

GM539

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AILEEN WADA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Report Title: Real Estate Commission

Description:

Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
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www.hawaii.gov/dcca

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

EVERETT KANESHIGE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Wednesday, March 30, 2011
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 539

WRITTEN ONLY

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Keali'i S. Lopez, and I am the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA" or the "Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 539, regarding the appointment of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission ("Commission"). The Department supports Ms. Wada's appointment and respectfully requests that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to her appointment to the Commission.

I have spoken with Ms. Wada regarding her candidacy for appointment to the Commission, and based on my discussion with Ms. Wada, I believe that she possesses the qualifications, background, and experiences to serve on the Commission, and to

contribute in a positive and constructive manner on matters that will come before the Commission.

Ms. Wada has been active in Hawaii's real estate industry for the past 32 years. She has been a real estate licensee in Hawaii since 1978. Ms. Wada has been employed with Prudential Locations, LLC throughout her career, serving in the positions of Associate Partner, Manager, and Partner over the years. She also has attained the designation of Broker (B) and Graduate Realtor Institute (GRI). Ms. Wada has received numerous awards and recognition including the Prudential Real Estate Client Service Award, Prudential Real Estate Leading Edge Society Award, Prudential Real Estate President's Circle, and Aloha 'Aina Nominee.

Ms. Wada's community involvement includes her membership and leadership role with the Ridgeway Board of Directors, delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business, member of the SMA National Advisory Council, and as a member and chair of the Honolulu District Advisory Council for the Small Business Administration.

Considering her extensive experience, I am confident that if given the opportunity, Ms. Wada will prove to be an asset to the State through her service on the Commission. I respectfully request that the Committee recommend that the Senate advise and consent to Ms. Wada's appointment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

DANIEL K. AKAKA
HAWAII

WASHINGTON OFFICE
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1103

March 29, 2011

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES
BANKING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
INDIAN AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Baker:

I am writing in support of Aileen Wada's nomination to be a member of the Hawaii Real Estate Commission. I have known Ms. Wada for many years and know her to be an honest and hardworking individual.

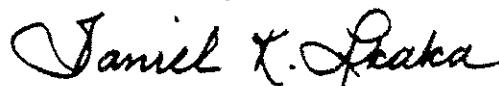
Aileen began her career in 1978 as a realtor associate with Prudential Locations, LLC and is currently a Manager overseeing 15 real estate agents. She is a member of the National Association of Realtors, Hawaii Association of Realtors and Honolulu Board of Realtors. She also owned and operated an interior design and custom furniture business from 1970 to 1978.

Having been in the real estate industry for over 30 years, she has an outstanding professional record. Her extensive background and experience in the industry enables her to address the housing needs of our community. She has also trained and managed other realtors, and earned the designation of Broker (B) and Graduate Realtor Institute (GRI).

Aileen was nominated by her clients as an Aloha 'Aima Nominee in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. She was a member of the Prudential Real Estate President's Circle recognizing her outstanding sales performance in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2007. Her awards include the Prudential Real Estate Leading Edge Society Award, a national award to recognize the top six percent of agents in the Prudential Real Estate Network; the Prudential Real Estate Client Service Award for exemplary customer service; and the Locations Silver Club award in 1998.

I am confident that she will maintain the high standards of professional excellence set forth by the Commission. I have absolutely no doubt that she will be a great asset to the Hawaii Real Estate Commission and strongly support her nomination. Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha pumehana,



DANIEL K. AKAKA
U.S. Senator



**Hawai'i
Association of
REALTORS®**
www.hawaii Realtors.com

The REALTOR® Building
1136 12th Avenue, Suite 220
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Phone: (808) 733-7060
Fax: (808) 737-4977
Neighbor Islands: (888) 737-9070
Email: har@hawaii Realtors.com

March 22, 2011

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
State Capitol, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: G.M. 539, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AILEEN WADA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

HEARING: Wednesday March 30, 2011, at 9:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

I am Berton Hamamoto, 2011 President, submitting testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR,") the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its 8,500 members. HAR **supports** G.M. 539, which considers and confirms Ms. Aileen Wada to serve on the Real Estate Commission.

Ms. Wada obtained her real estate salesperson license in 1981. Since then, Ms. Wada has obtained her real estate broker license.

Ms. Wada obtained her Graduate REALTOR® Institute ("GRI") designation. The GRI program is designed to help REALTORS® increase their knowledge and skills in a broad array of subjects, and in the fundamentals of real estate.

Furthermore, Ms. Wada joined the REALTOR® organization in 1984 and is a current REALTOR® member in good standing.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.





