believe that Mr. Coppa's experience, as well as his personal style and convictions are tailor made for these demands.

Bruce possesses a relatively unique background, with extensive experience in business, with labor, and in government relations and community involvement. The balanced perspective and wealth of relationships this experience brings will be critical in assisting the administration's efforts to get Hawaii moving in a positive direction.

This position also requires a tough, no non-sense approach and the willingness to hold firm in the face of challenging opposition. In my experience, Bruce has consistently demonstrated these traits. While he is willing to listen and consider alternatives, he will not shrink from the responsibility to make a decision and defend it. Bruce speaks his mind and will maintain his convictions to ensure that fiscally responsible decisions are made.

Much of my personal experience with Bruce has been in his community involvement. I have served with him on the board of the YMCA of Honolulu for many years and have observed his community contributions in a variety of other non-profit organizations. His aloha for this state and belief in giving back is tangibly demonstrated in his personal involvement on many fronts.

I strongly urge this committee and the full senate to act quickly in confirming Bruce A. Coppa as Hawaii's next Director of Accounting & General Services. Should you have question or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

January 16, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Email senespero@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senator Espero:

I am writing in support of Bruce Coppa for Director of Accounting and General Services.

I have know Mr Coppa for over 10 years and find him to have great knowledge in the field of Business, Finance and Management. I have worked along side him on several projects and found his management style to be motivating and fun, tough but fair, task oriented and driven by great values and vision. Further more his integrity and honesty makes him a model citizen for this great State of Hawaii.

Please confirm Mr. Coppa.

If I maybe of help in any way, do not hesitate to call me at 216-2386 or email at Johnaeto@hawaii.rr.com.

Mahalo,

John K S Aeto
President
Hiki No CC

cc: file
B Coppa

LYLE S. HOSODA & ASSOCIATES, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

345 Queen Street, Suite 804 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: 524-3700 ♦ Facsimile: 524-3838

LyLe S. Hosoda

Raina P.B. Mead
Kevin T. Morikone

January 14, 2011

Via E-Mail: senespero@Capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Senator Will Espero
Chairman, Public Safety, Government Operations,
Military Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: **Bruce Coppa Appointment as Director DAGS**

Dear Senator Espero:

It was my pleasure to meet and sit with you at the Kumu Kahua fundraiser last year and to hear about your exciting experience on the aircraft carrier during the battle exercises in the Pacific. I humbly and respectfully submit this letter in support of Bruce Coppa to be appointed and serve as Director of the State Department of Accounting & General Services ("DAGS"). I make this recommendation wholeheartedly and without reservation.

I have known Bruce since 1986. At the time Bruce was the Vice President of Operations for the general construction firm E. E. Black. I had just passed the Hawaii bar and begun my law practice. Bruce and I were initial and founding members of a group of professionals that met once a month to network regarding community, social, political, economic issues confronting our State of Hawaii. That group continued to meet formally every month for at least 5 years or so.

Since that time, Bruce and I have remained friends and in communication. We have lunch a few times a year, play golf about once or twice a year, and have a professional relationship as well. Through all of these interactions and contacts, I have had the opportunity to observe, evaluate and form opinions about Bruce:

The Honorable Senator Wil Espero
January 14, 2011
Page Two

He is a person of high integrity and credibility, and a person of, and true to, his word. I do not know too many others in our community that are as committed to our State and our community. Bruce sits on a record number of community Boards. As far as I know, he is not compensated for any of this work. He has given freely of his time and energy. He is definitely committed to our State.

Bruce is a natural leader. He is a team player and gets along well with people. He is intelligent and a decision-maker. In my opinion, the State of Hawaii will be very fortunate to have Bruce in a leadership position such as DAGS.

I am available and would be happy to discuss my recommendation and support for Bruce further.

Aloha,



Lyle S. Hosoda

Castle & Cooke
Hawai'i

Harry A. Saunders
President

100 Kahehu Avenue
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789-3997
P.O. Box 898900
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789-8900
O'ahu: (808) 548-4811 • Fax (808) 548-2980
Lana'i: (808) 565-3000 • Fax (808) 565-3312

January 10, 2011

Senator Will Espero, Chair, and
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Public Safety, Government Operations and
Military Affairs Committee
Hawai'i State Senate
Hawai'i State Capitol Room 207
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Senate Public Safety,
Government Operations and Military Affairs Committee:

Subject: ***Consideration and Confirmation of Bruce A. Coppa as Director of the
Department of Accounting and General Services***

I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Bruce A. Coppa as Director of the
Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS).

