

GM545



GOV. MSG. NO. 545

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

March 4, 2011

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Tsutsui and Members of the Senate,

In accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 6, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration and confirmation, the following nomination to the **Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board**:

HAWAI'I TEACHER
STANDARDS BOARD

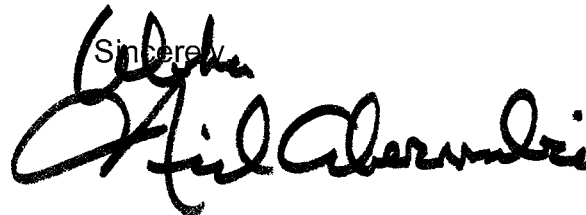
TERM TO EXPIRE

REMARKS

Wray Jose

6/30/2014

Secondary School (O'ahu)

Sincerely,


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Senator Jill Tokuda
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Tokuda,

March 22, 2011

Aloha! Thank you for considering my nomination to serve as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. This is in response to your request for a statement addressing my interest and qualifications to sit as a member of the Board.

I have applied to serve on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board because I believe that every child deserves to be taught by a well qualified teacher, and I wish to do my part to help create policies that will serve that end. I have taught Social Studies at Moanalua High School since 1990. I am both a classroom teacher and an in-school mentor to new teachers. I am also a member of the school's Professional Development Team and serve on the School Community Council. As such, I am acutely aware of the need for excellence in the teaching profession, and of the importance of promoting sound teacher licensure policies to accomplish that goal. There should be a quality teacher in every classroom in the State of Hawaii. It is for this reason that I seek to resume my participation as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

It should be noted that I served as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board between 2005 and 2007, so I am acquainted with the Board and how it operates. I am pleased that during my tenure on HTSB I was instrumental in helping move the Board toward policies that liberalized licensure requirements, including those that made it easier for the Department of Education to recruit and retain instructors for such hard-to-fill areas as the Career and Technical Education program. I also drafted the original version of the teacher Code of Ethics that is now in place in the Department's Administrative Rules. I therefore perceive my role and responsibility as a Board member as being to serve as a guardian of high academic and ethical standards for teachers while continuing to provide greater opportunities for teachers to demonstrate qualifications for licensure, especially in hard- to- fill disciplines.

One quality I feel makes me a highly qualified candidate for this position is the knowledge and experience I gained as a member of the Teacher Standards Board between 2005 and 2007, which provided me with a good grasp of teacher licensure issues as well as of the operations of the Board itself.

Another quality that I feel makes me a highly qualified candidate is my ability to work well collaboratively and collegially with others. When differences arise, I look for common ground as a starting point upon which to build consensus and then work from there to accomplish desired outcomes.

Finally, a particular quality I feel makes me a highly qualified candidate is my broad involvement in the affairs of public education. Examples, which I cited earlier, include my service as an in-school mentor, as a member of my school's professional team, and as a member of the School

Community Council. All of these contribute to my understanding of the issues related to education. They exhibit my passion for the public schools and my willingness to work hard to serve the interests of the school children of the State of Hawaii.

As for my goals, a short-term goal I would have is one that the Board is already working toward, and that is the implementation of an online new teacher licensure procedure. Re-licensure is already being done online. Online licensure of new teachers is the next step in a process that began some years ago. In order to accomplish this, the Board will need to identify challenges that must be overcome and work closely with those who have the technical expertise to effect practical implementation of the process.

A longer term, on-going goal is to expand ways teachers may demonstrate qualifications for licensure, especially in hard-to-fill disciplines such as Career and Technical Education. Like school systems, Teacher Standards Boards can benefit from the sharing of experiences and best practices. These can be adapted and adopted in ways that benefit the public school system in the State of Hawaii.

As for conflicts of interest, I see nothing that would raise an issue of a conflict of interest if I were to become a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. If any such conflict of interest were to arise, I would act in a way consistent with whatever policy is in place governing such conflicts. My understanding is that these typically range from revealing the conflict of interest and recusing myself from any and all decisions that might benefit me as a result of the conflict; or divesting myself of any holdings that may be the subject of the conflict; or resigning from the Board. Since my only income is from my teachers' salary, and I have no stake in any business, I see no problem of a conflict of interest anywhere on the horizon.

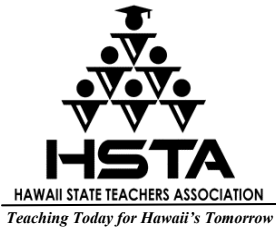
I hope this statement adequately answers any questions you might have about my interest and qualifications to serve as a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I hope you do not mind that I have taken the liberty of enclosing a couple of letters of reference for your perusal.

Sincerely,

Wray Jose
2469 East Manoa Rd
Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 988-5363
wjose@lava.net

GM545

Testimony



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: GM 545 - WRAY JOSE, Gubernatorial Nominee, Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

April 1, 2011

WIL OKABE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association is proud to support the appointment of **Wray Jose** to the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board. Mr. Jose has been a teacher in Hawaii since 1984.

Mr. Jose knows children, knows teaching, and knows what good teaching is. He was recognized as the 2004 History Teacher of the Year for the State of Hawaii. This award is given to exemplary teachers in the subject area.

We know that he will be an asset to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board and will uphold high standards for the teaching profession. Mr. Jose is an active and vocal member of the HSTA Board of Directors. He is honest and forthright and will speak his mind on the board and will bring the same enthusiasm he demonstrated on the HSTA board to the Standards Board. The purpose of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is one of quality control. The members of the Board have the very important task to ensure that every single child in our public school system is given the best teacher possible. We are confident that Mr. Jose will be a vocal advocate for high teacher standards.

We urge this committee to confirm Wray Jose for the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony
Senate Committee on Education
April 1, 2011
Conference Room 225
State Capitol
GM 544

Chair Tokuda and members of the Senate Education Committee.

My name is Arlene Lee-Williams and I am testifying in support of the nomination of Wray Jose to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

The function of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board is to set standards for the teaching profession and to determine who meets those standards for licensure in the state of Hawaii. Mr. Jose is nominated to fill the teacher seat on the board.

Mr. Jose has previously sat on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. He brings experience and knowledge with him to this board and is eager to continue his work with teacher standards. His seat has remained vacant since his term ended. The previous administration failed to fill at the seats on the board. At this time, four of the six teacher positions have remained vacant for the past two years and three seats remained vacant in the last 4 years.

He is a teacher leader in his school, district and state. He hears what teachers say as has gone out to schools to speak with teachers about their concerns as the HSTA Central Chapter president.

He was acknowledged as a teacher who excels in his field when he was named Social Studies of the Year so Mr. Jose knows what standards teachers who want to our children should meet. He is an advocate of high standards for the teaching profession.

I look forward to your favorable consideration of Wray Jose for the Teacher Standards Board.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this written testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL

2825 ALA ILIMA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96818

January 14, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write this letter recommending Mr. Wray Jose to be a member of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I have known Mr. Jose for the past two years. In my capacity as Complex Area Academic Officer assigned to Moanalua High School, I have observed Mr. Jose in the classroom on numerous occasions. During each observation Mr. Jose demonstrated the skills of an exemplary teacher. Mr. Jose is very knowledgeable in his curriculum area and utilizes the best teaching practices as identified by Dr. Robert Marzano. Mr. Jose challenges his students to develop higher level thinking skills through a curriculum that engages the students in active learning. His students achieve outstanding academic progress and personal development.

I have also observed Mr. Jose outside of the classroom participating on several committees with him. Mr. Jose has excellent communication skills contributing to meetings in a thoughtful and productive manner. Mr. Jose is also a skilled public speaker.

Mr. Jose has served on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board previously bringing a valuable history. Mr. Jose drafted the Teacher Code of Ethics which has since been included in the Administrative Code.

Mr. Jose conducts himself with a professionalism that embodies the Code of Ethics and promotes excellence in teaching. He would be a great asset to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. I highly recommend him for this position. If you have any questions, please call or email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard P. Taylor".

Richard P. Taylor
Complex Area Academic Officer
Moanalua High School
808-837-8455
richard_taylor/CENDO/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us

January 19, 2011

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR WRAY JOSE

To the Members of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board,

The purpose of this letter is to provide the strongest possible letter of recommendation for Mr. Wray Jose, a social studies teacher at Moanalua High School.

Mr. Wray Jose has been teaching Social Studies at Moanalua High School since 1990. During recent years, he has predominantly taught United States History and Government, but has also taught courses such as American Problems, Modern History of Hawaii, Sociology, and Psychology. He is also the school's Advanced Placement U.S. History teacher. The teaching of American History has been Mr. Jose's passion, and equally as important to him is his desire to help all students succeed. He is a scholar and a true student of American history. His commitment to teaching and learning is evidenced in all that he does inside and outside of the classroom.

In the classroom, he has excelled each year as a history teacher. His classes are engaging, insightful, and motivating for all students. Through the use of carefully designed learning activities in combination with best practices in teaching, his students consistently excel in achievement for history and social studies.

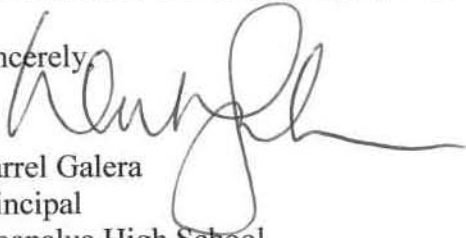
"To have been in Mr. Jose's class and see how history really inspires him, its really refreshing and gives me a new impression on how history should influence our lives and learning."

Jannai Yafuso, Class of 2004

Outside of the classroom, Mr. Jose commitment to teaching American history is evidenced by his professional dedication and sacrifice. Beginning in 1992, Mr. Jose became the school's Mock Trial Team Coach. He served in that capacity for ten years. During this time students have gained confidence as they learn to speak in a courtroom setting, practice their higher level thinking skills as they critically examine information, and increase their knowledge of American law. In 2001, he was selected to serve as the Chairperson of the Social Studies Department, a leadership position he served in for three years. He has provided exceptional leadership which includes the development of new social studies course offerings for our school. In August 2003, Mr. Jose was selected to be a "mentor teacher" by the Central District Office and has attended mentor training and workshops to help other teachers. He has applied those skills by successfully mentoring new teachers to Moanalua High School. In July 2004, Mr. Jose joined the Moanalua High School Professional Development Team and until the present he continues to provide key leadership in professional development efforts and teacher training for one hundred and thirty teachers here at Moanalua High School.

Wray Jose is the epitome of excellence and total professionalism in teaching. He was selected as the chairperson of our Moanalua High School SCBM / SCC Council in 2003 and served in that capacity for three years. He continues to serve as a member of the Council. He was selected as the State of Hawaii History Teacher of the Year for 2004-05 by the Hawaii Department of Education in recognition of his excellence in teaching in social studies. In 2005, he was selected to serve on the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, and served on the Board for two years. In 2006, he was elected President of the Central District Chapter of the Hawaii State Teachers Association, and continues in that position to the present. He is an exemplary educator and a role model for all. As a department leader, a master teacher, a mentor teacher, and curriculum designer, he demonstrates a deep commitment to quality teaching and he has been a role model for creative, imaginative, and effective classroom teaching. His love for students, and his enthusiasm and passion for teaching and learning is evident in all he does inside and outside of the classroom. He is truly one of the most outstanding teachers that I have ever had the opportunity and privilege to work with. He is deserving of your highest consideration. He has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,



Darrel Galera
Principal
Moanalua High School

Email Address: darrel_galera@notes.k12.hi.us

Cell Phone: (808) 690-6214 or (808) 778-6378