

LATE



HAWAII FRIENDS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

March 24, 2011

3432 B-1 Kalihi St. Honolulu, HI 96819

TO: Senate Chair Suzanne Chun Oakland and Human Services
Committee Members

FROM: Amy Agbayani, Co-chair

RE: GM 551- - Testimony in Support of Jason Espero nomination for
Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board of Directors

I am representing the Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights in support of Mr. Jason Espero to the board of directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. HF CR supports policies, programs and individuals who are committed to civil rights and equality. Mr. Espero understands and appreciates diversity in our island state and the need to provide equal access to government services.

Mr. Espero has demonstrated his strong interest in housing and human service. His volunteer work with Filipino organizations and his experience working with homeless, veterans, immigrants and working people will be a valuable contribution to the board. The Public Housing Authority is a very important agency that fills a critical need in our community. Mr. Jason has integrity, energy and committed to public service.

I respectfully urge you to support his nomination.



OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 · Honolulu · Hawaii 96817

Unit Organizations

Alliance of Residential
 Carehome Administrators
 Aloha Saguisib Cultural
 Foundation, Inc.
 Annac ti Bado iti Hawaii
 Annac ti Batac
 Annac ti Caoayan 2002
 Annak ti Kailokuan iti
 America
 Annak ti Sinait iti Hawaii
 Asingan Organization of
 Hawaii
 Badoc-Pinili Aid
 Association of Hawaii
 Banna Association of
 Hawaii
 Bannatiran Association of
 Hawaii
 Batangas Association of
 Hawaii
 Bulacan Circle of Hawaii
 Caballeros de Dimasalang
 Cabugao Sons & Daughters
 of Hawaii
 Candonians of Hawaii
 Caoayan ISAH
 Cavitenians of Hawaii
 Dingras Association of
 Hawaii
 Divine Word College
 Alumni Association
 FilAm Sports USA
 Fil American Citizens
 League
 Filipino Business Women's
 Club
 Filipino Nurses Organization
 of Hawaii
 Filipino Women's Civic
 Club
 GUMIL Hawaii
 GUMIL Oahu
 Hawaii Filipino Women's
 Club
 Hawaii Council of Bilingual
 Educators
 I.L.A.H
 Ilocos Norteniens of
 America
 INCAT Alumni Association
 of Hawaii
 International Filipino
 Society of Hawaii
 Kalayaan Phil.-Hi. Int
 La Union Circle of
 Hawaii
 Lingayen Gulf Club of
 Hawaii

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 551

LATE

Confirmation to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of
 Directors, Gubernatorial Nominee,
 JASON T. ESPERO, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Senate Committee on Human Services
 Mar. 24, 2011, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

To:
 Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
 Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair
 Honorable Committee Members: Senator Josh Green, MD and
 Senator Sam Slom

From:
 Maria Etrata, RN, President, Oahu Filipino Community Council

My name is Maria Etrata, president of the Oahu Filipino
 Community Council. OFCC is an umbrella organization that
 represents a network of non-profit civic groups with a unified
 vision to improve the lives of our Filipino communities. I submit
 this testimony to strongly support Mr. Espero's confirmation.

We are proud that one of our progressive Filipino young
 leaders has dedicated his talents to Hawai'i's housing issues.
 His experiences community, professional, and administrative
 experiences gained as Waikiki Health Center's Shelter Director,
 and his work at Puahala Homes positions him to make
 meaningful contributions to the challenges faced by the
 Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board.

We respectfully urge you to consider Mr. Espero's confirmation
 and passion to address housing disparities for the most
 vulnerable in our community.