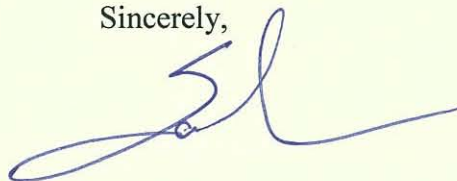
Mr. Coppa is a rare find for government service with his private sector background
and willingness to commit his very best to the task at hand. With 20 years of experience as
the Vice President of Operations of E. E. Black construction, previous Executive Director of
The Pacific Resource Partnership and an MBA in Business Administration, his experience in
business and labor provides unique perspective and insight that would benefit the DAGS.

Mr. Coppa's experience, intelligence and integrity make him a strong and viable
nominee for the Director of DAGS.

We respectfully request your consideration and urge you to approve his nomination.

Please contact me at 548-4863 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,





Hawaii Chapter
1451 South King Street, PH-504
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Tel: 808-973-2155
Interisland: 1-800-272-5240
Fax: 808-973-2160
Email: chernandez@marchofdimes.com

January 7, 2011

Senator Will Espero Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Vice-Chair Senator Michelle Kidani
Senatorial District 17
Hawaii State Capital, Room 228
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero and Senator Kidani,

Please accept my sincere support for the appointment of Bruce A. Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services.

Bruce has been a respected member of the March of Dimes Hawaii Chapter Board since 2005 and Chairman of the Board for the last 3 years. Bruce wholeheartedly supports our mission to improve the health of our keiki.

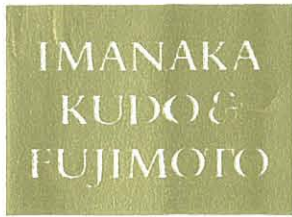
Since becoming our chairman in 2008, Bruce has worked to increase the effectiveness of our board by recruiting high level business and community leaders. His hard work and dedication to bringing in the right people for the job has resulted in our chapter's revenue growth increasing by more than 30% from 2007 to 2010 with a modest 8% increase in expenses. His dedication and leadership have been invaluable and is continually demonstrated through the personal annual gifts he makes to the March of Dimes as well his ongoing involvement and help with our fundraising and program activities in the community.

It is always a pleasure to work with Bruce and I know first hand that you won't find a more earnest, loyal, hard-working or fair-minded person. His 20 plus years of experience as Vice President of Operations for E.E. Black Construction, holding an MBA in Business Administration and his experience as a business leader in our community is sure to be a benefit to the State of Hawaii. You can be assured that Bruce is the kind of person who will carry out his duties honorably and to the best of his ability. Thank you for taking the time to consider my support for Bruce Coppa.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmella" followed by a stylized, elongated flourish.

Carmella Hernandez
State Director



A Limited Liability Law Company

January 10, 2011

Mitchell A. Imanaka
Benjamin A. Kudo
Wesley M. Fujimoto
Jon M.H. Pang
Richard T. Asato, Jr.
Naomi U. Kuwaye

Chairperson Will Espero and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Appointment and Confirmation of Bruce Coppa, Director of the
Department of Accounting and General Services

Nikki T. Senter
Ryan E. Sanada
Nina L. Takamori
Owen T. Iida
Yuko Funaki

Chairperson Espero:

I humbly ask for your support and the support of your Committee members in considering the appointment of Mr. Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services, State of Hawaii.

I have known Bruce for ten years and can speak to his good character, veracity, trustworthiness and competence for the position and role he has been nominated for. Bruce is a person of high integrity and sincerity in his commitment to make Hawaii a better place for all. Over the past few years, he has assisted the State Department of Education in developing programs that have addressed the educational needs of young people. He was, in fact, recently honored for this contribution at the last annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce in Honolulu.

Bruce is an active participant in non-profit organizations such as the East West Center Foundation and Hawaii Humane Society. He believes in giving back to the community and has demonstrated this by being involved and chairing various charitable causes.

His extensive background in construction and community relations give Bruce a working knowledge of State construction projects and related issues. As our uncertain economic situation faces our government leaders, his work experience with Pacific Resources (Carpenters Union) provides him with a diverse perspective and empathy for the problems facing our construction industry and joblessness.

Of Counsel
R. Brian Tsujimura
Perfecto R. Yasay, Jr. *
* admitted to practice only in
New York and Philippines,
Former Chairman
Securities and Exchange
Commission, Republic of the
Philippines
Hon. Mario R. Ramil
Former Associate Justice
Hawaii Supreme Court

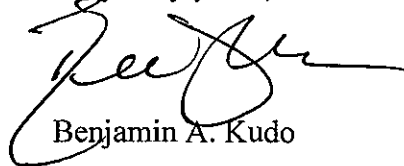
TOPA Financial Center
Fort Street Tower
745 Fort Street Mall, 17th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 521-9500
Facsimile: (808) 541-9050
info@imanakakudo.com

Chairperson Will Espero and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs
Page 2
January 10, 2011

Based on the foregoing, I highly recommend your favorable consideration of Mr. Bruce Coppa for the above position. He is a person who will get the job done at a time when our State economy needs revitalization, cost control and effective leadership in government service.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benjamin A. Kudo', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Benjamin A. Kudo

BAK:lyk



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

January 11, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chair, Public Safety, Government Operations &
Military Affairs Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Nomination of Bruce A. Coppa, Director, Department of Accounting &
General Services

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Dear Senator Espero & Vice Chair Kidani,

I write in strong support of Bruce A Coppa's nomination as Director, Department of Accounting & General Services (DAGS) and urge the Committee to recommend his confirmation to the full Senate.

I have known Mr. Coppa for approximately ten (10) years and have worked closely with him on a number of matters. As the former Director of the State Judiciary, I also worked closely with the Director of DAGS. So, I have a clear sense of what heading that Department requires. Bruce has the work knowledge, professional experience and personal attributes to be an outstanding Director of DAGS.

As the former Vice President of Operations of E.E. Black Construction, and with his extensive experience in labor, business and the community at large, Bruce clearly has the substantive knowledge needed to head DAGS. As for his personal attributes, Bruce is bright, hard working, ethical and caring. He knows and understands Hawaii. He has an entrepreneurial spirit, and is constantly thinking creatively—I would describe him as a visionary, but with a pragmatic sense of what needs to be done and how to do it. Just as important, Bruce has a great sense of humor, and a unique ability to keep things in perspective, certainly essential traits when running one of our State's largest departments.

If I can answer any questions about my extensive experience working with Mr. Coppa, I would be delighted to do so. He has my unequivocal, and strongest, support.

Thank you.

Michael F. Broderick
President & CEO
YMCA of Honolulu

YMCA OF HONOLULU

1441 Pali Highway, Honolulu HI 96813
P 808 531 YMCA F 808 533 1286 www.ymcahonolulu.org

JIM R. YATES, Chairman, Board of Directors
MICHAEL F. BRODERICK, President & Chief Executive Officer





1907 South Beretania Street
Artesian Plaza, Suite 400
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96826 USA
Phone: 808-946-2277
FAX: 808-946-2253
www.wilsonokamoto.com

January 10, 2011

Senator Will Espero, Chairman
Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capital, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Letter of Support for Mr. Bruce Coppa
State Department of Accounting & General Services, Director
Senate Confirmation Hearing

Honorable Senator Espero:

Happy New Year!

I am writing in support of Mr. Bruce Coppa's appointment as the Director of the State Department of Accounting & General Services.

Mr. Coppa is a proven leader who knows the local community well. His primary strength is a genuine interest in working with people and helping people. He has over 30 years of quality experience in land use planning, design, and construction in Hawaii. His experience is very diverse, providing him with a unique perspective of growth and development in Hawaii.

He is visionary, yet very practical in understanding how to implement a strategy or plan, step by step to achieve a desired goal. He is an excellent communicator, straightforward and candid.

Very importantly, Mr. Coppa is a team builder and mentor. He has the ability to work collaboratively with a wide variety of people with disparate views to build trust and consensus. He is able to size up a difficult or complex situation, and get to the heart of the matter very quickly. Having worked with him in both business and non-profit venues, I know that he is very resourceful, and an "out of the box" thinker.

Although Mr. Coppa is well established in the business community, he is even more passionate about community service and volunteers huge amounts of time sharing his leadership skills with a broad spectrum of non-profit organizations. When Mr. Coppa was the Chairman of the Board for the Hawaii 3R's Program,



Letter to Senator Will Espero, Chairman
Page 2
January 10, 2011

I was the President of the Noelani School PTA Board, and was able to see first hand, his enthusiasm and energy for a cause he believed in. He encouraged us and provided guidance and direction to realize the benefits for our school and many other schools throughout the State.

I know that Mr. Coppa has the leadership skills, character, and energy to help this new administration make positive changes and to make a difference in Hawaii's future. I believe he will be an excellent Director for the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Please call me if you have any questions, or if I could be of any further help to you.

Sincerely,

WILSON OKAMOTO CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Gary T. Okamoto".

Gary T. Okamoto, President

cc: Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chairman



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 4, 2010

TO: **CHAIRMAN WILL ESPERO**
State Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations
and Military Affairs, Hawaii State Capitol Room 231

RE: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
NOMINATION OF MR. BRUCE COPPA AS DIRECTOR OF
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING & GENERAL SERVICES**

Honorable Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the State Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs,

It is my pleasure to humbly offer my support for the confirmation of Mr. Bruce Coppa's nomination as Director of the State Department of Accounting & General Services. It would be difficult to think of a better or more balanced choice than this nominee for such an important position.

I have been fortunate to know Mr. Coppa 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 Mr. Coppa has consistently impressed me and others over the years with his thoughtful and ethical demeanor during difficult situations and circumstances.

Mr. Coppa is relied on by 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, commitment, and contribution of in-depth knowledge on relevant issues will be a tremendous asset to the Governor, the State Legislature, and to the State Department of Accounting & General Services.

I strongly urge you to support Mr. Coppa'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



Kiewit
Building Group

January 5, 2011

The Honorable Senator Will Espero
Chairperson
Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Confirmation of Bruce Coppa as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services

Dear Chairperson Espero and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs:

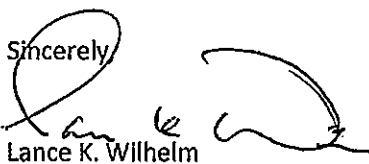
My name is Lance Wilhelm, Sr. Vice President of Kiewit Building Group Inc. I submit this testimony in strong support of Bruce Coppa's appointment as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services by Governor Abercrombie and I do so with the utmost confidence that he will be a worthy addition to this most important state office.

In the years that I have known Bruce, I have found him to be a diligent, compassionate and capable leader who possesses the intelligence and technical knowledge relevant to managing the department's various state programs and activities and implementing public policy.

Integrity and uprightness portray his character. You can always count on Bruce to be open, honest and to stand by his commitments.

In all of his various responsibilities, as a business leader and community volunteer, Bruce has also demonstrated a sense of fairness, common sense and good judgment. His strong consensus-building skills will also prove to be invaluable.

It is because of these traits that I am confident that Bruce Coppa will be a great asset to our State as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services and our community.

Sincerely

Lance K. Wilhelm

January 5, 2011

The Honorable Senator Will Espero
Chairman, Public Safety, Government Operations
and Military Affairs Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairman Espero:

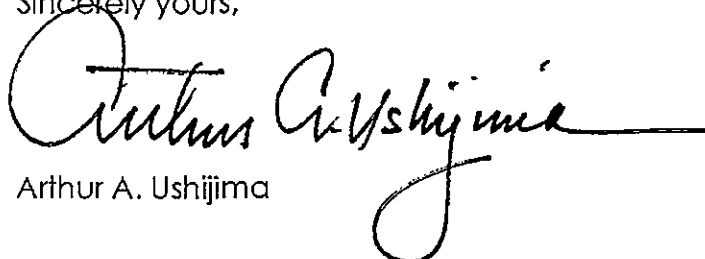
Re: Letter of Support for Bruce A. Coppa, Director,
Department of Accounting & General Services

I would like to offer support for the appointment of Mr. Bruce A. Coppa for the position of Director, Department of Accounting & General Services (DAGS). I have known Mr. Coppa for approximately fifteen years when he was the CEO of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) and later in his role as Chief Operating Officer of Communications Pacific. In the mid-1990's I worked with him on a project to promote the development of biotechnology in Hawaii when he headed PRP. I later worked with him on a number of projects involving community building as a client of Communications Pacific.

Mr. Coppa is a very capable and talented executive. He has broad management experiences in the construction industry as a former vice president of E.E. Black Construction; in labor and in the business community. He has also worked extensively with governmental agencies. He has a solid grasp of business operations and will provide supportive leadership to DAGS. He is fair-minded and honest. He is a clear-thinker and deals with people in a no-nonsense, straightforward manner. He also has a great sense of humor to lighten tensions, when needed.

I humbly ask for your favorable consideration of Mr. Coppa's appointment as the Director, Department of Accounting & General Services. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur A. Ushijima

From: Sen. Will Espero
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 8:46 AM
To: Ruth Limtiaco
Subject: FW: Support for Bruce Coppa Appointment

From: Ruth Limtiaco [<mailto:ruthl@thelimtiacompany.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 9:46 AM
To: Sen. Will Espero
Subject: Support for Bruce Coppa Appointment

Dear Senator Espero:

It is with great enthusiasm that I support the nomination of Bruce Coppa to the position of Director, Department of Accounting and General Services. It is refreshing to see a person with such extensive experience in the business community be assigned the important tasks under the purview of this department, particularly the orderly and expeditious administration of contracts. We are sorely in need of someone with private sector experience to enliven this department. My solid support stands behind Mr. Coppa.

Yours truly,

Ruth Limtiaco

Ruth Limtiaco
Chief Executive Officer | The Limtiaco Company
928 Nuuanu Ave., Penthouse, Honolulu, HI 96817
www.TheLimtiacoCompany.com

Office: 808.535.9099 ext 101 | fax: 808.535-9091
Email: RuthL@TheLimtiacoCompany.com



Sen. Will Espero

From: John Henry Felix [felix@hmaahawaii.com]
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 12:08 PM
To: Sen. Will Espero
Subject: *****SPAM***** Bruce Coppa's appointment as Director of DAGS.

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kodani and Committee Members, I am pleased to submit my unqualified support for the confirmation of Bruce Coppa as Director of DAGS. He has the academic credentials, having earned an MBA and extensive business experience, particularly in the construction and communications industries, to capably discharge his responsibilities as Director of DAGS. I have worked closely with Bruce for approximately a decade in various business and charitable activities and have always been impressed with his work ethic and commitment to excellence.

Please feel free to contact me should you desire any additional information on Bruce Coppa.

Respectfully submitted,
John Henry Felix

From: alan oshima [mailto:alanoshima@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 9:21 AM

To: Sen. Will Espero

Subject: Bruce Coppa Confirmation

Happy New Year, Senator. I am writing in support of the confirmation of Bruce Coppa as the Director of Accounting & General Services. I have known Bruce for over fifteen years as a dedicated community and business leader. Bruce is ethical and hard-working. As one of the founders and Chair of Hawaii 3Rs, Bruce has used his background in construction management and community affairs to help the non-profit to achieve its mission of leveraging government and private funds with volunteer labor and supplies to repair, remodel and refurbish our public schools. Bruce has served with me as a member of the board of the YMCA of Honolulu and has been the able chair of our facilities committee for many years. He has also served on many other community organizations. I trust Bruce to do what's right for Hawaii. He is collaborative in his approach to problem solving and is willing to "roll up his sleeves" to get the job done. I humbly ask for your favorable consideration of his appointment. I am willing to provide further testimony or answer questions if asked. Mahalo, Alan

From: Patt Steiner [mailto:patt@vsadvisors.com]
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 3:33 PM
To: Sen. Will Espero
Cc: 'bruce coppa'
Subject: Bruce Coppa: written testimony

To: Senator Will Espero Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee

Dear Senator Espero,

Please consider this email as submittal of written testimony in favor of nomination of Bruce Coppa, for the position as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services by Governor Abercrombie.

I have worked with Bruce for the past 5 years in conjunction with The Economic Development Board (A.K.A. Enterprise Honolulu). I have also worked with him on projects dealing with his most recent position as COO of Communications Pacific. During this time, Mr. Coppa has demonstrated superior depth of understanding and analysis of the issues he works with. He has shown exceptional abilities in negotiation and problem solving. He has a deep caring and concern for the people and issues that Hawaii faces today.

I have benefited from working with Mr. Coppa as have the many organizations to which he contributes. He will be an asset to Governor Abercrombie and his cabinet.

I give Bruce my strongest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Patricia Steiner
President



www.vsadvisors.com
808.292.0655

P.O. Box 1780
Kailua, HI 96734

From: Kim Scoggins [mailto:kim@colliershawaii.com]
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 9:38 AM
To: Sen. Will Espero
Subject: Bruce Coppa

Senator Espero: I have known Mr. Coppa for approximately 20 years, and dealt with him in his efforts to contribute to the community and in business. He is well experienced and straight forward in his dealings, and the State of Hawaii would be privileged to have him serve. My recommendation is strongly in favor of his approval. Please call me directly should you have any questions.

Kim F. Scoggins (B)*
Vice President | Retail & Investment Services Group
www.colliers.com/Kim.Scoggins

Colliers Monroe Friedlander
220 South King Street, Suite 1800
Honolulu, HI 96813
808 524 2666 - Tel
808 523 9762 - Direct
808 521 0977 - Fax
kim@colliershawaii.com

www.colliershawaii.com
Our Knowledge is your Property

***President, Rokit, Inc., exclusively contracted to Colliers Monroe Friedlander, Inc.**

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Brandon Young
98-1891 Kaahumanu Street
Aiea, HI 96701
January 7, 2011

Senator Will Espero
Chairman Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee
Senatorial District 20
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero:

I am a long-time resident of our state, and I am writing to express my full support for the pending decision to confirm Mr. Bruce Coppa as the Director of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Mr. Coppa brings diversity through his background as the Vice President of Operations at E. E. Black Construction, an MBA in business and experience in the labor, business and community to deliver the necessary leadership of the position.

He demonstrates tremendous character through his commitment to developing personal relationships with individuals and businesses. Mr. Coppa has positively impacted me by doing what he says with integrity. He has taken the time to personally see to it that others have the tools and skills to succeed.

There is no doubt that Mr. Bruce Coppa will be the best Director at the Department of Accounting & General Services.

Sincerely,

Brandon Young

From: Larry.Rodriguez@centralpacificbank.com [mailto:Larry.Rodriguez@centralpacificbank.com]
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 12:13 PM
To: Sen. Will Espero
Subject: Nomination of Bruce Coppa
Importance: High

Senator Will Espero, Chairman
Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Committee

Dear Senator Espero:

I am providing this letter on behalf of Bruce Coppa in support of his recent nomination as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services. I have known Bruce for over 15 years, both as a friend and as members of our business community. I had the pleasure of working with Bruce when he was with Communications Pacific, and I have worked with him in his capacity as a volunteer of several non-profit organizations, such as the Hawaiian Humane Society and the YMCA. He is highly intelligent and very involved in community activities.

I can tell you without reservation that from an integrity and professional ethics viewpoint, Bruce meets the highest standards for qualification for this position. He has balanced his personal and professional life with the highest degree of commitment to his responsibilities. I believe our community would be well served by his appointment as Director of the Department of Accounting & General Services. I support his nomination by Governor Abercrombie and would like to provide any comments to you and/or any of the legislative committees to support his appointment.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence (Larry) D. Rodriguez
Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer
Central Pacific Bank
220 South King Street, 22nd Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 544-3553
Fax: (808) 532-5092

Testimony By: Alicia Maluafiti, Owner – Lo’ihi Communications

GM 514 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, Bruce Coppa.

The Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs
Thursday, February 17, 2011
Room 224, 2:45 p.m.

Position: Strong Support

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committee:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti and I am a small business owner testifying in strong support of the confirmation of Bruce Coppa as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I’ve had the honor of getting to know Bruce during his tenure as Government Affairs Chair for the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii in which I found him to be a great leader, committed to the principles and values that contribute to a strong economy but open to ideas, observations and perspectives that may differ from his own. He brings a wealth of skills sets, knowledge and work experience through his past positions at Pacific Resource Partnership and Communications Pacific and even has an appreciation for the small business owner and the risks involved with that work after he started his own consulting firm.

Bruce Coppa will be a great addition to Governor Abercrombie’s cabinet. He has demonstrated a great understanding and appreciation of the need to balance all needs and all sectors to support our state’s economic recovery. His openness and communication style embraces people at all levels of business and government. I believe that this type of balance is critically necessary as DAGS addresses the operational needs of government through their many programs and projects which require ongoing collaboration with the private sector. I believe Bruce has the strengths to be able to bridge any potential divide and work effectively with all sides of the aisle.

Mahalo for the privilege of supporting the appointment of Bruce Coppa.

George M. Waialeale

910 Kapahulu Avenue #703

Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

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February 17, 2011

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 514 **CONFIRMATION OF BRUCE COPPA**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee Bruce A. Coppa, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Bruce Coppa brings many talents and experiences to the position of Comptroller of the State of Hawaii. I was first introduced to Bruce by Walter Kupau. Walter informed me that Bruce will be the person, who will bring the contractors and Carpenter's Union closer together to work as a team. Walter saw great talent in Bruce and a great future.

In the years that have past Bruce has branched out and worked in different fields of business. I have had the opportunity to work with Bruce on different projects. He is a person who leads by example. He is usually there early and is the last to leave.

Bruce is a trained carpenter and can swing the hammer with the best of them. He has never been afraid of hard work. He will bring to the job of Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services these work ethics.

In these troubled times Bruce Coppa is the man for the job as Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I ask for your confirmation of Bruce Coppa as Comptroller.

Mahalo,

George M. Waialeale



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government
Operations, and Military Affairs
Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 224, State Capitol**

**RE: GM 514 SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION
TO THE COMPTROLLER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, BRUCE A.
COPPA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 1, 2014**

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jim Tollefson and I am the President and CEO of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber"). I am here to state The Chamber's support of the confirmation of Mr. Bruce Coppa to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services position.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,100 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Prior to being appointed to the position, Mr. Coppa served on the Chamber's Board of Directors and most recently Chair-Elect. He also dedicated much of his time as chair of the Chamber's Education Committee. Through his efforts and leadership, the Chamber formed a private-public partnership with the Department of Education's Senior Projects program in helping to provide mentors from the business community to high school seniors.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Coppa has also devoted much of his time towards community service by serving on various non-profit boards as well as to public service through boards and commissions, including those relating to land use and education. His contributions have made a significant difference and a positive impact in these arenas.

We have the utmost confidence that Mr. Coppa will serve with a high level of leadership, professionalism, integrity, incredible problem-solving skills, and a "can do" attitude.

We respectfully ask that the committee pass GM 514. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

TESTIMONY
OF
BRUCE A. COPPA
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS
ON
February 17, 2011

G.M. 514

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services, Gubernatorial Nominee, BRUCE A. COPPA, for a term to expire December 1, 2014.

Chair Espero and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I want to thank Governor Neil Abercrombie for nominating me. I truly consider this an honor and a privilege to be considered as the Comptroller for the Department of Accounting and General Services.

I want to also extend a warm mahalo to everyone that submitted letters of support on my behalf and to everyone here in attendance lending me their support and aloha.

My 36 years in Hawaii have been the best years of my life. I am deeply grateful for the many friends and families who have guided me in my personal and business career. I have had two mentors who I owe a tremendous amount of aloha and mahalo to. First, Mr. Bob Black, President and Owner of E.E. Black Construction, who taught me the basic rules of business and second, Mr. Walter Kapau, Business Manager, Hawaii Carpenters Union, who instilled in me the meaning of hard work and living by your word. Both of these men constantly remind me of my role to always give back to the community and to the people of Hawaii. I took this advice to heart and am proud to say it is part of my everyday life as I volunteer many hours to non-profits and public schools.

I feel strongly that executive level positions such as the Comptroller requires strong leadership and administrative skills rather than technical skills and also a generalist point of view rather than a specialist or narrow focus.

I know the diversity of my work experience in executive level positions I have held, has provided me with the qualifications required to lead the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) as its Comptroller. For five years, I was Chief Operations Officer of Communications Pacific, served eleven years for the joint trust fund

program for the Hawaii Carpenters Union and unionized contractors, and I served 18 years as Vice President of Operations, Marketing/Planning at E.E. Black Construction.

My vision for DAGS is to be able to provide quality service to the public with reliability, flexibility, responsiveness, and innovation. We can accomplish this by creating and enriching the environment through trust, cooperation, and mutual respect of our employees and customers.

There are many challenges facing us as a State. While we might not be able resolve all these issues, you have my commitment that I will always have the public's best interesting in mind and in my heart.

In closing, I would like to thank this Committee for the hard work you do for the State of Hawaii and for giving me the opportunity to be here today. Thank you for considering my nomination. Again, thank you to everyone who submitted testimony on my behalf and to those who are here supporting me today.

At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

The Honorable Will Espero
Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Affairs, and Military Affairs
State Capitol, Room 231
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: G.M. 514

Dear Senator Espero,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on my assessment of the Department of Accounting and General Services and myself. Your questions and my responses follow.

1. A description of your experience in the field of Comptroller, or any related field.

The office of the comptroller is responsible for managing a wide and diverse range of State programs including accounting, archives, audit, central services (building maintenance and repairs), public works (planning design, and construction of new and major renovations to public buildings), land survey, information communications services, and nine attached agencies.

I feel that the diversity of my work experience and positions at the executive level for the organizations I led provide me with the qualifications required to lead the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS). Executive level positions such as Comptroller require leadership skills rather than technical skills and generalist rather than specialist. This is especially true in DAGS. My work experience and positions I've held are as follows:

- a. Chief Operating Officer, Communications Pacific; For five years I was responsible for leading the development and implementation of cost reduction initiatives in the purchasing of goods and services for the Information Technology department and the Accounting department this included process improvements in financial reporting, job costing, and tracking of material costs for equipment and labor.
- b. Executive Director, Hawaii Carpenters Union; Served eleven years for the joint trust fund program for the Hawaii Carpenters Union and unionized contractors whose specific goals included promoting public awareness and

support of quality construction, labor-management teamwork on workplace issues and regulatory fairness.

c. Vice President of Operations, Marketing/Planning, E.E, Black Construction; Served 18 years and as vice president, was responsible for:

1. Coordination of schedules, resources and budgets
2. Start up and operations of ten locations overseas. The development of the operations ranged from all aspects from budgeting and accounting to construction operations in foreign countries or trust territories (Wake Island, Pohnpei, and Kosrae). Also included was the development of plans to move equipment and materials to the South Pacific.
3. Development and implementation of standard operating procedures
4. Deployment of manpower and equipment to maximize their efficiency in each location.
5. Accurately identifying cost per job of materials and equipment.
6. Management supervision of project teams
7. Employee job and OSHA safety training
8. Development of organizational goals and objectives
9. Design and implementation of marketing programs
10. Member of management team negotiating on various collective bargaining contracts with carpenters, operating engineers, laborers and other unions.

2. *An assessment of your strengths and weaknesses:*

Strengths

- a. Communicates well with employees and customers to understand their needs and concerns
- b. Believe in empowering staff to make decisions and communicate those decisions
- c. Believe in face to face meetings to resolve issues
- d. Proactive rather than reactive
- e. Create an environment of cooperation rather than adversity

Weaknesses

- a. Big picture, don't relish details
- b. Formal attire (shirt and tie)

3. *An assessment of the department/agency strengths and weaknesses. Please include an explanation of how the department/agency's strengths may be best utilized, as well as how the department/agency's weaknesses may be improved.*

The department's main strength is its employees. These employees are committed to fulfilling the mission of their programs and department. Even in light of the staffing reductions the department has taken, employees make every

effort to meet their customer needs. They are extremely resourceful in developing alternatives to achieve satisfactory performance. The department also has well qualified staff in the technical areas of engineering, building management, procurement, accounting, and computers. With the level of expertise especially in engineering and accounting, these programs are resource specialists in these areas. I am fortunate to have the opportunity to be director of a department which has employees who are committed to their jobs and retain technical skill.

The department has one weakness which stands out and that is staffing. The 25 percent reduction in general funded positions over the past two years and the previous administration's reluctance to approve the filling of vacancies has left the department staff struggling to maintain satisfactory operations. Some programs such as the Information Communications Services Division lost over 30 percent of its authorized staff as a result of the reduction in force. We will be requesting to add staff back in this division and are pursuing with approval to fill our vacant positions with the Governor to bring our resource level to our authorized level.

4. *An overall vision for the department/agency, specifically what goals can be accomplished within the next four years and what types of annual benchmarks can be used to evaluate the department/agency's progress towards those goals;*

My vision for the department is to be able to provide quality service with reliability, flexibility, responsiveness, and innovation. We can accomplish this by creating an enriching the environment of trust, cooperation and mutual respect with our employees and customers.

In the next four years there are several goals that can be accomplished.

- a. The highest priority is commencing, completing, and implementing with the IT strategic plan including the long range plan for ICSD. Key benchmarks for this goal is hiring a Chief Information Officer (CIO) by July 2011 and completion of the IT strategic plan by July 2013.
- b. Create a plan and establish a direction for Aloha Stadium. The objective of the plan and direction is to determine whether to renovate the Aloha Stadium or construct a new venue. The Governor has asked for an advisory panel to provide him with a clear direction addressing strategic and financial aspects for the future of the stadium. The benchmarks for this goal is to convene the advisory panel, submit the advisory panel's recommendation to Governor by the end of 2011, and implement the plan in the following three years.
- c. Renovate and restore the states buildings that are unoccupied. As an example, the Kamamalu Building has been empty for 8 years. My goal is to renovate this building and move state employees currently in leased space to this building thus reducing space rented from the private sector and leveraging the facilities we own. Key benchmarks will be to obtain funding to commence this renovation project in FY 2012 and occupy the building at the end of fourth year or FY 2015.

5. *The department/agencies top budgetary priority for the biennium;*

The department's top budgetary priorities for the biennium can be summarized as follows:

- a. Operating Budget; The three key priorities are to obtain funding for the reapportionment process (\$441,000), staffing for ICSD (14 positions and \$552,000 annually), and staffing for the State Procurement Office (7 positions and \$278,000 annually)
- b. Capital Budget; CIP funding of approximately \$140 million in the biennium for staff costs (\$7.3 million), renovate Kamamalu Building (\$26 million), public building repair (\$47 million), Aloha Stadium repairs to address health and safety issues (\$23 million), ICSD health and safety communication initiatives (\$16 million), energy conservation projects (\$9 million) and other initiatives.

6. *An assessment of the department/agency staff's morale, including the turnover rate for personnel.*

My assessment of the departments staff morale is overall fair. The cuts to staff in prior years, the furlough days and the lack of management to involve staff in decision making has contributed to this assessment.

The turnover at DAGS is minimal, but we do have many employees who are able to retire and 37 did retire last year (previously, less than 20 retired annually).

I look forward to meeting and answering any questions you and your committee may have on my responses. Please call me in advance of the meeting at 586-0400 should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Bruce A. Coppa