March 29, 2011

The Senate
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011

Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

RE GM359 – Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AILEEN WADA, for a Term to Expire 06/30/2015

Gentlemen:

It is with great pleasure that I submit the following testimony on behalf of Aileen Wada:

I have known the nominee all of my professional life in the real estate business and have always respected her professionalism. She is not only very knowledgeable and committed to the business, but is very caring, ethical and honest with her clients and associates. Through her excellent leadership and goal oriented skills, she has proven to be a true leader in the industry.

It is my hope that committee will see fit to confirm Aileen Wada's appointment.

Sincerely,

Ivy N. Kumai, President, PB

IK:ba0



Prudential Locations LLC
Real Estate Sales and Research
Diamond Head Office
614 Kapahulu Avenue, Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
Phone (808) 735-4200 Fax (808) 732-5096
www.PrudentialLocations.com

March 29, 2011

Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 95813

RE: Appointment of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Committee Members:

I would like to request your favorable consideration of the nomination of Aileen Wada as a Commissioner on the Real Estate Commission.

Ms. Wada, a real estate broker since 1979, has been an outstanding member of the real estate industry and will continue to contribute to the professionalism of the industry. Over the years she has received many awards and recognition, the most important being Prudential's Client Service Award. This award can only be earned if your clients' give you an excellent rating for your service during their real estate transaction.

During her real estate career, Ms. Wada has successfully managed new agents at Prudential to help them with their growth in the industry. Her 6 years of service on the Ridgeway Board provides her with an insight on the workings of the condominium association from a consumer prospective. In speaking with Ms. Wada about her nomination, it was clear that she has a desire to work towards a balance for the needs of the real estate industry and the needs of the consuming public.

Prudential Locations LLC and I would like to ask for your support of Aileen Wada's appointment. Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Helen M. Lindemann".

Helen M. Lindemann (R)
Principal Broker
Prudential Locations LLC

Regarding the Hearing for the nomination of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission, on Wednesday March 30, 2011 at 9:00 AM, I am submitting the following testimonial.

I have worked with Aileen Wada for approximately 30 years, and have seen her work her way from a salesperson to a Partner in the company. She is a caring, honest, and loyal person, who could retire and take it easy, but she sincerely wants to give back to the community and the real estate industry. I think her greatest assets are her "people skills" in listening and communicating with individuals. And she brings 30 years of experience in the field to the table. This is the first time that I have been asked to submit testimony, and I usually try to be brief. I hope she is given favorable consideration for this position.

Sincerely,

Wayne K. Nishida (R)

Partner

Prudential Locations LLC

98-161 Kaonohi Street

Aiea, HI 96701

Direct Line: (808) 484-3302

Cell Phone: (808) 225-5695

wayne.nishida@pruhawaii.com<mailto:wayne.nishida@pruhawaii.com>

Member of:
Honolulu Board of Realtors
National Association of Realtors

Certified Residential Specialists
Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager



615 Piikoi Street, PH 4
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Phone (808) 596-8777
Fax (808) 596-8511
Email: youngprop@aol.com

March 28, 2011

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms Office

Fax: 586-6659

RE: Aileen Wada
Date: March 30, 2011
Time 9:00 am
Place Conference Rm 229
State Capital
415 South Beretania St.

Dear Sir,

This letter serves as a testimonial for Aileen Wada who is being considered for the Real Estate Commission vacant Board Seat.

I've known Aileen Wada for over 20 years and I feel her consideration to fill a Board Seat with the Real Estate Commission is a perfect choice for the panel to consider her for a 4 year Term.

You can't find a more honest individual who knows the real estate business as she does. Her integrity is something to be admired. Aileen is fair and will find ways to solve any problems or issues that would ethnically be the right choice.

I am proud to cast my vote to Aileen Wada for the Real Estate Commission board seat.

Yours truly,

SYLVIANNE K. L. YOUNG
Realtor, CRB, CRS, e-PRO
Principal Broker

AILEEN WADA

Wednesday, March 30, 2011 9:00 am. before the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Aloha Madam Chairwoman Baker, Vice Chairman Taniguchi and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

Long time no see. Hope all is well with you. I am providing written testimony in support of the nomination of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission. I have known and worked alongside Aileen for five years now. She has taught me much about real estate. Her experience and vast knowledge of the market has helped me and countless other agents within our company, Prudential Locations. Aileen is always willing to share her ideas on how to keep a transaction moving smoothly to a successful conclusion for our clients. Aileen has been a part of the industry for decades, and brings to the table fairness for not only real estate agents but also the clients they represent. I recommend your unanimous confirmation of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission. Should you have any questions, please call me at 224-3366 or email me at lyle.galdeira@pruhawaii.com<<mailto:lyle.galdeira@pruhawaii.com>>.

Mahalo,
Lyle Galdeira

[<https://outlook.pruhawaii.com/owa/attachment.ashx?id=RgAAAACD8iuSGCl9SaOK74UByx3%2bBwBsWcsvgQW%2b9So712EPQQas3AAAA%2f7jEAACPistwXRIgR5arKLroU8MvAAAAFnYDAAAJ&attcn t=1&attid=EAAtnzvawzReSK1g9vTb7YMq>]

Lyle Galdeira (RA)
Prudential Locations
Fine Homes Specialist
Honor Society Winner 2010
Leading Edge Award Winner
Client Service Award Recipient
Aloha Aina "People's Choice" Nominee
24 HOUR CELL (808) 224-3366
Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.>
Diamond Head Office
614 Kapahulu Avenue, Suite 200
Honolulu, HI 96815
Bus: (808) 735-4200 Fax: (808) 732-8579

March 23, 2011

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hi 96813

RE: GM 539 Nomination of Aileen Wada to the
Real Estate Commission

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Taniguchi:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of Aileen Wada's nomination to the Real Estate Commission.

I have worked with Aileen at Prudential Locations for 14 years and had the opportunity to get to know her as a person. She is a caring, giving person and as a single parent has raised her children to be contributing individuals with good moral values. She has been a realtor for more than 25 years, a hard worker, diligent and professional with good business ethics.

Aileen is an active practitioner and broker in the industry and will bring to the Real Estate Commission, her practical knowledge from experience and would contribute objectively to fulfill her responsibilities as a Commissioner. I humbly ask that the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection recommend her to the entire Senate for confirmation. Thank you,

Sincerely,

Trudy Nishihara

Trudy Nishihara
Realtor, Broker-in-charge
Realty Group

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, AILEEN WADA, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

DATE: Wednesday, March 30, 2011

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

Senator Baker and Taniguchi:

I have worked with Aileen for over 20+ years as a Partner of Prudential Locations. Her background, experience and knowledge of real estate will make a very valuable contribution to the commission. Furthermore, her integrity and honesty is beyond reproach. She would make an ideal member of the Real Estate Commission and I highly support her nomination.

Chris Y. Kitaoka
Partner

Prudential Location LLC
DL: #738-3158

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, March 30, 2011
TIME: 9:00a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229

March 28, 2011

Dear Chair Baker and members of the committee:

I had the pleasure of working with Aileen Wada on numerous projects in the past year. I can tell you that she is diligent and conscientious. When she accepts a responsibility she follows through with it because she honors the commitments she makes.

Aileen has worked in the real estate industry for over 30 years and currently is an agent for Prudential in central Oahu. She is knowledgeable, experienced, and dedicated to her profession.

I urge you to confirm Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission.



Gary Saito

Eric Higashihara
1585 Kapiolani Blvd. Suite 1630
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
(808) 792-5945

March 28, 2011

Via Facsimile - 586-6659
Senate Sergeant-At-Arms Office

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM - 539 Aileen Wada, Real Estate Commission, for a term to
expire 6/30/2015
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2011
Time: 9:00 A.M.

Dear Chair Baker and Honorable Senators of the Committee:

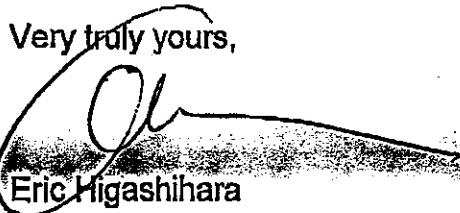
I strongly support the confirmation of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission.

I have known Aileen for about 25 years. My wife and I retained Aileen as our Realtor. Over the years, we have done four transactions with her and have become good friends.

During the quarter century of knowing Aileen, I have found her to be fair, responsible, considerate and ethical. In my opinion, she has all the personal characteristics and experiences necessary to be a voting member to represent the industry on the Commission.

I urge this Committee and the Senate to confirm Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2015.

Very truly yours,



Eric Higashihara

To: The Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection
Chairman: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker
Vice Chair: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi

Hearing: Wednesday, March 30, 2011, 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 229, State Capital

Re: Submitting testimony in favor of the appointment and confirmation to the Real Estate Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Aileen Wada.