Sincerely,

Maria Etrata, RN
 President
 Oahu Filipino Community Council

Unit Organizations

Magsingal Association of
 Hawaii
 Narvacan/San Antonio Club of
 Hawaii
 Nueva Vizcaya Association of
 Hawaii
 Pasuquinos Association of
 Hawaii
 Philippine Cultural Foundation
 Philippine Nurses
 Association of Hawaii
 Pidig Association of Hawaii
 Sanchez Mira Association of
 Hawaii
 San Manuel Pangasinan
 Association of Hawaii
 San Nicolaneos USA
 San Nicolas Goodwill
 Foundation
 San Nicolas Teachers of
 Hawaii
 Santa Lucia Association of
 Hawaii
 Sarrat Association of Hawaii
 Sarrat International Inc.
 Sinait Nt. High School Alumni
 of Hawaii
 Solsona of Hawaii
 Tarlac Mutual Club of Hawaii
 TPCP
 Kalihi Ballroom, Inc.
 Sadiri ti San Nicolas iti Hawaii
 Samar Leyte Association of
 Hawaii
 Sampaguaita/Sunflower Club of
 Hawaii
 San Juan Association of
 Hawaii
 San Nicolas Nat. High
 Santa Marians of Hawaii
 School Alumni
 Santa Nicolas Nat. High
 School Bingao Annex
 Tagalog Association of Oahu
 United Bacarreños of Hawaii
 United Group of Home
 Operators
 United Pangasinan of Hawaii
 United Urdaneta Club of
 Hawaii
 United Vintarinians of Hawaii
 Vigan Association of Hawaii



TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 551

Confirmation to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of Directors, gubernatorial nominee,
JASON T. ESPERO, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

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Senate Committee on Human Services
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To: Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair
Honorable Committee Members: Senator Josh Green, MD and Senator Sam Slom

From: Charlene Cuaresma, Past President, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

My name is Charlene Cuaresma, past president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. **The Coalition strongly supports confirmation** for gubernatorial nominee, Jason Espero, to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of Directors for a term to expire 6-3-2015. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action. The Coalition is committed to an ongoing resolution to address health disparities as a social justice issue.

We believe that Mr. Espero's experience as Waikiki Health Center Shelter Director provides an important knowledge base of systems and community issues regarding housing. In addition, his social justice work with the National Federation of Filipino American Association and internship with Unite Here! Local 5 offers an important lens from which to review the pressing policies before the Public Housing Authority. The Coalition highly recommends Mr. Espero and appreciates the vital energy and passion for housing issues that he could bring to the table.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our strong support for his nomination. Please accept my apologies for this late testimony.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma
Past President
Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 551

Confirmation to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of Directors, Gubernatorial
Nominee,

JASON T. ESPERO, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

Senate Committee on Human Services
Mar. 24, 2011, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 016

To: Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair
Honorable Committee Members: Senator Josh Green, MD and
Senator Sam Slom

From: Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

Dear Sen. Chun, Sen. Ihara, and Committee Members,

My name is Jake Manegdeg. As president of the Filipino American Citizens League, I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Jason Espero for confirmation to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority Board of Directors for a term to expire 6-30-2015. The League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

I have known Mr. Espero through social justice and community work in the Filipino community, particularly with hotel workers, where Filipinos comprise a large segment of the labor force. He will be a valuable asset to the Board because of his experience directing the Waikiki Health Center Shelter and his work with the residents the Puahala Housing Project. Our Filipino community leaders believe that Mr. Espero will do a good job of problem solving. He works well with others. He is patient. He has keen critical thinking skills. He is smart. He is eager to be of service to Hawai'i's people. He communicates well and possesses excellent partnership networks to address housing issues.

Your positive consideration of Mr. Espero's confirmation is greatly appreciated.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg
President, Filipino American Citizens League



LATE

UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF GM 551

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Gubernatorial Nominee,
JASON T. ESPERO, for a term to expire 6-30-2015.

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To: Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Honorable Senator Les Ihara, Vice Chair
Honorable Committee Members: Senator Josh Green, MD and
Senator Sam Slom

From: Lynne Gutierrez, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii

My name is Lynne Gutierrez. I am the president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH). I am proud to submit this testimony to strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Jason Espero, on behalf of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii, an umbrella organization with member organizations from six islands. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members.

I am also a special education teacher in a Leeward elementary school. From this additional vantage point, I see how critical the issue of public housing is, particularly for families raising young children. UFCH is grateful to support emerging leaders like Mr. Espero, whose work in housing issues will be most relevant in the Board's oversight and responsibilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony in strong support of this bill. Please accept our apologies for this late testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Gutierrez
President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii