

GM 547

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



GARY L. HOOSER
DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CONTROL**

235 S BERETANIA ST. SUITE 702
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Tel. (808) 586-4185
Fax. (808) 586-4186
Email: oeqc@doh.hawaii.gov

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

GM 547, Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee, DAVID ATKIN, to the Environmental Council, term expiring June 30, 2015

**Testimony of Gary Hooser
Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control**

March 31, 2011

1 **Office's Position:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control strongly supports the
2 confirmation of David Atkin to the Environmental Council.

3 Dr. Atkin works with the consulting firm of Parsons Brinckerhoff in the field of
4 transportation planning. He has a thorough knowledge of the environmental review process and
5 contributes invaluable expertise, practical knowledge and hands on experience to the work of the
6 Environmental Council. He also currently serves on the Environmental Council as the chair of
7 the Standing Committee on Exemption Lists where he and his colleagues work diligently in the
8 review of proposed agency exemption lists, and engage in dialogue with agency representatives
9 to ensure that action proposed for inclusion on the list meet the criteria set forth in the EIS rules.
10 Dr. Atkin is a valuable member of the Environmental Council and his continued work on the
11 council will contribute greatly to the continuity and overall mission.

12 It is without reservation that I strongly urge your committee to support the confirmation
13 of Dr. Atkin as a member of the Environmental Council.

14 Thank you very much.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 28, 2011

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy & Environment:

Without hesitation, I highly recommend David Atkin for reappointment to the State of Hawaii's Environmental Council. Mr. Atkin's experience and expertise has made him an invaluable member of the Council and his continued presence guiding other members is in the best interest of our state's environmental and energy initiatives.

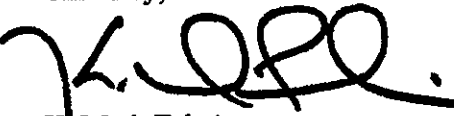
Mr. Atkin is energetic and highly motivated. He is a strong advocate of the Environmental Council and has had the vision to make important advances in the Council's role in rulemaking. In addition, he is the current chairperson of the Exemption Subcommittee and promises to continue working through the backlog of exemption lists.

On a personal level, I find Mr. Atkin to be an intelligent, cheerful, optimistic and caring person. Mr. Atkin has worked closely with my office and the Aiea-Pearl City community on the Kamehameha Highway improvements project. I have enjoyed working with him because of his sense of responsibility, dedication and commitment to his work.

I highly recommend Mr. Atkin for reappointment and believe that he is deserving of your consideration. If his previous work experience and reputation in our community is any indication, our state will greatly benefit from his presence.

If there are any questions that you may have, or if there is another way in which I can be of assistance on behalf of Mr. Atkin, please contact me.

Sincerely,

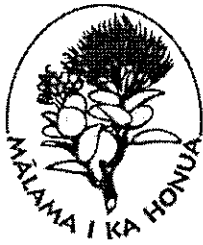


K. Mark Takai
State Representative
District 34

KMT:kd

2011032804

Representative K. Mark Takai
State Capitol, Room 305 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 586-8455 • Fax: (808) 586-8459 • Email: reptakai@capitol.hawaii.gov



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

March 3, 2011, 2:45 P.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 547, GM 548, GM 549, GM 550, and GM 573

Aloha Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club, with 8,000 dues-paying members and supporters, is proud to *support* the appointments of David Atkin, Scott Glenn, Charles A. Prentiss, Mary Steiner, and Marjorie F.Y. Ziegler to the Environmental Council.

These candidates, by their service in a public or private capacity, have demonstrated significant knowledge about Hawaii's unique and fragile environment. We believe these candidates know that achieving a balance between economic development and environmental quality is a necessary component to Hawaii's long-term growth, and can provide the thoughtful consideration and care specified under Haw. Rev. Stat. § 341-1.

OEQC is currently facing many challenges. It needs strong leadership to fulfill its mission of ensuring informed decision-making. We believe these candidates can provide that leadership, as well as ensure the state is achieving its environmental goals and policies.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

GM 547

March 28, 2011

Chairman Gabbard and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and the Environment:

I strongly support the nomination of David Atkin to the Hawaii State Environmental Council. I have had the benefit of working with David for 20 years on a variety of projects requiring environmental and HRS Chapter 343 oversight. David's knowledge of NEPA and HEPA law and the attendant processes, as well as his collaborative leadership style, have always ensured a fair and efficient decision-making process on his projects. His professional background, academic credentials and personal concern for the protection of Hawaii's environment, as evidenced by his volunteer work on behalf of local environmental organizations, make him ideally suited to continue his work on behalf of Hawaii's environment as a member of the Environmental Council.

To further the protection of our state's environmental resources, please confirm David Atkin's nomination to the Environmental Council.