Testimony: It has been my good fortune to be associated with Ms. Aileen Wada over the past twenty years as both of us have worked closely in the same office of Prudential Locations LLC (formerly, Locations, Inc.). I have had ample opportunity to observe that Ms. Wada is a dedicated and conscientious realtor. She has been a manager and partner of one of the major real estate companies in Hawaii during much of that time. She has been a mentor to newer agents, and role model to all. Ms. Wada has conducted her business ethically, and always strives to promote the highest standard possible for herself. She constantly is approached for advice by other agents and I have often observed her assisting them, instructing them and encouraging them to adhere to the high standards of the National Association of Realtors and their strict code of ethics. She is careful in what she says and what she does. Most notably, she takes time from her busy schedule to explain to newer agents why she is suggesting a course of action for them so that they come to learn and appreciate the highest level of business knowledge and practice. I have been most fortunate to have had the opportunity to work closely with her and feel that she has certainly been a positive role model for me and that I have benefited from her guidance over the years.

It is my belief, that Ms. Wada will be an excellent addition to the Hawaii Real Estate Commission. I am most hopeful that her credentials and talents will be carefully reviewed and the merit of her appointment will be obvious to all. She is held in high esteem by the many agents at Prudential Locations LLC, as well as at the other real estate companies throughout the state. She is knowledgeable, respected, and ethical.

Submitted by: Regina C. Mass, realtor, Prudential Locations LLC
98-1744-A Kaahumanu St.,
Pearl City, HI 96782
Cell: 808-542-0213
Regina.mass@pruhawaii.com

Regina C Mass
March 29, 2011

baker2 - Kelli

From: James Miura [jmvdo@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 6:21 AM
To: "Undisclosed-Recipient:;"@smtp1.pauspam.net
Subject: Nomination of AILEEN WADA

Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2011
Time: 9:00a.m.
Place: Conference Room 229
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

To Whom It May Concern

I have knows AILEEN WADA for almost twenty years working in the real estate industry. Although we worked with different companies any business transactions that we were involved with showed to me Aileen's character and integrity which has always been of the highest level. She is very knowledgeable in all aspects of the industry and will if elected serve well the people of the great state of Hawaii. Please consider her for the position with the Real Estate Commission.

**Sincerely,
Joyce H. Miura RA
West Hawaii Realtors LLC**

Senator Rosalyln H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

I am writing to recommend your consideration and confirmation of Ms. Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission. My wife and I have known Ms. Wada for more than 40 years, in her capacity as a mother, realtor and friend. We can attest to her honesty, diligence, and willingness to serve our community. We feel that she would add great value to the Real Estate Commission and to our state in her capacity as a Commissioner. Thank you. Calvin Miura

To Whom It May Concern:

We are in support of Aileen Wada (GM539), nomination to the Real Estate Commission.
We found her to be honest, sincere and patient with agents within our company.

Herbert K. Horita Realty, Inc.

Abbie Ichino(R)
Gerald Takasaki(R)
Fukuyuki Puckett(R), PB
Rose Shimabukuro(R)
Jennifer G. Guasch(RA)
Fusayo Nagai(R)
Edith Iwami (RA)
Win Bui(R)
Miyuki Puckett(R)
Virginia Sugihara(RA)
Ronald Sugihara(RA)
Ryan Kumabe(R)
Tess Kameya(RA)
Natividad Lived(R)
Joshua Horita(RA)
Ray Ichino(R)
Joline Chang(R)
Gary Shibata(R)

March 28, 2011

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Wednesday, March 30, 2011
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 539

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, VICE
CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Governor's Message No. 539,
regarding the appointment of Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission.

Aside from her exemplary credentials and well known expertise as one of the industry's
premier real estate brokers, having worked extensively with Aileen Wada on a multitude
of real estate matters, I can personally attest to the exorbitant wealth of knowledge and
value she will bring to the Real Estate Commission, concomitant with her superior work
ethic and integrity.

Her confirmation as a Commissioner will unequivocally be not only in the best interest of
the real estate industry but also to the people of Hawaii as a whole.

Respectfully,



Cory T. Okamoto

JIMMY TOYAMA
98-427 PUAALII STREET
AIEA, HI 96701

Email: toyamaj001@hawaii.rr.com

March 28, 2011
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Testimony: GM 539

Madam Chair and Committee Members:

Aloha. I am submitting testimony in support of the confirmation of Aileen Wada, Gubernatorial Nominee to the Real Estate Commission.