Sincerely,

John Williamson

John Williamson, LLC
1003 Bishop St.
Pauahi Tower, Suite 750
Honolulu, HI 96813

(808) 295-4075
johnwilliamson@hawaii.rr.com

GM 547

I am pleased to support the re-appointment of David Atkin for a second four-year term as a member of the Environmental Council. His enthusiasm and dedication to the Environmental Council and its important in Hawaii is evident. He strives in all his undertakings to listen to all points of view, to share knowledge, to work towards consensus and collaborative solutions. He champions the environmental review process efficiencies, while maintaining a stewardship responsibility for the environment. He brings over 25 years of world experience as an environmental consultant on major infrastructure projects, both in Hawaii and overseas. This real world experience and view is invaluable for the Council and for the benefit of the State.

Susan Killen, AICP

Vice President

Principal Professional Associate in Environmental Practice

Parsons Brinckerhoff

(206) 390-0410

GM 547

To The Senate Energy and Environment Committee:

I would like to endorse David Atkins' nomination to the State of Hawaii's Environmental Council. I've known David for over 15 years and could attest to his character and dedication to his family, work and our environment. Our community would be a better place with more people like him.

Sincerely,
Alan Pollock
Vice-President
Oceanic Time Warner Cable

Testimony for ENE 3/31/2011 3:00:00 PM GM547

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dawn N..S Chang
Organization: Individual
Submitted on: 3/28/2011

Aloha,

I am writing in support of David Atkin's renomination to the Environmental Council. Over the last 5 years, I have worked with David as an environmental consultant on several infrastructure projects in Hawaii. We prepared multiple environmental review documents for the State and federal agencies. Through my experience, I believe David is a very dedicated, decisive, and practical team leader. He brings a wealth of knowledge on specific environmental resources as well as project management expertise. Thank you for this opportunity to show my support.

Sincerely,

Reshawn Fields

Environmental Planner
Parsons Brinckerhoff
American Savings Bank Tower
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 2400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
fieldsr@pbworld.com
Fax: 808-528-2368
Tel: 808-566-2235

Testimony for ENE 3/31/2011 3:00:00 PM GM547

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Scott Glenn
Organization: Individual
Submitted on: 3/29/2011

Comments:

I am writing in support of the nomination of David Atkin to serve on the Environmental Council.

Mr. Atkin is a widely-respected planner with decades of experience in environmental planning in Hawaii.

Mr. Atkin has been very effective on the Environmental Council. He participates in several subcommittees and heads the Exemptions subcommittee. This subcommittee is responsible for working with state and county agencies to update their Chapter 343 exemption lists. These lists are a crucial aspect to the process, allowing projects with no or little impact on the environment to forego the more rigorous review process. Mr. Atkin has been a driving force in clearing the Environmental Council's backlog of lists as well as setting a standard of excellence for agency collaboration and opportunity for public involvement in the exemption list update process. His continued presence would benefit the Council in fulfilling its tasks.

MahaLo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



March 30, 2011

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair, Senator Kalani English Vice Chair, and Committee Members
Public Hearing, March 31, 2008, 3:00 p.m. Conference Room 225

Testimony of William F. Anonsen
IN SUPPORT of G.M. 547 (David Atkin)
REAPPOINTMENT to the ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

My name is William Anonsen and I am the Managing Partner/Principal of The Maritime Group, in addition to leadership positions on several industry trade associations and community civic organizations. I would like to express my personal support for the reappointment of Gubernatorial Nominee, Mr. David Atkins to the Environmental Council for a term to expire June 30, 2015. Regrettably I could not personally testify before the committee today.

Through my association with Mr. David Atkin, I have found him to be a dedicated individual who performs his professional and civic responsibilities with a sense of commitment and pride. David has many characteristics necessary that make him an outstanding member of the Environmental Council, but I will mention a few that stand out. David is a leader and team player who works well with all people. He has demonstrated on several occasions his ability to remain committed to his principles, always with a sense of ethics and diplomacy in times of heated conflicting opposition. I have found him to carefully consider difficult topics, and through a structured investigative process and mind set, he develops well-considered decisions to address and resolve an issue. Most important, he stands by his principles, strongly defending them skillfully and with respectful tact.

I believe Mr. Atkin is well qualified and that by confirming his reappointment will lend a much needed balance on the Council.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this Gubernatorial Nominee.

Sincerely,

William F. Anonsen
Principal
THE MARITIME GROUP

Hawai'i Ship Agents Association - President
Kalaeloa Barbers Point Harbor Advisory Council - Chair

1240 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 330, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96814
Tele: (808) 589-1223 Fax (808) 532-8587
www.The-Maritime-Group.com

March 30, 2011

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Governor's Message 547
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Environmental Council, Gubernatorial Nominee,
DAVID ATKIN, for a term to expire 6-30-2015
Personal Testimony of Alan Y. Fujimori Supporting Nominee

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee:

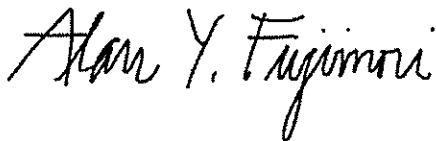
I am a colleague of David Atkin and am a principal planner and landscape architect with Belt Collins, Hawaii, Ltd. Over the past fifteen years, I have work on a number of large scaled infrastructure projects with the nominee in the capacity of a sub-consultant.

My testimony will focus on David's professional conduct and experience as a team leader of large scaled transportation projects. His management skills are of the highest level that on one hand being inclusive to optimize the contributions of the team members' skills and experiences while being decisive to direct the project towards practical solutions that exceed the goals of the client. All team members feel they are part of a collaborative process.

David's knowledge of the regulatory framework and his scholarship in ecology enables him to balance the need for environmental review and stewardship.

I hope you support his nomination to the Environmental Council as he is a consummate professional and will work collaboratively to improve Hawaii's environmental review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Y. Fujimori". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan Y. Fujimori
1350 Ala Moana Blvd, #712
Honolulu, HI. 96814

GM 547

Aloha,

I have known David Atkin for many years. He is very ethical, hardworking, collaborative and very committed to improving the quality of our special community. He has served on The Environmental Council previously and his past experience will allow him to be a valuable participant immediately.

Please support his appointment.

Pam Burns

GM 547

Member of the Hawaii State Energy and Environment Committee,

I am writing to support the reappointment of David Atkin to the State of Hawaii's Environmental Council. I have known David for over five years, the last three of which have been in Honolulu, Hawaii. My experience of David is that he is extremely knowledgeable about Hawaii's environmental review process from both a policy and practical perspective. I believe that David's practical application of the environmental review process is a benefit to the State of Hawaii and the OEQC. I have worked with David professionally on environmental impact assessment documents and respect his passion for his work and appreciation of the process. He will be a valuable member of the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments.

Amy Zaref

Amy Zaref, AICP
Environmental Manager
Parsons Brinckerhoff
(808) 768-6196 (Honolulu office)
801-201-2670 (mobile)
zaref@pbworld.com

March 25, 2011

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
Hawaii State Senate
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Governor's Message 547
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Environmental Council, Gubernatorial Nominee,
DAVID ATKIN, for a term to expire 6-30-2015
Personal Statement of David Atkin

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee:

I am honored to have been nominated by the Governor for reappointment to the Environmental Council. I plan to attend the hearing on March 31, and look forward to discussing any matters of interest to the Senators.

I have been asked to provide responses to seven questions. My responses are provided below.

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Environmental Council?

I am currently a member and seek re-appointment for a second four-year term. As one of the longest-sitting members of the Environmental Council, I believe the institutional memory I can provide to the Council is valuable. In addition, I have been an active subcommittee chairman, first chairing the Legislative Committee, and now the Exemption Subcommittee. Since I started chairing the Exemption Subcommittee, we have advanced more than five agencies through the exemption list process. If my re-appointment is approved by the Senate, I would continue to work through the current backlog of exemption lists, and work with others to re-invigorate the Council's role in rulemaking.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council?

To listen to all points of view, to share knowledge, to work towards consensus and collaborative solutions. To champion environmental review process efficiencies, while maintaining a stewardship responsibility for the environment.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Environmental Council, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Environmental Council.

I have over 25 years of experience as an environmental consultant on major infrastructure projects, both in Hawaii and overseas. I have a doctorate in biology with an ecology and evolution specialization. I have private sector experience managing large, complex projects to a specified budget and schedule

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

Continue to be an active Exemptions Subcommittee chair. Work collaboratively with OEQC to improve Hawaii's environmental review process.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Environmental Council?

Decisive. The Environmental Council is comprised of volunteers that want to do something. The time comes to make decisions and move forward. I am comfortable with moving forward as decisions are made.

Team leader. I have been an effective subcommittee chair by using team skills.

Practical. Decades as an environmental consultant help me understand the implications of proposed policy changes.

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Environmental Council?

I was a member of Senator Gabbard's working group, convened in 2010, to discuss changes proposed to Chapters 341 and 343 HRS. This experience provided an opportunity to discuss a variety of key environmental topics with a range of stakeholders in depth.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Environmental Council? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

My employer has contracts with government agencies that are required to meet environmental requirements. Should a matter arise that directly affects my company's client, I would first get advice from an attorney at the Hawaii State Ethics Commission. I would also review the ethics policies of my employer. If there could be an appearance of impropriety, I would declare my conflict of interest and recuse myself from the matter. This has already occurred once.

I am married to Mary Steiner, another member of the Environmental Council. I do not see this leading to a conflict of interest, however, as we have our own views.

Sincerely,

David Atkin
2169 Ahaku Place
Honolulu, HI 96821
808-566-2205