I have known Ms. Wada for many years. We have been involved in and have worked together on many community projects. On the projects we worked on she brought a level of commitment and dedication to getting the job done that's note worthy and impressive. Her sincerity and caring are exemplified in the many years of community service she has performed. I have no doubt that she will bring that same sincerity, commitment and dedication to serving on the Real Estate Commission, should she be confirmed.

Ms. Wada's long career in the real estate business has prepared her to serve competently on the commission. She is well qualified professionally. I urge you to confirm Aileen Wada to the Real Estate Commission.

With Aloha,

Jimmy Toyama

MEMORANDUM VIA FAX

Date: March 28, 2011

To: Senate Sergeant At Arms Office

Fax: 586-6659

From: Gregory K. Natori ®CRS Hawaii Resource Realty

Direct: 973-0838 Fax: 973-0849 Email: 973-0849

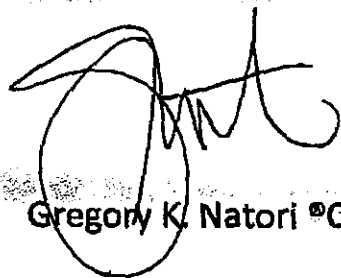
RE: Real Estate Commission Gubernatorial Nominee, Aileen Wada

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Realtor for over 30 years and I've know Aileen Wada for over 20 years.

She is a very honest and hard working individual with an open mind willing to look objectively at each situation.

If there any questions please don't hesitate to call me.



Gregory K. Natori ®CRS



March 29, 2011

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF AILEEN WADA

Dean Senator Baker,

My name is Carol Iseri, Principal Broker and part owner of Properties Unlimited, Inc., a real estate company. I've been in the real estate business for 37 years and formed Properties Unlimited 27 years ago. During the course of my career, I've worked alongside many real estate associates from different firms.

I am writing on behalf of Aileen Wada, candidate for Commissioner of the Real Estate Commission. I've known Aileen for over 25 years. During the course of my career I was fortunate to work with her on new project and general brokerage sales. Her professionalism, honesty and knowledge never failed throughout these transactions. She was instrumental in helping me on my personal investments. My trust in her was extended just recently where I referred my clients to her to help sell their home.

Aileen will be an asset to the Commission. Her experience in the business will add valuable insight due to her active involvement in the day to day activities of the business. She has no hesitation in speaking out her opinion but at the same time will always be considerate of others with an open mind.

I support her in her endeavor to join the Commission and know that her expertise will be warmly received by her fellow Commissioners. I am proud of her for undertaking this task and assure you that there are many other associates that feel the same way.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 371-5804.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Iseri".

Carol Iseri, R, CRB, CRS
Principal Broker

TESTIMONY OF AILEEN WADA
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Chair Rosalyn Baker, Vice-Chair Brian Taniguchi, members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this morning.

I am honored to be nominated for the Hawaii Real Estate Commission, and I am excited that I may have the chance to serve the people of Hawaii during these troubled times.

As a real estate agent, my success depends on the people of Hawaii who have placed their trust in me. Being able to serve on the commission would be a great opportunity for me to give back to the industry I have worked in for over 32 years, and to the local people who have been so good to me.

With the fallout from the financial and mortgage meltdown still rippling through our housing market, I believe that the people of Hawaii need a strong and proactive commission who will work hard to find solutions to prevent problems like the mortgage foreclosure crisis from occurring again.

The Real Estate Commission has the ability to implement programs and training to prevent such problems because it is not only responsible for the licensing and education of real estate agents, but it is also responsible for determining the standards for examinations and professional conduct.

The Commission also has the ability to influence both new and current real estate agents by mandating high standards when it certifies and registers pre-license schools and trainers and continuing education providers. It has an obligation to ensure that the standards are being taught by monitoring the activities of real estate educators.

Finally, since the Commission is also responsible for enforcing disciplinary actions, and it has the right to suspend, revoke, and fine licensees for violations, it also has the ability to wield a big stick of compliance if necessary.

These efforts will have to be performed in addition to the Committee's other responsibilities, such as registering condominium projects, associations, and management agents.

As a member of the commission, I believe that my experience will give me practical insight into this problem and the other issues that the Commission will have to address in the next few years.

I have represented both Buyers and Sellers and understand how both sides of a transaction must negotiate with each other in order to reach a mutually beneficial solution. This demands an open mind and a willingness to consider different options. It also requires an honest assessment of what the implications may be.

Over the years, I have gained the respect of my peers and am seen as honest, hard working, and maintain high ethical standards. I believe that my unique set of skills, experiences, and perspectives will provide a positive influence on the commission for the benefit of the people of Hawaii.